About
Our Chapter

The Northern Ohio Chapter was founded in 1988 by a group of volunteers to help people with ALS and their families learn more about the disease. The Chapter serves persons with ALS and their families across 33 counties of Northern Ohio.

We are committed to a comprehensive approach to meeting the needs of the ALS community - patients, caregivers, family members, friends and healthcare workers.

How to
Get Involved

1. Volunteer your time and expertise
2. Make tax-deductible contributions
3. Host or participate in fundraising events
4. Become an ALS Advocate at als.org/advocacy
5. Get your company involved through matching gifts or becoming a Corporate Partner
6. Include our Chapter in your estate plans
7. Donate medical or assistive technology equipment

Contact Us

216-592-ALSA (2572)
888-592-ALSA (2572)

6133 Rockside Rd, Suite 301
Independence, OH 44131

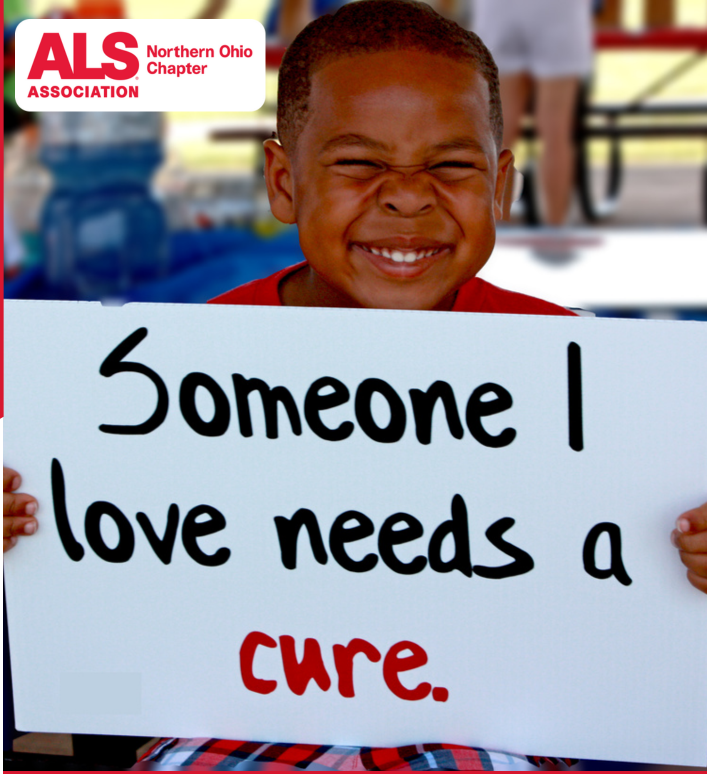
als.org/northern-ohio

f @ALSANorthernOhio

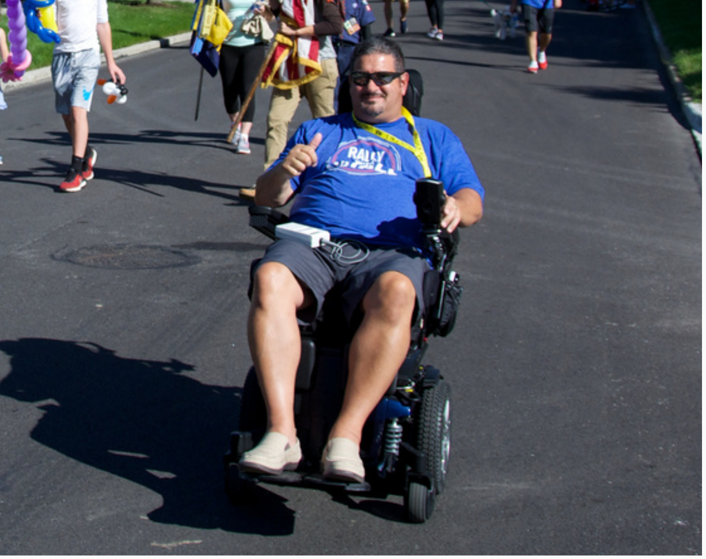
@ALSANorthernOH

@alsanorthernohio

in The ALS Association Northern Ohio Chapter



ALS®
ASSOCIATION
Northern Ohio Chapter



OUR VISION

Create a world without ALS.

OUR MISSION

To discover treatments and a cure for ALS, and to serve, advocate for, and empower people affected by ALS to live their lives to the fullest.

> ***"The ALS Association's personal availability for calls or emails is so helpful all the time."***
> ***- Linda Smith, care recipient***

WHAT IS ALS?

amyotrophic lateral sclerosis

ā-mī′ə-trŏf′ĭk lăt′ər-əl sklə-rō′sĭs

ALS is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder that causes increasing muscle weakness and attacks nerve cells and pathways in the brain and spinal cord. Over time, persons with ALS can become completely paralyzed, leaving them unable to move, speak and breathe. The average age for persons diagnosed with ALS is mid-50s to 60s with risk increasing after 70, and approximately 16,000 people in the U.S. have the disease at any given time.

There is ***no cure*** for ALS.

Every ***90 minutes*** someone is diagnosed and someone passes away.

10% of cases are inherited through a ***mutated gene.***

2-5 years is the average life expectancy.

OUR RESOURCES

The following are provided free of charge. We do not bill for services and we do not receive any public funding.

ALS CLINICS

The Chapter partners with experienced ALS multidisciplinary teams across the region including the ALS Association Certified Centers of Excellence at The Cleveland Clinic and the Louis Stokes VA Medical Center, and with the affiliated clinic at University Hospitals in Cleveland. Talk to a care coordinator to locate ALS specialists in your region.

CARE COORDINATION

Our experienced team of licensed professionals can help provide education, information, resources and support to guide you and your family through this complex diagnosis and symptom management.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND COMMUNICATION DEVICE LOAN CLOSET

The Chapter can help with some medical equipment not covered under insurance programs to aid daily living activities, mobility and communication.

RESOURCE GROUPS

Resource groups offer strategies and tips for dealing with challenges from living with ALS. Participating in a resource group can help reduce stress, anxiety, depression and fatigue. The Chapter offers a variety of groups. Talk to your care coordinator about a group to fit your needs.

RESPITE CARE

Respite care provides the family caregiver a short break. Respite grants offer financial reimbursement for in-home hired care.

ALS CARE GRANTS

Reimbursement grants help defray the cost of living with ALS and medical expenses related to ALS.

ADVOCACY AND RESEARCH

The Chapter engages in state and federal public policy programs to improve standards of care and access to federal and state insurance programs, as well as to increase funding for ALS specific research.

EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

The Chapter serves as a hub for current information about ALS, offering lectures to professionals and the community. Monthly newsletters, video and printed educational materials are available on our website.

VETERAN BENEFITS

The Chapter may assist veterans and their spouses with accessing service connected benefits.