

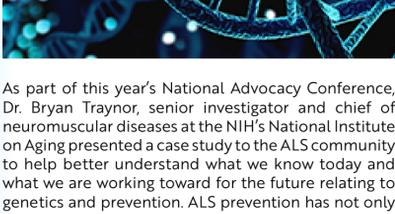
House Hearing on Neurological Diseases

The House Energy and Commerce Committee held a hearing to discuss how Congress can support the search for treatments and cures for neurodegenerative diseases, including ALS, on Thursday, July 29, at 11 a.m. EDT. The hearing was not ALS-specific and focused on drug development and research.

We are pleased that Dr. Jinsy Andrews, Dr. Merit Cudkowicz and Brian Wallach represented the ALS community during the hearing. They joined other leading neurodegenerative disease advocates and industry representatives to share their perspectives on the search for treatments and cures.

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Understanding the Genetics of ALS May Be a Key to Prevention



As part of this year's National Advocacy Conference, Dr. Bryan Traynor, senior investigator and chief of neuromuscular diseases at the NIH's National Institute on Aging presented a case study to the ALS community to help better understand what we know today and what we are working toward for the future relating to genetics and prevention. ALS prevention has not only been a priority for Traynor, but for the ALS community at large.

ALS Certified Centers Doing Whatever It Takes to Deliver Critical Care



The ALS Association's Certified Treatment Centers of Excellence and Recognized Treatment Centers are dedicated to doing whatever it takes to provide compassionate care in a supportive, family-oriented atmosphere to help their patients live longer and stronger lives. One such center is the Phil Smith Neuroscience Institute at Holy Cross Health located in south Florida. "No matter what, the patient always comes first," says Tina Duane, Regional Program Manager at The ALS Association Florida Chapter.

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2021 Mid-Year Report: Nothing Can Stop Us From Doing Whatever It Takes



We are pleased to share our 2021 Mid-Year Report, detailing the work and achievements that have shaped the first half of this year. You will see that for all of the challenges of the pandemic, we have successfully maintained focus on mission delivery and innovation, pledging to do "whatever it takes" to bring us closer to a cure for ALS and to make ALS a livable disease.

[Continue Reading](#)

care corner



ALS Support Groups 2021

North Dakota and Central MN

The North Dakota and Central MN support group meets on the third Tuesday of every month. Join us for live, interactive conversation, learning tips and tricks from one another, sharing stories, and getting support. We would love to have you join us.

To learn more watch our [welcome video](#), visit our [website](#), or e-mail Jennifer Myhre at jennifer@alsmn.org.

To Spark Your Interest!

Alliance Webinar: Youth and ALS

The webinar will discuss the experience of a child whose parent has ALS/MND, and how to communicate with a child to address their concerns and questions.

It's a free webinar on August 12 at 11 am.



Upcoming Care Services Programs

August 12	Northern MN Support Group (Virtual Meeting)	August 18	Family Caregiver Support Group (Virtual Meeting)
August 12	Family Caregiver Support Group (Virtual Meeting)	August 31	SD and Southern MN Support Group (Virtual Meeting)
August 17	ND and Central MN Support Group (Virtual Meeting)	September 1	Minneapolis/St. Paul Metro Area Support Group (Virtual Meeting)
August 17	Young Adult Hangout (Virtual Meeting)		

Midweek Meditation - Every Wednesday at 11:00 AM (CT)

hey volunteers

Want to Connect Directly with Someone? Become a Family Assistance Volunteer

Through this program, volunteers are connected with families affected by ALS to help with everyday tasks or provide companionship.

With assistance, families report that their stress level is lowered knowing certain tasks will get done on a regular basis. The person living with ALS may not be able to physically complete the tasks and their caregiver may not have the time or energy. Additionally, most volunteers and families develop close relationships as time progresses.

The request for assistance vary by task, frequency, and length and you can choose what works best based on your interests and availability. The Family Assistance Program has now reopened to both indoor and outdoor activities, with COVID-19 safety protocols in place.

If you have any questions about volunteering, the volunteer positions available, or the application process, please call 612-455-6052 or email jenna@alsmn.org.



Help Wanted!

Calling all service-minded Minnesotans! Family assistance requests have been rolling in this summer from across the state. Current needs by city include:

- Duluth: cleaning, ironing
- Edina: gardening
- Le Sueur: lawn mowing
- Maplewood: organizing
- Minneapolis: organizing
- Princeton: gardening, meal prep

If you live in or near any of these cities, we'd love to chat with you about how you can make a difference. Please contact Jenna at (612) 455-6052 or jenna@alsmn.org for more information.

CARE CONNECTION

Did you know that the ALS Association has its own online calendar to also help coordinate your household needs? [ALS Care Connection](#) is a private online tool that can be used to support your family by organizing volunteers to take care of a variety of tasks. Visit our [website](#) to learn more about this tool and its features, including a recent webinar and step-by-step guide to getting started.

event news

Upcoming Events

August 21	South Dakota Walk to Defeat ALS	August 23	Larry Sing Memorial ALS Golf Classic
September 11	Minnesota Walk to Defeat ALS		

2021 South Dakota Walk to Defeat ALS!

The South Dakota Walk to Defeat ALS is coming up on Saturday, August 21st. Walk Teams can join us in person in Rapid City or Sioux Falls, or you can Walk Your Way in your own community like Team Dirty Nozzles in Pierre. The Mitchell family and Team Dirty Nozzles started planning their event and inviting friends and family with a Facebook Fundraiser. Shavonne Mitchell, whose husband, Pat, is living with ALS, shared that the response they received was so overwhelming and generous that they moved the event from their home to an event space where they can host team members with food and Bloody Marys. Whether you're joining us in person or Walking Your Way, we look forward to uniting across the state of South Dakota in the fight against ALS.

Learn more and get started: web.alsa.org/mnndsdlwalk

WALK YOUR WAY AT A CHAPTER-HOSTED SITE

AT HOME
with your family

IN YOUR COMMUNITY

with your team

Rapid City
Memorial Park

Sioux Falls
Sertoma Park

Join us for the South Dakota Walk to Defeat ALS on August 21st. Walk Your Way or join The ALS Association at one of the following locations:

Rapid City
Memorial Park Bandshell
301 N 5th St
Rapid City, SD 57701

Sioux Falls
Sertoma Park
4300 S Oxbow Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57106

2021 Walk Sponsors

We would like to give a special thank you to [Avera Health](#) and [Granite Automotive](#), which have both been generous supporters of the South Dakota Walk to Defeat ALS.

Avera was instrumental in helping the Chapter expand its programs and services into the South Dakota, broadening the Chapter's impact throughout the region. Avera Health is currently the only recognized ALS Treatment Center in South Dakota, enabling critical care and support for the area. We are incredibly grateful for the tremendous impact Avera Health has made on our work and fulfillment of our mission. Thank you, Avera Health!

Granite Automotive has been a cornerstone partner since the foundation of the Rapid City Walk to Defeat ALS. Having lost a beloved family member to ALS, Granite Automotive is close to the ALS community and understands the urgent need for programs and services, as well as research toward a cure. Thank you, Granite Automotive, for your partnership in this fight!



Sing Golf Sponsors

The 27th Annual Larry Sing Memorial ALS Golf Classic will be held on Monday, August 23rd at Moorhead Country Club, Edgewood Golf Course, with an evening reception at the Meridian Events Center. This annual event raises funds for the Chapter's programs and services, including the Hrbek-Sing Communication & Assistive Device Program. We would like to take a moment to show our deepest appreciation to our Gold and Silver Sponsors:

Gold Level:



Silver Level:

