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# Mission

The National MPS Society exists to cure, support, and advocate for MPS and ML.

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MPSSOCIETY.ORG

Follow us!









Pictured on the cover: Brooks Kauders (MPS II) "Tackle what is hard—if we don't, then who will? By finding solutions to the hardest obstacles that face our patient community, I guarantee we will get the rest right."

In April 2022, our board of directors and team met for the first time since the pandemic. It was a chance for all of us to reflect on the past two years, to realize how far we have come, and to build our path forward through the development of our 2023–2026 strategic plan. During the last 49 years, the National MPS Society has funded \$21 million in research, increased our membership to 2,600 households, provided more than \$1.5 million in direct family support grants and scholarships, and spent 23 years on Capitol Hill advocating for MPS and ML.

At our meeting, we discussed new challenges and opportunities as well as how to expand our existing programs to reach diversified and underserved communities. It was an affirmation of how much is possible with the right team and the right strategy. We acknowledged the expansion of our newborn screening efforts and the success of MPS II being added to the Recommended Uniform Screening Panel by the Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children. It made us think about how, in many ways, this effort has epitomized the following approach that we bring to our mission.

We look for unmet needs and step in where others haven't to make a difference. We have visited more than 300 families nationwide at their time of diagnosis through our Pathways program. It continues to expand in part because of earlier diagnosis through newborn screening. We embraced the problems our families are facing with inequities beyond diagnosis. We hosted an Atlanta regional family gathering event that taught us the depth of food inequities, housing inequities, and the importance of reaching and communicating with every family.

We lead from the front and don't hesitate to tackle controversial issues. When an MPS I family reached out through Pathways and shared their story of their oldest son being left untreated while their newly diagnosed child, through newborn screening, was provided access to treatment options, we stepped in. We were not afraid to acknowledge the inequities presented and responded by legislating for access to equitable healthcare, access to therapies, and newborn screening. Stephanie Cozine and our Education Committee launched the *Our Voices* podcast that covers critical topics for our adult community, research, grief, hope, and the future of our families. Our mission is to bring new gene and cell therapies to all MPS disorders by partnering with sponsor companies.

continued

We identify and engage with strong partners who can work closely with the Society to drive progress. Last year, we traveled while the world was still beginning to open. We forged new relationships with the Association of Public Health Labs and committed to collaborative work with the EveryLife Foundation. We worked internationally with Fabry, the Gaucher Alliance, and Pompe Disorders to describe the importance of real-world data.

We invest in research and data-driven tools that allow us to target our resources effectively and hold ourselves accountable for results. We funded almost \$1 million in multiple research grants for MPS I, MPS II, MPS IIIA, IIIC, MPS IVA, MPS VI, and MPS VII. We awarded grants for critical needs for newborn screening, gene and cell therapies, skeletal dysplasia, aortic and airway issues, dementia, and central nervous system pathology. The Christa Armstrong Legacy gift received through planned giving has continued to make a difference in funding researchers worldwide.

We use advocacy and lobbying to back critical federal and state policies and laws. Our advocacy efforts secured a significant victory in the United States for MPS II newborn screening, while we continued to develop a new nomination for MPS VII. Through virtual visits, we met with 89 legislators in February and secured sponsorship for the 2024 federal appropriations legislation, including MPS disorders.

We brought our families together in person and virtually at the Annual Family Conference. We welcomed more than 500 registrants to Nashville, TN, to join the inaugural Science and Family Conference. Our program provided families with free hotel stays and numerous scholarships, hosting the largest number of newly diagnosed families in history. Our families struggled while the pandemic stalled access to critical health updates and access to the best clinicians and researchers in MPS and ML. Families hugged, grieved, and participated in a 5K in support of essential programs. We celebrated our collective community through the banquet, and the talent show brought smiles to everyone who attended. Nashville's conference provided an opportunity for scientists who have been researching MPS for 30 years to gather as we awarded Dr. Elizabeth Neufeld the Visionary Award for her years of research in MPS. It was a profound moment for everyone to share.

2022 was a year of new paths, programs, hope, and action. We continue to listen and anticipate what our community needs. We will strive to do even more next year and work hard to deliver long-awaited treatments to our Sanfilippo and Mucolipidosis communities.



Lisa P. Todd, chairman of the board



Terri L. Klein, president and CEO



\$21 million in research

**2,600** members

\$1.5 million+ direct family support grants and scholarships

23 years advocating on Capitol Hill

# Family Support



families and individuals with MPS or ML received scholarship and grant funding Family support remains a critical pillar of the mission of the National MPS Society. In 2022, almost \$135,000 in scholarship and grant funding was provided to 150 families and individuals with MPS or ML. The 36th Annual Family Conference was held in Nashville, TN, and the Society supported a record number of scholarships for attendees. Most scholarships were awarded to recipients attending their first conference.

Throughout the year, social workers met with families virtually, face-to-face, and by phone to provide access to resources and support across multiple domains, including mental health, coping, medical care, educational needs, and information about treatment options and clinical studies. A regional social event took place in Atlanta, GA, bringing together families for an afternoon of connection, fun, and discussion of local support. The Continuing Education Scholarship program continues to offer funding for higher education for individuals with MPS or ML, their parents, children, and siblings. In 2022, the Jeffrey Bardsley Scholarship program awarded \$5,000 to four individuals diagnosed with MPS, and an inaugural Klenke-Kirch Sibling Scholarship program offered an additional \$500 to two individuals to help develop and bolster programs for siblings.

The Society offers support and information from the beginning of the diagnostic journey through the lifespan of individuals with MPS or ML and their families.

# HIGHLIGHTS

## **Continuing Education Scholarships**

- Awarded four Jeffrey Bardsley Scholarships at \$5,000 each and 22 Continuing Education Scholarships.
- Two Klenke-Kirch Sibling Scholarships were awarded (at an additional \$500 each to the \$1,000 Continuing Education Scholarship).

## **Extended Hospitalization Relief**

 Funded three grants for a total of \$1,500 to support individuals with MPS or ML who have experienced an inpatient hospitalization for a minimum of 30 days.

## Family Conference Scholarships

• Funded 52 scholarships totaling \$45,837, providing necessary financial support for families to attend the conference.

## **Family Assistance Program**

• Funded 10 grants totaling \$13,156 to provide assistance items, including a wheelchair lift for a vehicle, hearing aid repairs, drop support harness, car seat for older child, and disaster relief.

## **Journey Assistance Program**

• Funded nine grants totaling \$2,227 for items, including a computer for a student, iPads, medical wagon, and safety fencing.

## **Extraordinary Experiences Program**

• Funded two grants totaling \$1,000 for a driver's training program and adaptive driving education.

## **Medical Travel Assistance Program**

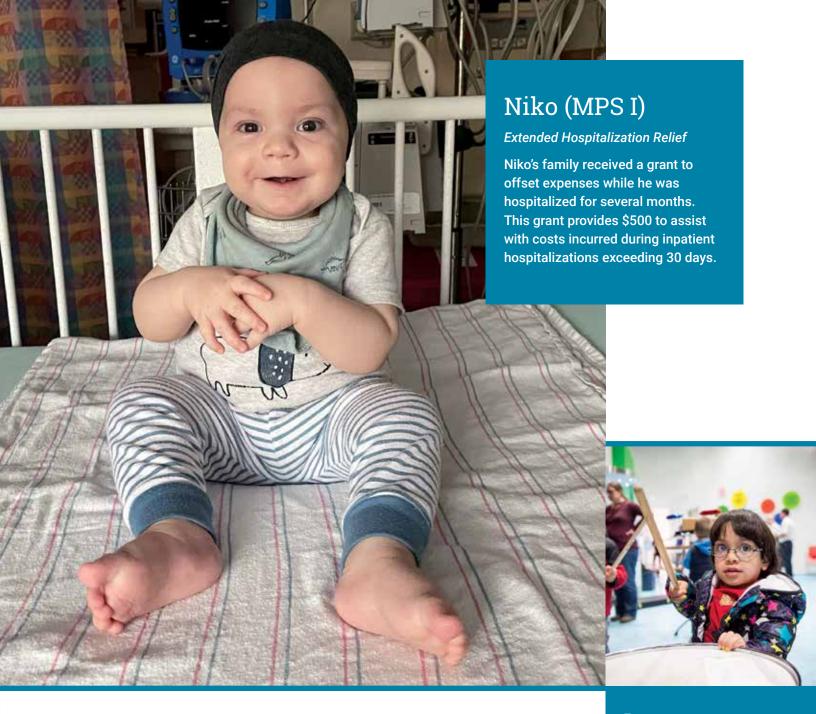
• Funded 21 grants totaling \$8,425 to help with out-of-town travel costs for non-recurring medical appointments.

## **Bereavement Expense Program**

• Funded 23 grants totaling \$17,250 to provide support for families experiencing the loss of a loved one with MPS or ML.

## **Regional Social Events**

• Provided \$750 for an event in Atlanta, GA.



# 80 SCHOLARSHIPS

Jeffrey Bardsley Continuing Education Klenke-Kirch Sibling Family Conference



# **68**GRANTS

Extended Hospitalization Relief Family Assistance Journey Assistance Extraordinary Experiences Medical Travel Assistance Bereavement Expense

# Lumar (MPS IVA)

Medical Travel Assistance Program

Thanks to the Medical Travel Assistance Program, Lumar was able to attend appointments with her specialists this year. She has MPS IVA and traveled several states away to see experts in Morquio syndrome.

# Pathways



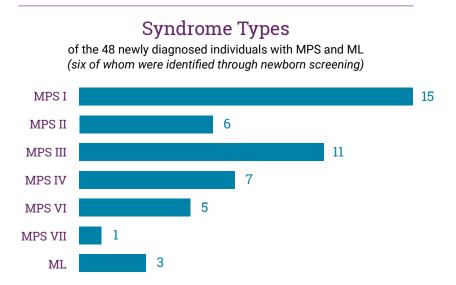
41

individual and family visits

The National MPS Society's Pathways program provides families and individuals with education and comprehensive support throughout the first year of diagnosis. To date, the program has served approximately 300 individuals and families.

From the point of contact and initial assessment, families are provided vital education, referrals to MPS specialists and resources, treatment options, trial opportunities, and connection to the MPS and ML community. In the true essence of social work, Pathways meets with families to explore and address unmet needs, and provides support throughout the process. In 2022, Pathways resumed in-person visits post pandemic. These visits offered further insight into family need and strengthened connections to the MPS and ML community. Moving forward, the program seeks to expand its reach by strategically performing outreach to underserved MPS and ML individuals and families. This will allow more families and individuals the opportunity to benefit from the program and be embraced by the community.





# HIGHLIGHTS

- Provided services in person, by phone, or by teleconference to 48 newly diagnosed individuals from 42 families.
- Resumed in-person contact post pandemic by conducting 41 visits with individuals and families in 19 states.
- 294 individuals served through the program since inception.
- 20 families participated in eight support groups.
- Provided education, guidance, and referral to families impacted by newborn screening.
- Connected and collaborated with medical and industry partners to promote Pathways.

- Participated in new diagnosis session at the Annual Family Conference in Nashville, and facilitated breakout sessions and sibling panel.
- Initiated planning for program outreach to connect with underserved MPS and ML families and individuals.





# Wesley (MPS II)

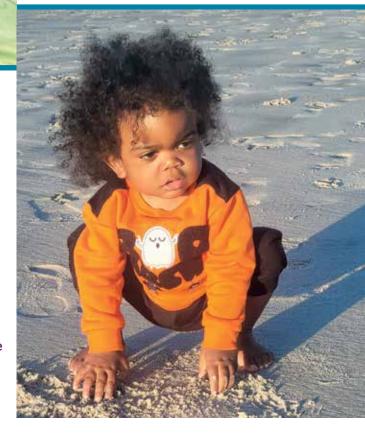
The National MPS Society has been helping our family since before Wesley's official diagnosis. They promptly connected us with an MPS doctor to help confirm a diagnosis, significantly expediting what could have been a very lengthy process. They educated us about ERT and clinical trials for MPS II, allowing my family an opportunity to discuss the best course before making a decision. The Society was the number one factor for us being able to start treatment for Wesley as quickly as possible. The Pathways program set us up with families that have been through the same thing-I don't know how we would have survived without them. This continues to be the most difficult time of our lives but the amount of love and help from the community is overwhelming and unforgettable. We are so grateful for the National MPS Society and all of the resources, advice, and connections we have already made in such a short amount of time.

Katarina Nelson, mother of Wesley

# Kadir (MPS I)

The words "MPS" and "Hurler syndrome" were new terms I was faced with in July 2022. I remember crying all the way home after hearing this diagnosis for my son Saeid "Kadir." I was grateful to find the MPS Hurler Syndrome Support Group on Facebook as well as the National MPS Society because I was able to learn about the disease and read about so many other children diagnosed with this syndrome. I discovered how amazing the Society and Pathways are for newly diagnosed families, as well as other programs and resources available. The beginning of our MPS journey felt discouraging, scary, the end. But when you know you have people who are fighting for answers, resources, and a cure, what seemed like an impossible path you are walking alone ends up being a journey you are walking with many.

- Ashley Avery, mother of Kadir



# Advocacy



59

advocates met with 89 legislators to advocate for newborn screening and other key legislation impacting the MPS and ML community Advocacy is a critical need of the MPS and ML community. In 2022, we expanded our efforts in newborn screening and developed key legislative initiatives to prioritize equity and parity for our patient community. The Society continues to maintain a Rare Hub space at the EveryLife Foundation offices in Washington, DC, to promote our direct federal policy efforts. As we returned to in-person meetings this past year, we deepened our relationships on Capitol Hill and fostered crucial legislation that was stalled during the pandemic. The highlight of 2022 was the approval of our application to add MPS II, Hunter syndrome, to the Recommended Uniform Screening Panel (RUSP) for newborns by the Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children (ACHDNC).

Our advocacy efforts focus on several initiatives, including regular calls to action on rare disease legislation, disseminating carefully crafted appropriations language to spread our message, collaborating with the rare disease community as a whole, conducting advocacy training webinars, and growing and fostering relationships with key decision makers.



Terri Klein visiting with MPS I family in Washington, DC



Children, which was approved!

- Provided successful final testimony at ACHDNC meetings for the MPS II RUSP nomination and newborn screening. The ACHDNC voted to pass the condition for screening 11-1.
- Facilitated virtual Capitol Hill meetings in February with 59 advocates meeting with 89 legislators to advocate for newborn screening and increased NIH funding for MPS and ML diseases through the appropriations bill, and recruited Rare Disease Caucus members. Nine members of congress and the senate met directly with their constituents.
- Created a newborn screening committee to oversee MPS RUSP alignment language and state grassroots efforts for all MPS disease screening.
- Society members participated in Rare Disease Legislative Advocates' Rare Across America virtual Hill visits in summer 2022.
- Resolution to recognize National MPS Awareness Day in the United States passes in the Senate.
- Maintained our Rare Hub space in Washington, DC, at the EveryLife Foundation offices and participated in quarterly working group meetings.
- Worked with Rare Disease Advisory Council state committees on their advocacy formation and oversight.
- Began collaborating with patient advocacy organizations on newly proposed legislation—the EPICrd Act. This is a comprehensive approach to ensure parity through individualized care for rare disorders (epicrd.org).
- Continued efforts with rare disease working group and BioMarin on EPICrd Act.
- Participated in quarterly newborn screening and diagnostic meetings held by the EveryLife Foundation.



Nolan Higginbotham (MPS I)

- Supported the following legislation and signed onto letters for:
  - H.R. 3089/S. 1544—Accelerating Kids' Access to Care Act
  - H.R. 482/S. 350—Newborn Screening Saves Lives Reauthorization Act
  - H.R. 1730/S. 670—Speeding Access Therapy Today (STAT Act)
  - H.R. 5585/S. 3819—Advanced Research Projects for Agency for Health
  - H.R. 1092/S. 526—Better Empowerment
     Now to Enhance Framework and
     Improve Treatment (BENEFIT) Act
  - H.R. 6888/S. 4071—Helping Experts
     Accelerate Rare Treatments (HEART Act)
  - RUSP language support for state reviews
- Attended the following advocacy and networking conferences: 18th Annual WORLDSymposium™; American Society of Gene & Cell Therapy Policy Summit; National Organization for Rare Disorders Summit; Global Genes; Association of Public Health Labs Annual Meeting.

# Fundraising



A nonprofit organization is only as strong as the level of support it receives from its members and benefactors. The National MPS Society and its members moved feverishly into 2022 with hosting in-person events.

As our families navigated how to bring their children back to school and critical clinical appointments, we celebrated by raising funds together for our mission. In 2022, we formulated future fundraising through our strategic planning process. We outlined a new Capital Campaign and identified strategies to grow the Planned Giving program. The Sock It to Hunter Foundation gifted funds to the National MPS Society for MPS II research and our scientific conference. We recognize the importance of collaboration with other MPS foundations.

With strategic planning and the emergence of resuming in-person events this year, the commitment from our donors saw us through another incredibly challenging year. The Annual Fund exceeded \$324,000 and provided crucial funding for operations and oversight of our mission. We heard the donor's message loudly and clearly—we will continue to sustain you.

# HIGHLIGHTS

- Maintained a four-star charity rating from Charity Navigator, representing sound fiscal management and commitment to accountability and transparency. This "exceptional" designation differentiates the Society from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust.
- Supported an active membership roster of more than 2,700 members.
- Raised approximately \$407,340 through virtual walk/run and other fundraising events.
- Hosted four national run events in Raleigh, NC; Napa, CA; Nashville, TN; and Long Beach, CA.
- Raised more than \$35,000 for MPS and ML research through the University of Pennsylvania's Million Dollar Bike Ride.
- Raised \$324,387 through the 2022
   Annual Fund campaign, chaired by Leslie
   Urdaneta, director of Family Support and
   Communications.
- Received Combined Federal Campaign application approval.

- Worked with the Sock It to Hunter Syndrome Foundation in procuring a gift of \$75,000 for MPS II research and the 2023 Science and Research Conference.
- Hosted 62 Courage Pages (customized, informative family web pages for awareness and fundraising) on the Society's website.
- Hosted the National MPS Society's third annual Big Bake for MPS and ML, raising more than \$17,000.

Everly Reynolds (MPS I)





## 2022 Fundraisers

**ARC Fundraiser**, hosted by the Adult Resource Committee **Basketball Fundraiser**, in honor of Adam Podesky

**Big Bake for MPS and ML**, hosted by the National MPS Society **Concert for the Cure**, in memory of Ryan Mask, hosted by

**Concert for the Cure**, in memory of Ryan Mask, hosted by Dorothy and Jeremy Mask

**Crop For Rachel**, in memory of Rachel Dodson, hosted by Jim and Michelle Dodson

**Do It Fore Dan**, in memory of Danny Miller, hosted by Ray and Amy Miller

Emilio's 5K, in honor of Emilio Garabito, hosted by Elizabeth Garabito

**Hailee & Olivia Together a Future of Hope with YOU**, in honor Hailee Fujioka Makuch and Olivia, hosted by Sarah Keren

**Holland Sharing and Caring Fundraiser**, in honor of the Steve and Amy Holland family, hosted by friends of the Hollands

**Hopkins cabi Clothing Party**, in honor of Michelle Hopkins, hosted by Lynn Hopkins

Jack "The Beast" Bennett Memorial Ride, in memory of Jack Bennett, hosted by the Bennett family

**Jacob Keller's 5K**, in honor of Keller Blakeley, hosted by Clint and Lindsey Blakeley

**Jacob's Journey Fundraiser**, in honor of Jacob Bohley, hosted by Jennifer Hajjar

**Jammin' for Julia**, in honor of Julia Donohue, hosted by Andrea Felten

**John Loy Memorial Golf Tournament**, in memory of John Loy, hosted by Lynda Witte

**Kramer Chili Cookoff**, in honor of Marcus Kramer, hosted by Elizabeth Kramer

**Lilah's Lemonade Stand**, in honor of Lilah Mueller, hosted by Kimber Heiling

Michelle Hopkins Golf Tournament, in honor of Michelle Hopkins, hosted by Hugo Van der Moer

**Million Dollar Bike Ride**, hosted by the National MPS Society and University of Pennsylvania's Orphan Disease Center

Napa Race for a Cure, hosted by the National MPS Society

Nashville Walk and Roll 5K, hosted by the National MPS Society
Post Office Café 5K, in memory of Mark and Casey Lessing, hosted
by the Lessing family

Raleigh Run for Rare, hosted by the National MPS Society Rylee Noble Fundraiser, in honor of Rylee Noble, hosted by Rylee Noble

**Rylie Hays Fundraiser**, in honor of Rylie Hays, hosted by the Hays family

**Sprint to Save 5k Run and One-Mile Walk**, hosted by the National MPS Society

**Spooktacular**, in memory of Dorian and Wynn Johnson, hosted by Mercedes Ramirez Johnson

**Stevens Family Fundraiser**, in honor of Meekel Stevens, hosted by Marla and Randy Stevens

**Superbowl Fundraiser**, in honor of Adam Brennan, hosted by Mary Beth Brennan

Text to Give, hosted by the National MPS Society

Viti Family Fundraiser, in honor of Christopher Hohn, hosted by Emily Viti

Walk and Roll 5K and One-Mile Family Walk, hosted by the National MPS Society

**Youth Against Cancer Fundraiser**, in honor of Sydney Waldman, president of Youth Against Cancer, hosted by Suffern High School

## 2022 Facebook Fundraisers

Tina Allred Cindy Anderson **Betty Arceneaux** Barbara Ann Mandy Bellassai Jerry Bennett Kimberly Bergstrom Nichole Bickerton Anastasia Black Melanie Block Heather Kahgee Boening Christine Bohley Jamie P.J. Bordeaux Rachael Brady Johnson **Drew Brodie** Steve Cardwell Mary Case Fidencio Junior Cisneros III

Sharilyn Clevenger

Stephanie Cozine

Carla Halk Crain

Harley Crosby

Jason Cullere

Dakota Marie

Kathi Dee

Cassie Dearman

Kaitlyn Corwin

Drew Delvaux
Loma Greene Denney
Amy Diaz
Wilma Dickerson
Kailey Dina
Kate Drehobl
Shiela Duncan
Susan Duncan
Carrie Dunsworth-Todd
Jacob Ellis
Wayne Eppehimer
Daniel Farrell
Andrea Felten
Shaun Flora
Jimmy Fox

Traci Fraga

Elizabeth Fry

Brian Fulghum

Julie Garrison

Ketia Gonzalez

Hailey Hajjar

Faith Hardigree

Kimberly Heiling

Thomas Hickey

Paige Halk

Mike Greathouse

Roslynn Offutt Garvin

Lela Holbrook Donna Dendy Hood **Brandon Hool** Judy Hughes Alyssa Jeanne Mercedes Johnson Tasha Stuart Johnson Becky Jordan Estelle Joseph Dianne Kelley Shari Kinsman Jim LaRue Haylee Lauren Jackie Leigh Madison Litchfield Theresa Margaret Kristina Marie Rosaura Martinez Amanda May Trisha Anne McClelland Jessica McCue Annie McGraw Viviana Medina Carey Mehling Judy Boudreaux Mericle

Jamie Moon Susan Morrow Eileen Murphy Monica Nav Monika Nelis-Dupont Jamie Thomas Noble Michael Ostella Jeff Parks Theresa Peierl Kim Phillips Marsha Brown Polite Jennifer Polite Angelica Prater Cristina Purcell Anne Quesenberry Melissa Rachunek-Zielonka Laurel Radius **Emily Ramirez** Nancy Davis Ramsey Amanda Reuter Amber Revnolds Sarah Michelle Reynolds Melissa Turner Ronacher Justin Ross Rebecca Roxberry Dana Schroeder

Ronnie Schwah **Heather Shaw** Amrit Singh Daurka Casey Smith Danny Smith Ta-Neha Smith-Parker Angela Soto Lacey Sparks Loretta Oaks Spriesterbach Amali Svien Karah Swails Bismillah Tahir Charlotte Tate **Gerald Thomas** Irma Tinoco Gina Crown Torrans **Hunter Traffanstedt Evelyn Valentine Ruth Valles** Candy Vargas Emily Viti **Denise Walters** Lester Walters Judy Ward Patrick Sheri Wise Laura Workman

# 2022 Champions Circle (monthly giving program)

Jodi Adams Fernando Armendariz Colleen and Shawn Arni Robert Astamendi Carole and John Barnhardt Melany Bjorkman Claudina Bonetti Marc and Beth Brdar Margaret Cohen Maria De Granillo Wilma Dickerson William English Terry Epps Teresa Everett **Gary Flores** Allison Frazier

Erika Freiberger

Denise Glatzmaier

Steve and Amy Holland

Steven Holley Jennifer and Bryan Hutcheson John and Yvette lannelli Brian and Rebekah Klutz Tamara Ladd Theresa Leggett Wynona Maxwell Ann Mclaughlin Anthony Menendez Donny and Molly Merrill Greg and Jennifer Mincks Carmen Mosley Susan Murphy Kathy and Josh Nay Thomas and Vickie Patterson Linda Perrella Susan Pestrak Scott and Lori Phillips

Sam and Nancy Ramsey Melissa Turner Ronacher Edward and Evelyn Schultz Riddhi Shah Jared Shelton

Justin Michael

Jennifer Milder

Angela and Michael Sochacki Heidi Sosinski Jeremy and Rena Stearns Jack Swepston

Anne France Tremege Leslie and Alex Urdaneta Todd Waddell and Sarah Aaserude Rick and Dawn Williams

### Elia and Sohaib Khatibi (MPS VI)



# Education & Publicity



The National MPS Society provides information and connections to members and stakeholders across multiple channels. Printed publications, social media, electronic communication, and other avenues enable us to deliver content to those benefiting from the educational and promotional material shared.

We remain a leader in mucopolysaccharidosis and mucolipidosis expertise, offering educational materials, including syndrome booklets, resource guides, and fact sheets, for open distribution through our website, and sharing printed and electronic copies nationwide for clinicians to review with patients and families. We assess the MPS and ML community's informational needs and increase awareness of MPS and ML specifically and all rare diseases generally.

Our primary goals are to bring attention to MPS and ML and provide the information necessary for effective, comprehensive care and management for those affected by these diagnoses.

# Olivia (MPS I)

When Olivia was facing discrimination at college due to her disabilities, we felt helpless. One call to the National MPS Society set things in motion. We felt such gratitude to have an army behind us. The Society galvanized efforts to make changes for Olivia and we continue to see ripple effects.

The dean became a mentor and meets with Oliva every couple of weeks to check on her progress. Positive changes are happening in the interior design program due to our call to action. There is still work to be done, but we are encouraged as we learn how to help her navigate. The Society and community's support gives us the courage to continue to press forward.

- James Lipscomb, father of Olivia

# • Completed first full season of *Our Voices* podcasts.

- · Achieved successful social media impact:
  - 3,000 signatures on MPS II RUSP nomination.
  - Write for Olivia campaign to request college-level accommodations initially denied, resulting in approved accommodations and support in the interior design program at Mississippi State University, in addition to staff member ADA training.
- Published monthly *eCourage*, the Society's electronic newsletter.
- Developed two printed *Courage* publications.

- Produced *Angels Among Us* electronic bereavement publication.
- Provided event marketing for WORLDSymposium™, Annual Family Conference, run/walk events, International MPS Awareness Day, Big Bake for MPS and ML, and Advocacy Hill Days.
- Completed interviews for MPS Awareness Day, "Adventure with Us."
- Authored Evaluation of Two Methods for Quantification of Glycosaminoglycan Biomarkers in Newborn Dried Blood Spots from Patients with Severe and Attenuated Mucopolysaccharidosis Type II and International Journal of Neonatal Screening, Jan. 21, 2022 (by Terri Klein and Leslie Urdaneta).

# HIGHLIGHTS

# Research Grants



Dr. Elizabeth Neufeld receiving the Visionary Award with Lisa Todd, Dr. Emil Kakkis, and Steve Holland

One of the three major tenets of the mission of the Society is research. Finding cures and improved therapies for all of the syndromes is a primary goal. Grant funding, research partners, and collaboration ensure key efforts toward a better future for all those affected by MPS and ML.

In 2022, the National MPS Society's research program built upon the recent implementation of three annual defined grant submission cycles (Cycles I–III), by approval of a new Tier III grant mechanism of \$25,000 designed to fund small novel and valuable work that otherwise would not fit in the Society's Tier I and II grant mechanisms. The Society, with the continued assistance of the Scientific Advisory Board Guidance Committee, continues to define areas of need and emphasize focus and encourage research in those areas.

The combined total of both newly approved and past funding commitments for 2022 totaled \$929,033. This sum includes allocations for new competitive research awards of \$766,533, with the balance spent on continued funding for previously awarded multi-year grants. This total also includes \$30,000 of Society research funds leveraged through the Orphan Disease Center of the University of Pennsylvania in our partnership with the Million Dollar Bike Ride to fund a total of more than \$60,000 in research. Notable again this year was the continued support for MPS II and MPS II relevant research areas, totaling \$300,0000 in new and ongoing research commitments, provided from the Christa Armstrong legacy gift.

# Keegan (MPS IIIA)

Keegan is an explorer. He has always been fearless in his adventures. Thanks to a grant from the Society's Journey Assistance Program, his new wagon is now his base camp for his expeditions. It allows him to rest for a minute when he's tired and provides a spot of calm that is full of his favorite snacks and toys. It is a clean, safe area for him to be if we are going to the aquarium or a doctor's appointment. The bonding that happens between him and his brother while riding together is a ray of sunshine for anyone watching.

- Monica Alexander, mother of Keegan



# Society Research Funding

## 2022 Competitive Program in Innovative Research

#### **2021 CYCLE III GRANTS**

(awarded April 1, 2022)

## Tier II: \$50,000 for a one-year MPS III award to Dr. Michael Lardelli

The University of Adelaide, Adelaide, SA, Australia Iron Supplementation for Treatment of Sanfilippo Syndrome Childhood Dementia

## Tier II: \$50,000 fellow-initiated research for a one-year MPS II Christa Armstrong legacy award to Geoffrey Eill (Dr. John Wolfe, mentor)

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA, USA MPS VII Myelin Pathology

# Tier II: \$50,000 for a one-year MPS VI award to Dr. Lachlan J. Smith

The University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA, USA Expansion of a Research Colony of Mucopolysaccharidosis VI Dogs

# Tier II: \$50,000 for a one-year MPS II Christa Armstrong legacy award to Dr. Emma Parkinson-Lawrence

The University of South Australia, Mawson Lakes, SA, Australia

Quantification of Airway Disease in MPS I Mice Via Laboratory X-Ray Velocimetry

#### **2022 CYCLE I GRANTS**

(awarded Aug. 1, 2022, unless noted otherwise)

# Tier I: \$100,000 for a one-year MPS III general research award to Dr. Stephanie Cherqui

The University of California at San Diego, San Diego, CA, USA Treating Mucopolysaccharidosis Type IIIC with Hematopoietic Stem Cell Gene Therapy

# Tier I: \$100,000 for a two-year MPS II Christa Armstrong legacy award/general research award to Dr. Allesandro Fraldi (awarded Dec. 1, 2022)

The University of Naples "Federico II," Naples, Italy Exploring the Role of Neurotoxic Reactive Astrocytes in Neuronopathic Mucopolysaccharidoses

# Tier I: \$100,000 for a one-year MPS II Christa Armstrong legacy award/general research award to Dr. Isaac Canals

Lund University, Lund, Sweden

Neurodevelopment and Neurodegeneration in Human iPSC-derived Models of MPS III

# Tier I: \$86,533 for a two-year MPS II Christa Armstrong legacy award to Dr. Liz Braunlin

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, USA MPS I Aorta

# Tier I: \$100,000 for a one-year MPS IVA award to Dr. Scott McIvor

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, USA Lentiviral Gene Therapy in a Novel Porcine Model of Mucopolysaccharidosis IVA

# Tier II: \$50,000 for a one-year MPS II Christa Armstrong legacy award to Dr. Laura Pollard

Greenwood Genetics Center, Greenwood, SC, USA UPLC-MS/MS CSF GAG Methods

## 2022 CYCLE II GRANTS (awarded Dec. 1, 2022)

# Tier I: \$100,000 for a two-year MPS II Christa Armstrong legacy award/MPS I award to Dr. Richard Steet as a competitive renewal

Greenwood Genetic Center, Greenwood, SC, USA IDUA/IDS Variant Classification

## Second-Year Grant Award Funding Disbursed in 2022

# \$62,500 for year two of a MPS II Christa Armstrong legacy award to Dr. Nicolina Cristina Sorrentino

The Telethon Institute of Genetics and Medicine, Pozzuoli (Naples), Italy

Induction of Autophagy Pathway as New Therapeutic Option to Prevent the CNS Pathology Progression in Mucopolysaccharidosis Type II

# \$50,000 for year two of a Tier I general MPS/MPS III award to Dr. Cologera (Lilla) Simonaro

The Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY, USA

Investigation of the Endocannabinoid System (ECS) as a Novel Therapeutic Target for the MPS

# \$50,000 for year two of a Tier I MPS IVA/ML award to Dr. Heather Flanagan-Steet

Greenwood Genetic Center, Greenwood, SC, USA Comparative Analysis of Mechanisms Driving Skeletal Dysplasia

### 2022 Partnership Award

**The Orphan Disease Center** 

# \$60,350 (Million Dollar Bike Ride & \$30,000 from the National MPS Society funding) to Dr. Margret L. Casal

University of Pennsylvania, PA, USA

IV Delivery of Ex Vivo Lentiviral Corrected CD34+ Bone Marrow Cells to Treat Systemic Disease in a Canine Model of Mucopolysaccharidosis VI

# **Summary Financial Report**

The financial information below has been summarized for the year 2022. The Society is a 501c3 nonprofit public charity.

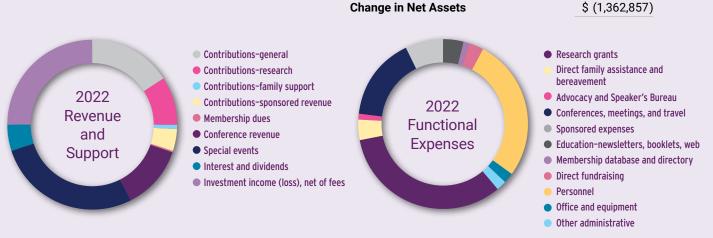
The complete audited financial statements and IRS Form 990 are available on our website or upon request.

## **Financial Position**

Assets		Current Liabilities	
		Accounts payable	\$ 150,578
Current Assets		Accrued salaries/vacation	38,463
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 969,959	Refundable program advances	170,000
Investments	1,911,190	Current portion of operating lease liabilities	43,977
Accounts receivable	75,705	Total Current Liabilities	403,018
Prepaid expenses	25,833		
Accrued interest	10,132	Long-Term Liabilities	
Total Current Assets	2,992,819	Operating lease liabilities	190,787
Fixed Assets, Net			
Furniture, fixtures & equipment	3,231	Net Assets	
CIP-Website	8,581	Without donor restriction	
Total Fixed Assets	11,812	Undesignated	1,450,200
	•	Designated	476,030
Other Assets		, and the second se	ŕ
Operating leases right of use assets	233,424	With donor restrictions	
Deposits	5,000	Purpose restricted	840,700
Investments—restricted for purpose	143,385	Time restricted	25,705
Investments—restriced in perpetuity	1,138,568	Perpetual in nature	1,138,568
Total Other Assets	1,520,377	Total Net Assets	3,931,203
Total Assets	\$ 4,525,008	Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 4,525,008

# 2022 Statement of Activities

Revenue and Support		Functional Expenses	
Contributions		Research grants	\$ 886,520
General	\$ 417,559	Direct family assistance and bereavement	97,402
Research	248,594	Advocacy and Speaker's Bureau	32,975
Family support	37,877	Conferences, meetings, and travel	445,370
Sponsor revenue	100,000	Sponsored expenses	185,185
Membership dues	2,300	Education-newsletters, booklets, web	111,019
Conference revenue	332,384	Membership database and directory	28,036
Special events	731,843	Direct fundraising	90,369
Interest and dividends	139,347	Personnel	724,552
Investment income (loss), net of fees	(653,496)	Office and equipment	59,279
		Other administrative	58,558
Total Revenue and Support	\$ 1,356,408	Total Functional Expenses	\$ 2,719,265



# 2022 Contributors

In 2022, the National MPS Society was able to provide support to families and funding for research because of the generosity of the following individuals, families, foundations, companies, groups, and fundraising events. The board of directors thanks you for your dedication. The Society makes every effort to recognize our supporters through eCourage and this Annual Report. The following list represents all donations received in calendar year 2022. If your name is not listed, we apologize and ask that you contact us. If we received your donation in 2023, you will be recognized in the next Annual Report.

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# MPS & ML Classifications

Mucopolysaccharidoses (MPS) and Mucolipidosis (ML) are genetic lysosomal storage diseases (LSD) caused by the body's inability to produce specific enzymes.

MPS I

MPS I H Hurler

MPS I S Scheie

MPS I H-S Hurler-Scheie Enzyme /  $\alpha$ -L-Iduronidase

MPS II

MPS II Hunter Enzyme / Iduronate sulfatase

MPS III

MPS III A Sanfilippo A Enzyme / Heparan *N*-sulfatase

MPS III B Sanfilippo B

Enzyme /  $\alpha$ -N-Acetylglucosaminidase

MPS III C Sanfilippo C Enzyme / Acetyl CoA:  $\alpha$ -glycosaminide acetyltransferase

MPS III D Sanfilippo D Enzyme / N-Acetylglucosamine 6-sulfatase MPS IV

MPS IV A Morquio A Enzyme / Galactose 6-sulfatase

MPS IV B Morquio B Enzyme / β-Galactosidase

MPS VI

MPS VI Maroteaux-Lamy Enzyme / (arylsulfatase B) N-Acetylgalac-tosamine 4-sulfatase

MPS VII

MPS VII Sly Enzyme /  $\beta$ -Glucuronidase

**MPS IX** 

Enzyme / Hyaluronidase

ML II/III

ML II I-Cell

ML III Psuedo-Hurler polydystrophy Enzyme / *N*-acetylglucosamine-1phosphotransferase