

*Greater North Jersey Chapter
2006 Annual Progress Report*

real hope



**this is why
we are here.**



NATIONAL
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS
SOCIETY

***The mission of the
National MS Society
is to end the
devastating effects
of multiple sclerosis.***

From the Chairman

Timothy L. Barnes



*Timothy L. Barnes,
Chairman,
Board of Trustees*

As an organization, we are constantly looking to the future – a future without MS. We look forward to the day when MS will

be a treatable disease – a disease whose unpredictability will cease to cause the devastating effects of those diagnosed and their loved ones.

Accomplishing this goal can only be achieved by building upon the strong foundation of a community that cares. The National Multiple Sclerosis Society provides such a framework.

real inspiration

**We are
people
who want
to DO
something
about MS
NOW.**



Since its founding, the Society has invested over \$500 million to advance MS research. It has been a key player in virtually every major breakthrough in understanding and treating the disease.



This year, the Society has invested over \$50 million to fund over 380 new and ongoing MS research projects. This investment in critical research is paying off with new treatments and better methods of diagnosis, rehabilitation and symptom management.

real inspiration



*Frank M. Leshner,
Chapter President*

**We are
the driving
force of MS
research,
relentlessly
pursuing
prevention,
treatment,
and cure.**

For more than 50 years, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has provided help and hope for Americans with MS... Hope through our extensive and promising national and international research programs, and help through client programs.

The Society serves local communities through its 50-state network of chapters, of which the Greater North Jersey Chapter is a part. These chapters provide assistance to more than one million people annually and encourage personal empowerment for those with the disease through employment counseling, family programs, volunteer opportunities and advocacy issues.

The Greater North Jersey Chapter services over 5,500 people with MS and their families. The mission of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society is to end the devastating effects of multiple sclerosis. The Society is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization supported solely by voluntary contributions. It funds more MS research, offers more services for people with MS and provides more professional education programs than any other MS organization in the world.

The Greater North Jersey Chapter serves Northern New Jersey in Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Union and Warren counties. It provides over 100 programs and services to our clients with multiple sclerosis and their families and caregivers, all of whom are dealing daily with the physical and emotional challenges of the disease. It also supports the national research effort.

- We seek and engage the world's brightest minds to guide and conduct our research efforts.*
- We attract new investigators and clinicians by aggressively promoting and funding MS research and clinical fellowships.*
- We pursue promising research with other disease groups that share relevance with MS.*
- We attract and fund new large-scale, breakthrough MS research projects.*
- We stimulate and explore non-traditional research avenues, including: healthcare policy and delivery, quality of life, impact of MS, complementary and alternative therapies, and innovative concepts initiated by pharmaceutical and biotech industries.*

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a chronic, unpredictable neurological disease that strikes in the prime of life, typically between the ages of 20 and 50, and is the most common neurological disease affecting young to middle-aged adults. In patients with MS, myelin, which protects nerve fibers, is lost in multiple areas, leaving scar tissue called sclerosis. MS can cause blurred vision, loss of balance, poor coordination, slurred speech, tremors, numbness, extreme fatigue, problems with memory and concentration, paralysis and blindness.

While the exact cause of MS is unknown, most researchers believe that the damage to myelin results from an abnormal response by the body's immune system, making it an autoimmune disease. Normally, the immune system defends the body against foreign invaders such as viruses or bacteria. In autoimmune diseases, the body attacks its own tissue.

Approximately 400,000 Americans acknowledge having MS. Virtually every hour of every day, someone new is diagnosed. Women are affected two to three times the rate of men. Counting their family members and those who care for them, MS affects more than one million Americans.

While there is no cure for MS, during the past decade a number of pharmaceutical agents have become treatment options for preventing exacerbations, modifying the disease course and having an impact on disability. Most experts believe that medication should be started early in the course of the disease, before significant, permanent damage occurs.

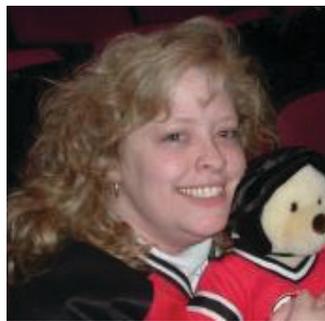


*For more details
on our research efforts,
please visit the
Society's website at
www.nationalmssociety.org.*





*Charles A. Rovira
Jersey City, NJ*



*Debi Mull,
Fair Lawn, NJ*



*Melissa Del Prete,
Hoboken, NJ*



*Sara Kanter,
Hackensack, NJ*



*Stacy Oliveri,
Saddle Brook, NJ*



*Jennie Schwartz,
Teaneck, NJ*

Come face to face with multiple sclerosis

How do you tell the story of multiple sclerosis?

By engaging those closest to it.

FaceofMS.org is an online video community that offers everyone touched by MS the opportunity to share their experiences and explore the experiences of others.

Tell your story. Hear the stories of others.

Come face to face with multiple sclerosis.

FaceofMS.org

Every voice matters. Every story counts.

Society Funds Six Pediatric MS Centers of Excellence

Although MS is considered an adult disease, better diagnostic tools now reveal that there are approximately 8,000 to 10,000 children who have MS, and another 10,000 to 15,000 who have experienced what may be symptoms of the disease. Until recently, physicians have not fully understood the complexities of pediatric MS and there are no consensus guidelines for the care of these children. Because of the critical need to develop a national model for care, the Society is establishing the first-of-its-kind network of Pediatric Centers of Excellence. These centers will set the standard for pediatric MS care and offer optimal medical and psychosocial support to children and their families. Over the next five years, the Society will invest \$13.5 million in implementing these centers. The Society's commitment is part of its Promise: 2010 Initiative to support targeted areas of research and patient care.

The six centers are:

Center for Pediatric – Onset Demyelinating Disease

Children's Hospital of Alabama, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Mayo Clinic

Rochester, Minnesota

National Pediatric MS Center

Stony Brook University Hospital, Long Island

Partners Pediatric MS Center

Massachusetts General Hospital for Children, Boston

Pediatric MS Center of the Jacobs Neurological Institute

State University of New York at Buffalo

Regional Pediatric MS Center

University of California, San Francisco



If anyone in your family under the age of 18 has symptoms suggesting MS, please call 1-800-FIGHT-MS for information about the center nearest you.



*Nancy Chazen,
Director of Programs*

**We
address
the
challenges
of each
person
whose life
is affected
by MS.**

The Greater North Jersey Chapter provides valuable and much needed direct services and programs for people with MS and their families living in the eight counties which we hope will help them better manage their disease.

During 2005-2006, the chapter spent over \$900,000 on client programs and services. Overall, the chapter responded to 3,800 telephone calls and e-mails from people requesting information about MS or chapter programs and services, as well as referrals to MS specialists, community agencies and other resources or programs.

MS should not mean mobility stops.

The Greater North Jersey Chapter offers adaptive yoga, tai chi and aquatics programs within our eight county service area.

MS affects the entire family.

The Chapter offers a range of services to support the family including, but not limited to, respite care, chore services, general financial assistance, transportation assistance, equipment assistance and home/car modification assistance.

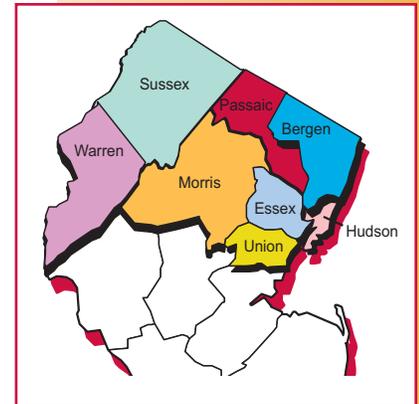
MS offering for children.

Kids' Camp is for children who have a parent with MS. They get together for a weekend filled with activities and fun.

- *We provide timely, customized response to personal and family needs – including direct assistance for certain goods and services when community resources fall short.*
- *We offer information, education and services to address the wide range of challenges facing those living with MS, tailored content and delivery systems to the needs and interests of people throughout the continuum of the disease.*
- *We reach out to people facing a new diagnosis of MS, and make concerted efforts to welcome and engage those contacting us for the first time.*
- *We increase access to high-quality, comprehensive care for people with MS and their families, leveraging our influence to improve healthcare systems and resources.*

Programs and Services

- *Information and Referral*
 - Community and resource referrals
 - Lending library of books and videotapes
 - Quarterly chapter newsletter
 - Information Packets
 - Inside MS Magazine
- *Emotional Health*
 - Twenty self-help groups led by trained volunteer facilitators
 - Peer Support Programs
 - Mental Health referrals including grief counseling, adjustment to chronic illness and dealing with individual and/or family issues
 - Newly Diagnosed Seminars
- *Financial & Equipment Assistance Programs*
 - Financial aid for clients in need of medical/ pharmaceutical assistance or medical equipment
 - Equipment loan program of wheelchairs, scooters, etc.
 - Assistance with home and car modifications
 - Transportation assistance
- *Family/Social Support*
 - Support Programs for Families & Caregivers
 - Respite Care
 - Chore Services
 - Occupational & Physical Therapy Evaluations
 - Adult Getaway Weekends in the Poconos
 - Social Events
 - Scholarship/Campership
- *Children's Programs*
 - Kids' Camp Weekend (for children who have a parent with MS)
 - Keep S'myelin Newsletter (for children who have a parent with MS)
 - Young persons with MS network
- *Physical Health*
 - Referral to MDs
 - Exercise and Wellness Programs (Tai Chi, Yoga & Swim)
 - Chapter Affiliations with three MS Centers in Northern NJ
- *Educational Programs*
 - Client and Public Education
 - Annual Regional Conference
 - Research Symposium
 - Professional Programs
 - Newly Diagnosed Series
 - Educational Conference Calls
 - Employment Programs
 - Agency Staff In-service
- *Long-Term Care Programs*
 - Spring Nursing Home Luncheon
 - Holiday Gift Giving Programs
 - Outreach to Nursing Homes/Nursing Home Yoga
- *Advocacy*
 - Local and statewide advocacy efforts to assist individuals with public policy issues in their communities and the state of New Jersey



The Greater North Jersey Chapter provides over 100 programs and services to over 5,500 people with MS and their families and caregivers.

Top 10 Walk Teams

The Mitzvah Squad
\$57,439

**Mindy Goldberger &
Michael Belfer's Team**
\$27,067

Team Berlex
\$23,236

Partners at Work
\$19,187

Carol's Iron Eagles
\$16,658

**Luke Skywalker &
The Wookies**
\$12,574

Ted's Team
\$12,350

The MS Allstars
\$11,691

For My Dad
\$11,523

Samuel Team
\$11,510



The **MS Walk** is the National MS Society's signature fundraising event. People living with MS, friends, neighbors and co-workers unite one day a year to make strides in support of our mission to end the devastating effects of multiple sclerosis. This is our Chapter's single largest fundraiser.

The **MS-100 Bike Tour** is the Society's longest running, most celebrated event. Hundreds of people gear up for a weekend of riding in support of our mission. This is a two-day program that takes riders over 100 miles through some of New Jersey's most scenic landscapes.



The **Women Against MS** luncheon features an inspirational keynote address and welcomes the Northern New Jersey region's most influential corporate business leaders, professionals and friends of the Chapter. Launched in 2004, this program has become one of the premiere events for women in the area.

Special Events



*Sylvie Meyers,
Director of Marketing
& Corporate
Development*

The **MS Dinner of Champions** is a black tie, gala event of the NMSS.

Today, this fundraiser is one the country's most prestigious and popular testimonial events and is held in over 70 of the nation's largest communities. Our Chapter honors business leaders and athletes at our yearly dinner, as well as an MS Champion from our local community who has a profound impact on our clients and mission.



The **MS Spring Golf Classic** invites corporate teams from the media and advertising industry to participate in a networking event to raise funds for research and our Chapter's programs and services. The Greater North Jersey's golf event is the longest running charity golf outing in the National MS Society's history.

Chefs for MS is our Chapter's newest fundraising and awareness program.

This event incorporates fun, elegance and delicious food. Taking place aboard a yacht, guests from our community sail around Manhattan and enjoy food samples from restaurants in our area.



Top 10 Bike Teams

Team Hertz
\$108,074

Team Falcon
\$93,710

Ridgewood Cycle
\$68,398

NJRCC
\$33,303

Sony
\$17,682

Fiduciary Flyers
\$17,147

BJ's
\$11,886

Siemens
\$11,276

Team Tambo
\$11,131

Motion Fitness
\$10,931



*Gwen Leach,
Director of Finance &
Administration*

**We
mobilize
the talents
and resources
of the
millions of
people who
want to do
something
about MS.**

The Greater North Jersey Chapter, serving Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Union, and Warren counties, is proud of its fundraising and client service efforts in fiscal year 2006. The funds raised by our generous donors enable us to fulfill our mission to end the devastating effects of MS and to assist those living with MS every day.

Each year, the Greater North Jersey Chapter's largest expenditure is for programs and services for persons with MS and their families. The Chapter provides over 100 programs and services to over 5,500 people with multiple sclerosis and their families and caregivers, all of whom must meet the daily physical and emotional challenges of the disease.

Our second largest expenditure is on national research. The National MS Society spends more money on research than any national voluntary agency in the world. The Chapter is pleased that the funds we send to the home office are used to support scientific research throughout the United States, including our local chapter area.

In addition, the Chapter spends funds on professional and public education programs to publicize the most recent information about MS to healthcare providers, the general public and the media. Through educational seminars and materials, the Chapter disseminates the most accurate and current information about MS.

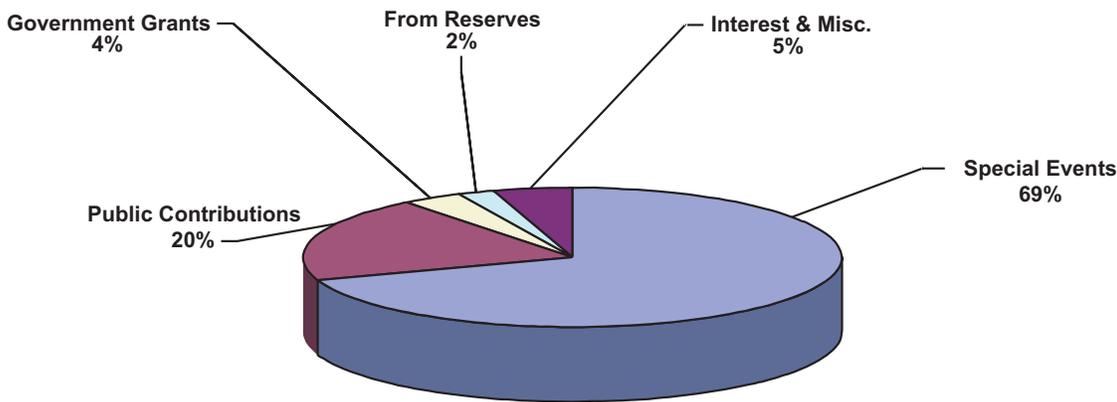
The Chapter staff and volunteers exercise the greatest care in managing the dollars raised. By maintaining the highest standards of cost control, the fundraising, management and general expenditures are below the recommended standards for non-profit organizations.

- We are committed and equipped to identify, recruit, engage and manage the talents of volunteers and staff and we will celebrate their accomplishments.*
- We identify opportunities and eliminate barriers so that people with MS can help each other and contribute in meaningful ways to the work of the Society.*
- We recruit and engage volunteers who can lend specific expertise to addressing the many complex issues of multiple sclerosis.*
- We evaluate, develop, and invest in our structure and processes to maximize and focus resources on the mission while effectively managing the business of the organization.*

FY 2006 Revenue Chart

(net of benefit to donor costs)

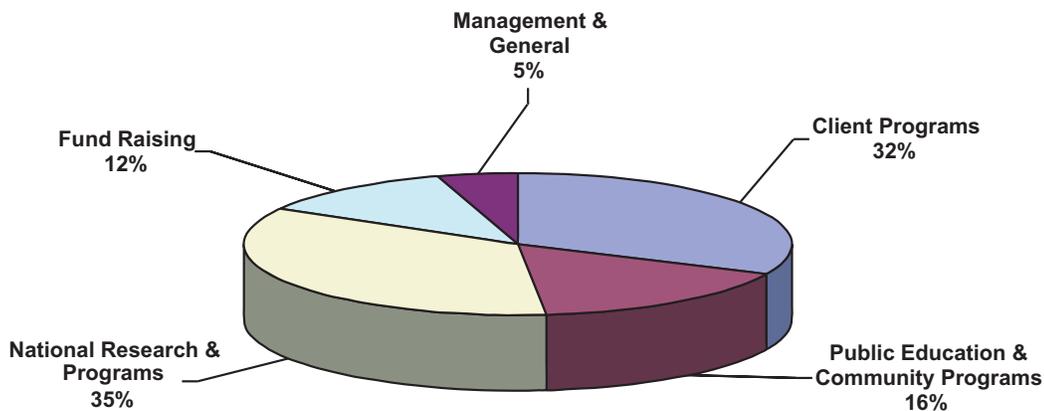
Total Revenue \$2,946,428



FY 2006 Expense Chart

(net of benefit to donor costs)

Total Revenue \$2,946,428



Revenue

Special Events	\$2,058,009
Public Contributions	\$575,234
Government Grants	\$109,498
From Reserves	\$62,236
Interest & Misc.	\$141,252
TOTAL REVENUE	\$2,946,428
	(net of benefit to donor costs)

Expense

Client Programs	\$937,973
Public Education & Community Programs	\$484,613
National Research & Programs	\$1,032,314
Fundraising	\$354,852
Management & General	\$136,676
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,946,428
	(net of benefit to donor costs)

Note: Figures are preliminary for fiscal year 10/1/05 - 9/30/06; audited financials will be available at the Chapter office after 12/31/06.

Chapter Staff

Frank M. Leshner

President

Gwen Leach

Director of Finance & Administration

Sylvie Meyers

Director of Marketing & Corporate Development

Nancy Chazen

Director of Programs

Jerry Volk

Director of Major Giving



Stephanie Hunsinger

Advocacy Manager

Brian Hurwitz

Manager, Corporate Events & Communications

Marilou King

Accounts Payable

Gustavo Lopez

Data / System Administrator

Angie Narduzzi

Administrative Assistant

Patti Jean Pasquino

Program Manager

Jonathan Staunch

Development Manager

Christine Van Dyk

Administrative Assistant

Alexandra Whelan

Marketing Assistant

Pat Evertz

Program Manager

Jennifer Fallon

Program Manager

Lisa Gordon

Program Coordinator

Jennifer Hirvy

Development Manager

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John F. Rotondo

Nicholas Ruggiero

Julie M. Staudenmier

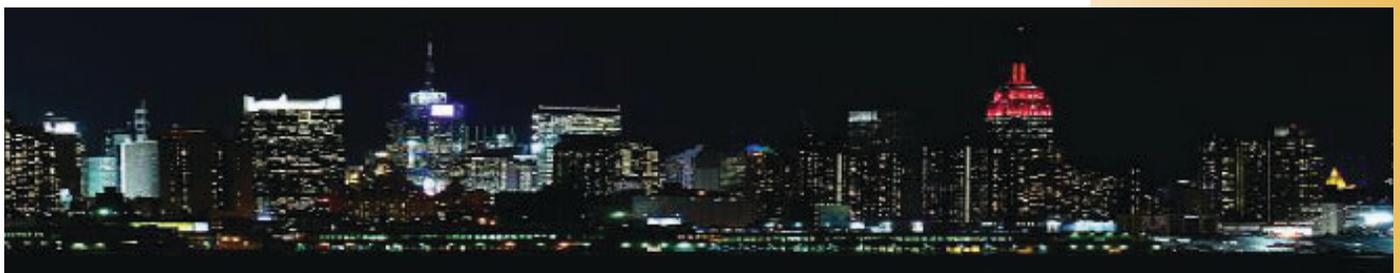
Kimberly R. Whittle

Chairman's Leadership Council

Caroline Amorosa

Robert P. Evans

Patricia Nachtigal



MS Awareness Day 2006

People around the country wore MS pins and red Bands of Hope. FaceofMS.org was launched and chapters nationwide orchestrated MS awareness events. On March 14, even the Empire State Building wore red. A Society-coordinated alliance with fellow MS organizations rallied thousands to call Congress supporting a 5% increase in research funding for the National Institutes of Health.

A special thanks to the following that have made a personal or corporate contribution to help the fight against MS.

President's Circle

\$15,000 +

Berlex Laboratories
 BJ's Wholesale Club
 Mr. & Mrs. Wallace Cowan
 Doherty Enterprises Inc./
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 Fred J. Brotherton Charitable
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 Kessler Institute for
 Rehabilitation
 Litterman Family Foundation
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 Family Foundation

Visionary

\$10,000-\$14,999

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Leader (\$5,000-\$9,999)

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Relying on the support of the caring individuals, businesses and foundations listed, the Greater N... We extend our sincere thanks to our contributors in 2005-2006. Your generosity enables the Chap... our community and gives us the tools we need to combat this disease through progressive research... enourmous difference and regardless of the amount, every commitment is invaluable and tremend... underwriting and sponsorships of individuals, foundations and corporations who have generously

Thank You for Making a Difference

Champion (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

Altria Corporate Services, Inc.
Dr. Roger A. Berg
Biogen Idec Inc.
Bracco Diagnostics, Inc.
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
Dr. & Mrs. William Brotherton
Debevoise & Plimpton, LLP
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Catherine Engelbert
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Inserra Supermarkets
IR Shared Services
Cassandra Kutner
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Eric & Ronni Lieberman
Monterey Fund, Inc.
Joseph R. Nothwang
Reckson Associates Realty Corporation
Ronetco Supermarkets, Inc.
Doreen Rosenberg
The Sylvia and Stanley Shirvan Foundation
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TEVA Neuroscience, Inc.

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*Jerry Volk,
Director of
Major Giving*

Superstar Fundraisers \$10,000+

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Laura Cohen
Mindy Goldberger
Ken Hoexter
Jeffrey Hurwitz
Mark Kreston
Dan Malanka
Cindy North
Scott Rives
Jack Young

North Jersey Chapter strives to improve the lives of all who are affected by this life-long disease. We continue to provide all the programs and services for the thousands with MS and their families in support and advocacy. We wish we could list all our generous contributors, but each gift makes an enormous difference and is greatly appreciated. The list is comprised of personal and corporate contributions, as well as those who supported the fight against MS by participating in our special events.

Top Fundraiser for MS Walk



Laura Cohen \$46,608

Ira Sutcliffe

Our chapter is very proud of Ira Sutcliffe, one of our scholarship recipients for the past three years. The chapter awards scholarships to students with a personal connection to MS. It is an annual program and the students must re-apply each year. Ira is 23 years old and currently a junior at Parsons The New School for Design. He has many accomplishments, including co-teaching a robotics seminar at the Cooper Hewitt Summer Design Institute. Ira has an innate ability to master technologies. His specialty is web design, and other talents include animation and cell phone gaming design. One of Ira's short animated films was not only invited to screen at the First Sunday Festival by Jay Stein at the Pioneer Theater, but it was also named the "Best of Festival" by the New York Daily News. Ira is currently working part-time as an Information Technology Specialist at the Parsons Institute for Information Mapping. He was first diagnosed at age 16 with a progressive form of MS, but Ira does not let it interfere with his passion and dedication to be successful. He keeps up with his extremely busy schedule and has fun every step of the way.



Top Fundraiser for MS Bike Tour



Dan Malanka \$59,100

Team Berlex

Meet Daniela Bergert and Cindy North, the co-captains of Team Berlex. Berlex, Inc. has had a dedicated volunteer walk team in place since 1994. It's this team that inspires a growing number of participants to raise much-needed funds for our mission. Their flagship team is in Northern New Jersey – where hundreds of thousands of dollars have been raised since the team began. Each year, the team branches out across the country through collaboration with members of the Berlex Sales Force as well as employees at the other Berlex corporate sites in California and Washington.



New Jersey is currently the largest team, comprised of over 120 employees, friends and outside vendors of the company. The April MS Walk is the highlight of many months of team preparation. Awareness and fundraising efforts begin with a kick-off in January and feature ongoing recruitment efforts including a T-shirt and button design contest, education via a Betaseron Patient Day in March, weekly team meetings from January to April, and finally, the Thank You Dinner for the Berlex volunteers and the NMSS chapter representatives. The employees at Berlex bring the same commitment, enthusiasm and spirit to the annual MS Walk as they do to marketing their drug, Betaseron, a first-line therapy for the treatment of relapsing forms of MS, that is now also approved to be used at the first MS event.



Joseph Neary

Joe Neary was first diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1976. He was able to continue working for 15 years, but eventually retired and now dedicates most of his time to the Chapter. He is a regular in the Chapter office, assisting with mailings and other administrative tasks. More importantly, he has been leading a self-help group for over 10 years. Joe encourages open and honest discussion at the sessions and secures speakers on medical and legal topics. He makes sure that the coffee is ready and warmly welcomes any newcomers. A favorite of the group is the occasional lunch out that Joe plans; which he says always boosts attendance. Joe feels the experiences that one person can share with another is crucial to managing their lives. The group discusses strategies in dealing with their illness, personal experiences with medication, and just about anything they have in common in their daily routine. All of these experiences have also made Joe an outstanding peer support volunteer; another of his many “jobs.” Joe was recently honored as our Chapter Volunteer of the Year through the Bergen County Volunteer Center.



Rosemarie & Krista Collopy

Most of our MS Bike Tour riders know Rosemarie and Krista Collopy. Rosemarie and Tom Collopy first joined the bike tour for fun. The very next year, Rosemarie was diagnosed with MS, and the fun became a mission. Their daughter, Krista, rode on a trailer bike attached to Tom’s bike when she was only 5 years old. Sadly, Tom passed away from a brain tumor when Krista was just 9 years old. However, she continued the ride on her own, returning to Tom’s sponsors and neighbors for support. Now at age 15, Krista is the youngest team captain motivating and encouraging many other friends and family that participated in this year’s ride. Krista especially enjoys having the camaraderie of her classmates. Three friends from school trained together for months, riding every Saturday. Rosemarie is proud of the leadership and poise that Krista has developed over the years, and although she can no longer ride, she makes a point of being at the finish line to cheer on and reconnect with the repeat riders who come out every September.

When she was first diagnosed, Rosemarie attended a chapter support group with Joe Neary. Now she is a peer counselor for the chapter, working with patients referred by our Chapter. Rosemarie would like to encourage more MS clients to be at the finish line of the bike tour to share the euphoric feeling at the completion of the ride. Rosemarie says it is such a boost to know that all the bike riders have raised at least \$300 minimum just for programs and services for you! Over the years, Krista’s Crew has raised over \$30,000 for the chapter.

Supermodel, author, television personality and society ambassador, Emme, participating in our many events this past year.



Emme with Board President, Tim Barnes, at the Dinner of Champions.



Mistress of Ceremonies at 2006 Dinner.



Emme with daughter, Toby, at MS-100 Bike Tour.

Emme with celebrity chef, Sara Moulton, at Chefs for MS.



real difference

It is only through the generosity of our supporters that the Greater North Jersey Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society can continue to speed the progress toward ending the devastating effects of MS. The generous contributions make an enormous difference to the thousands of people with MS in our community by providing the means to further our understanding of this complex disease through research and helping us to provide a wide variety of critical programs and services.



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chapter@njb.nmss.org
Chapter Website: www.njbnmss.org
National Website: www.nmss.org

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