Mission

Our mission is to expand medical professional and public awareness and understanding about Parkinson disease that will lead to maximum support, the best individual healthcare, assistance for caregivers and families, and increased funding for research.

Vision

The vision of the Wisconsin Parkinson Association is to create a world without Parkinson disease. Until then, we are here to help by:

- making the public more aware of Parkinson’s and where to get help;
- educating healthcare professionals about how to recognize and treat Parkinson’s;
- supporting people with Parkinson’s, their caregivers, and family members;
- providing information to people with Parkinson’s so that they have the resources and knowledge to treat and care for their disease; and
- supporting research into the cause, better treatment, and a cure.
A note from our leadership

The 2015-2016 fiscal year has been an active year for WPA, thanks to you – our donors, advisors, partners, volunteers and supporters. Thank you for all you do to help us as we continue to help those impacted by Parkinson disease!

As you read through this annual report, I would like to point out a few of our exciting endeavors from this past year:

- Through partnerships with healthcare providers, we held educational programs in new locations throughout our service area, educating and raising awareness.

- Our strong relationships have grown with nearly 130 support and exercise groups in Wisconsin and the surrounding states. Most of these groups are run by volunteer facilitators who have a passion for what they do and give time and energy to serve the Parkinson’s community.

- We formed a Medical Advisory Committee to provide medical oversight for WPA. Made up of seven doctors from around Wisconsin, the Committee advises our board and staff on the content of our medically-related programs, and on topics related to clinical care of people with Parkinson disease.

- Our impact on the greater community has grown through media outreach efforts - including a TV feature and a radio show - this year, and our Facebook page has become the place to go for information on classes and support group meetings, as well as other news from the PD community.

We are proud of these accomplishments and with your help, we are energized to increase these efforts even more in the coming year. Thank you for your support!

Gary Garland
Executive Director

Kate McDonald
Board President

Board of Directors
Kate McDonald, President
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Robert Norman, Secretary
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Knut Apitz
Keith Brewer, Emeritus Member
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Cheryl Prescott

Staff
Gary Garland, Executive Director
Carolyn Hahn, Marketing Communications
Raven Hamilton, Administrative Services
Jeremy Otte, Outreach & Education
We are actively meeting our mission of expanding awareness and understanding about Parkinson disease, ensuring maximum support when it’s needed, helping secure the best individual healthcare, providing assistance for caregivers and families, and supporting an increase in research funding to lead to a cure.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”
~Margaret Mead

As the resource for people with PD in Wisconsin, WPA participates in health fairs, conferences, and workshops hosted by other nonprofit organizations and corporations. In our role as the voice of people with Parkinson disease, we raise awareness of the disease through as many channels as possible. WPA is also a member of the United Parkinson’s Action Council, a coalition comprised of representatives from state, regional and national Parkinson’s disease organizations, where we provide input on policy priorities, ensuring a unified voice of the PD community on all public policy matters.
"Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family."
~Kofi Annan

Through workshops, conferences, literature packets and community outreach this year, we have connected with more people than ever before to educate on the signs, symptoms and potential treatments of PD. Our educational programs help empower those with Parkinson disease to take control of their individual diagnoses, and encourage attendees to be involved in the process of supporting others and striving for a cure. Through The Network, our quarterly magazine, we share articles on living with PD with the people who need it the most.

"Individually we are one drop. But together, we are an ocean."
~Ryunosuke Satōro

People with PD and their loved ones have immediate needs, and WPA is here to serve those needs. We work with 130+ support and exercise groups that are open to people with PD, their caregivers and their family members. The Medical Advisory Committee is attuned to the issues facing people with PD, and helps us know what topics and questions we should address in our publications and at events. The information and referral services WPA provides also serve to assist people with PD and provide connections where they are most needed.
1. The 12th Annual **Fall Parkinson Ride** was held to benefit WPA. Many community members who have been touched by PD in some way, like the organizers of this annual motorcycle ride, choose to hold fundraisers and donate the proceeds to WPA.

2. **The Network magazine in Fall 2015** focused on WPA’s research partnerships with local and national universities. WPA focuses on helping people with PD now, and these invaluable partnerships connect us to those who focus on the *future* of PD.

3. **Parkinson Disease: Living Well** and **Parkinson Disease: Basics & Beyond** were held in five cities around Wisconsin for over 750 individuals with PD and their caregivers, as well as professionals who care for seniors.

4. **The Network magazine in Winter 2016** was geared toward caregivers. We profiled Barb Abrams who cares for her husband Don, and we provided resources for caregivers. One of the best ways to care for yourself is by connecting to others who can help.

5. Several new exercise classes have started around Wisconsin this year, bringing more attention to the positive effects of exercise on a person with PD. WPA worked with Fox 6 News to profile the **Boxing for Parkinson’s class at the Wisconsin Athletic Club** for a segment called “Beyond the Game.”

6. **Thirty-five volunteer support group facilitators received training** on running a group, finding speakers and resources, and connecting members with WPA resources. The training was held the day before the 30th Annual Parkinson Disease Symposium.
7. The Spring 2016 issue of The Network focused on Young-Onset PD. We profiled 3 people with YOPD, and shared their stories of perseverance and hope for the future.

8. The 30th Annual Parkinson Disease Symposium reached more than 250 people with Parkinson’s and their loved ones, who learned about safety issues, Medicare, exercises for people with PD, emerging treatments and more.

9. The WPA Open Against Parkinson Disease golf outing, presented by HeakTek, Inc. & Financial Strategies, Inc., connected over 85 golfers and 130 diners for a day of comradery and fun while raising funds and supporting WPA’s mission.

10. As a follow up to the Symposium, the Summer 2016 issue of The Network provided summaries of each session, proving that the magazine is valuable to all who receive it - even if they aren’t able to attend WPA events.

11. Knut Apitz was presented with the Tulip Award at the Annual Meeting. Knut has been a longtime supporter of WPA.

12. The Bottle Milwaukee Softball Tournament in Memory of Tim Puthoff is another community fundraiser that raises money to support WPA’s work. This year was the 9th annual tournament, which raised over $6,600 for WPA.
The financial information on this page is derived from Wisconsin Parkinson Association’s audited August 31, 2016 financial statements, which contain an unqualified audit opinion by an independent accounting firm.

The complete, audited financial statements can be obtained online at wiparkinson.org.
1,500
People who receive *The Network* magazine each quarter

6
Neurologists on the Medical Advisory Committee from around Wisconsin

500
People reached through events held by community members as fund-raisers for WPA.

129
Exercise and support groups met over 5,000 times and reached over 1,100 individuals

500
Connections in the senior care industry, through networking and industry groups

785
Participants in WPA educational programs like *Living Well*, and *Basics & Beyond*

850
Individuals at health fairs and conferences where WPA presented, sponsored or exhibited

550
Support group attendees where WPA staff shared resources available

160
Referrals in person and over the phone with information on home healthcare, doctors, insurance, medical equipment and more

250
Attendees at the 30th Annual PD Symposium who learned about safety issues, Medicare, exercises for people with PD, emerging treatments and more

8,000+
Connections with people living with PD, their friends and family, and the community.
We assist support & exercise groups in these Wisconsin communities, as well as communities surrounding Wisconsin.

Appleton  King  Shell Lake  
Athens  La Crosse  St. Francis  
Baraboo  Lake Geneva  Stevens Point  
Bayfield  Madison  Stoughton  
Brookfield  Manitowoc  Sturgeon Bay  
Brown Deer  Marshfield  Summit  
Chippewa Falls  Mequon  Sun Prairie  
Colby  Milwaukee  Verona  
Eau Claire  Minocqua  Waukesha  
Fish Creek  Neenah  Waunakee  
Fond du Lac  Oconomowoc  Waupaca  
Grafton  Oshkosh  Wauwatosa  
Green Bay  Racine  West Allis  
Greenfield  Rhinelander  West Bend  
Hartford  Richland Center  Whitefish Bay  
Hudson  Shawano  Whitewater  
Janesville  Sheboygan  

Illinois  
Belvidere  South Bend  Calumet  
Chicago  
Dixon  
Lake Forest  Michigan  
Libertyville  Menominee  
Lindenhurst  Negawnee  
Loves Park  Iowa  
Moline  Bettendorf  Minnesota  
Northfield  Burlington  Duluth  
Rockford  Clinton  
Roscoe  Davenport  

Indiana  

Iowa  

Michigan  

Minnesota  


Wisconsin Parkinson Association

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