

The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research



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Our Mission & Model

The Michael J. Fox Foundation is dedicated to finding a cure for Parkinson's disease through an aggressively funded research agenda and to ensuring the development of improved therapies for those living with Parkinson's today.

- Founded in 2000 by Michael J. Fox
- Funded more than \$2 billion in Parkinson's research around the globe
- Supported more than 3,200 projects by academics, biotech and pharma
- 88 cents of every dollar raised goes directly to research



2024 Policy & Advocacy Priorities



Government support is critical to MJFF's efforts to develop a strong landscape of improved treatment and care options. That's why MJFF works with federal and state policymakers to expand government investment in Parkinson's research while ensuring that policies and programs improve the quality of life for the Parkinson's community.



The National Plan to End Parkinson's Act

- The National Plan to End Parkinson's Act (H.R.2365/S.1064) is the first federal legislation solely dedicated to treating, preventing and curing Parkinson's.
- Modeled after the National Alzheimer's Project Act, this no-cost, bipartisan legislation would establish an advisory council tasked with creating and implementing a national plan to end Parkinson's.
- The council would regularly report on its progress to Congress and comprise members of federal agencies, people living with Parkinson's, care partners, researchers, clinicians and other experts.

The National Plan to End Parkinson's Act

Progress to Date

- The bill passed the U.S. House of Representatives in December 2023.
- More than 200 members of Congress have cosponsored the National Plan.
- 900 advocates have joined MJFF for over 400 meetings with members of Congress.
- Advocates have sent more than 42,000 letters to Congress and added over 25,000 signatures to our petition since the start of 2023.
- Advocates have placed four op-eds urging support the bill in key congressional districts.

Funding Parkinson's Research

- Increasing funding for research can advance breakthroughs that could lead to new treatments and ultimately, a cure for Parkinson's disease.
- In states and on Capitol Hill, MJFF advocates for government funding for our **Parkinson's Progression Markers Initiative (PPMI)**, which follows people with and without Parkinson's to learn more about how the disease starts and changes over time.
- MJFF also champions sustained and increased funding for federal programs that advance Parkinson's research and care.

Funding Parkinson's Research

PPMI: The Study That's Changing Everything



PPMI has studied thousands of people across the globe. Over 40,000 volunteers share data with PPMI through its online platform, and more than 2,500 participants have tests and share biological samples at each of the 50 participating medical centers in 12 countries.



PPMI has assembled the world's most robust repository of Parkinson's data and biological samples, which it shares with scientists to speed breakthroughs. The dataset has been downloaded by researchers over 17 million times.



In 2023, PPMI scientists validated a biological test for Parkinson's with an astonishing 93 percent accuracy. For the first time, the test can objectively and reliably detect abnormal alpha-synuclein proteins — a hallmark of Parkinson's disease — in a living body. This discovery, which comes in the form of a spinal fluid test, is one of the most prominent breakthroughs in brain disease research of the past decade.

Funding Parkinson's Research

Federal Programs

MJFF also champions sustained and increased funding to advance Parkinson's research and care through:

- **The Department of Veterans Affairs' Parkinson's Disease Research, Education, and Clinical Centers**, which serves veterans with Parkinson's through education, research and clinical care
- **The Department of Defense's Parkinson's Research Program**, one of the only one of the only government-funded programs dedicated to understanding Parkinson's
- **The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Neurological Conditions Surveillance System**, which tracks the epidemiology of Parkinson's in the U.S. to better understand and identify patterns of the disease

Additional Policy Efforts

In addition to our current priorities, MJFF advocates for other state and federal policies and programs that aim to:

- Create state-level Parkinson's research registries
- Safeguard access to care
- Ensure prescription drug affordability
- Expand access to biomarker testing
- Establish genetic testing protections
- Ban the use of toxic chemicals that can increase the risk of developing Parkinson's

Parkinson's Policy Network

- Behind every policy win is our national grassroots advocacy group, the Parkinson's Policy Network (PPN).
- Through the PPN, members receive regular opportunities to advocate including signing petitions, writing letters to policymakers, sharing their stories and more.
- To date, PPN boasts more than 83,000 members.

No one understands Parkinson's disease better than those who are affected by it every day. Becoming a policy advocate and sharing your story with lawmakers can help them understand how their policy choices can affect patients, families and care partners.

Get Involved with MJFF

Whether it be through volunteering to participate in clinical trials, advocating for Parkinson's policy or joining local fundraising efforts in your area, there are many ways to get involved with The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.



THE MICHAEL J. FOX FOUNDATION
FOR PARKINSON'S RESEARCH

Ways to Get Involved

Join Us



Public Policy: Advocate for Parkinson's Policies at michaeljfox.org/advocacy



Buddy Network: Connect with new friends, share tips and build relationships at parkinsonsbuddynetwork.org



Team Fox: Join grassroots fundraising efforts at teamfox.org



Participate in a Clinical Trial: Find the right trial for you at michaeljfox.org/join-study

Ways to Get Involved

Learn More



Webinars: Join free, live panel discussions monthly and on-demand at michaeljfox.org/webinars



Ask the MD: A movement disorder specialist discusses Parkinson's research and care through blogs and videos at michaeljfox.org/ask-md



Podcasts: Hear from scientists, doctors and people with Parkinson's at michaeljfox.org/podcasts

Thank you



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