



**THE KIRK GIBSON
FOUNDATION FOR
PARKINSON'S**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

JoAnn P. Gibson Kirk H. Gibson
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Background

Founded as a private foundation in 1996 by Kirk Gibson, the Foundation saw its reach expand and mission become sharply focused in 2015, when he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. This has led to a transition, in 2018, from a private foundation to a public foundation formally titled "The Kirk Gibson Foundation for Parkinson's"

Not surprisingly, the new direction for the foundation mirrors Mr. Gibson's approach to life. Specifically, to be a catalyst for cooperation, collaboration and teamwork to find a cure for Parkinson's disease.

The Foundation Today

Teamwork is what the Kirk Gibson Foundation for Parkinson's is all about.

This mission has seen the Foundation raise over \$2.0million dollars since its inception. It is re-investing those funds to bring together other organizations with Parkinson's at their core, to share information and build awareness.

On a broad scale, the Foundation has supported the Michael J. Fox Foundation, the Cure Parkinson's Trust of London and the Mohammed Ali Barrow Institute (Phoenix, AZ) to initiate stronger ties and promote collaborative efforts.

In Michigan, a recent fund raising event held at MSU, "Gibby and Friends vs Parky", raised more than \$1.3 million dollars.

Last year, the Foundation participated in the award of over \$1.1 million dollars to enable organizations like MSU, the VanAndel Institute and Mercy Health of St. Mary's to launch promising research projects and pilot programs. True to its mission, the Foundation's criteria in determining the projects it will support are based on a recipient's ability to foster cooperation, collaboration and teamwork within their Parkinson's network.

The goal is not to endow projects in perpetuity, but rather, seed promising projects that will, if successful, be able to be self-sustaining.

Kirk observed: "Henry Ford once said –"Team work beats hard work, every time'. He was right when he said that over a century ago, and it is just as right today".

The Gala –Everybody vs. Parkinson's

The Gibson Foundation's partnership with the Michigan Parkinson Foundation in this year's Gala event is a perfect example of Teamwork. The result of this teamwork is going to be important, not for the individual Foundations, but rather, for the 30,000 Parkinson's patients in the State. That is the powerful effect of teamwork.

Governance

The Kirk Gibson Foundation for Parkinson's is a 501(c) (3) organization 82-4716374

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