



**NEUROMUSCULAR**  
DISEASE FOUNDATION

# Annual Report & Impact Statement

Review of the 2020 Calendar Year

# Message from our CEO

## Dear Supporters,



**Lalé J. Welsh**

CEO, Neuromuscular Disease Foundation

There is no question that the year 2020 will go down as one of the **most disruptive in recent history**. Through a global pandemic that accentuated health inequities everywhere, polarizing politics, and volatile financial pressures caused by business shut-downs, I am honored to report that the **Neuromuscular Disease Foundation**, not only survived, but thrived working extra hard and rising to the challenge to deliver high-value resources, programming and service to all of our stakeholders, particularly for patients with **compromised health issues**. And we did this within a year when our funding was greatly diminished.

With a modest PPP loan and the support of our most committed donors listed in this financial report (to whom I am especially grateful this year), we were able to raise \$440K to stay afloat and thrive. This came at a time when many people reasonably expected NDF to implode like so many other for-profits and nonprofits alike. While thousands of U.S. businesses filed for bankruptcy, the explosion in the need for assistance from charities quickly outstripped available resources by a factor of 10<sup>1</sup>.

COVID-19 did not shut us down. Quite the opposite - our ever-evolving work, not only remained consistent with our drive to fulfill NDF's critical mission, but it was carried out deftly and efficiently thanks to the dedication of our staff, Nancy Lurie and Rachel Leib, who sprang into action with me to implement new ways of presenting our patient programs, coupled with the wisdom of Board members who approved experimental new programs, amidst the chaos, in order to further serve our patient population.

As examples, I present the following highlights of 2020:

- » Design and approval of the world's **first multi-disciplinary, GNE Myopathy-specific clinics, free to our patients**. This collaboration with UC Irvine was modeled after the Muscular Dystrophy Association's clinics and is led by our own Board member, Dr. Tahseen Mozaffar, and his team of medical experts.

- » \$811K of funding towards **critical scientific research** that has addressed FDA feedback and has propelled us closer to approval for an IND. Human clinical trials are now expected in 2023, despite the pandemic.
- » Launch of our live, weekly **Virtual Speaker Series** to update and educate the public in real time, which added over 40 hours of programming for "on demand downloads" from our Learning Library that has created an up-to-date treasure trove repository of GNE Myopathy scientific data for our scientific community.
- » And professional invitations into the inner sanctum at Scribe Therapeutics, the well-funded biotech and brainchild of the celebrated **Dr. Jennifer Doudna; Nobel Prize winner and inventor of CRISPR technology**.

I am honored to report that these meetings have resulted in one of our esteemed scientists being invited onto their Scientific Advisory Board, thus elevating the much-needed awareness of our rare disease into the purview of the scientific elite.

As always, none of this progress would be possible without the support of you — our generous donors. On behalf of the Board of Directors, scientific advisors, staff, and patients and their family members, I wish to thank each and every one of you for your past support. It is our great hope to see all of you at our upcoming gala in Los Angeles on November 14 (COVID-19 restrictions permitting). We can then celebrate the progress we have made so far and raise the necessary funds so desperately needed to bring our goals to fruition ahead of many other rare diseases.

P.S. Please take a few minutes to check out our latest accomplishment - the launch of our **NEW WEBSITE** – [CureGNEM.org](http://CureGNEM.org).



## About GNE Myopathy

**Our mission is to enhance the quality of the lives of people living with GNE Myopathy through advocacy, education, outreach, and funding for critical research focused on treatments and a cure.**

GNE Myopathy is a rare, inherited disease that causes progressive muscle weakness. The disease is caused by defects of the GNE gene. In this disorder the defect of the GNE enzyme disrupts the functioning of the sialic acid metabolic pathway, and interferes with normal muscle function.

GNE Myopathy typically affects young adults. One of the first signs of the disease includes inability to lift the front of the foot (foot drop). This may cause toes to drag while walking. As the disease progresses, it leads to various degrees of compromised mobility. GNE Myopathy does not affect the muscles of the face, or swallowing ability. It does not typically affect the heart or breathing muscles.

GNE Myopathy is a rare disease estimated to affect around 6 in 1,000,000 people. It affects populations worldwide but is more common in certain Asian, European and Jewish ethnicities. Like all rare diseases, GNE Myopathy is under-diagnosed with many people still pending proper diagnosis globally.

GNE Myopathy has also been known as HIBM (Hereditary Inclusion Body Myopathy), Nonaka Myopathy, Distal Myopathy with Rimmed Vacuoles, Inclusion Body Myopathy 2 (IBM 2), and Quadriceps-Sparing Myopathy. To facilitate diagnosis, GNE myopathy is the preferred name.



We are grateful to our international consortium of scientific GNE Myopathy experts for their collaboration with NDF and with each other, which continues to contribute invaluable to the expedition of our common goals and mission.

### Scientific Advisory Committee

Dr. Zohar Argov

Dr. Carmen Bertoni

Dr. Kelly Crowe

Dr. Nuria Carrillo

Dr. Wayne Grody

Dr. John Hakimi

Dr. Angela Lek

Dr. Monkol Lek

Dr. Tahseen Mozaffar <sup>B</sup>

Dr. Stella Mitrani-Rosenbaum

Dr. Laura Rufibach

Dr. Perry Shieh

B - member of NDF Board of Directors

## 2020 Grant Recipients

### Hadassah Medical Center (Israel)

#### Development of Animal Models

Dr. Stella Mitrani-Rosenbaum continued her work to develop mouse and zebrafish models lacking expression of GNE. Animal models are necessary to assess efficacy of any therapy and establish dose needed to achieve an effect. Furthermore, these models will enable us to stimulate the interest and gain the attention of pharmaceutical companies interested in developing and marketing a cure for HIBM.

### Lek Lab at The Yale School of Medicine

#### Biobank

Drs. Angela and Monkol Lek continue their work establishing a repository of cells from patients, family members and eventually animal models as a resource for the GNE Myopathy community of scientists and pharmaceutical companies for research purposes (including identification of biomarkers and to validate therapeutic applications). To date, the Lek Lab was able to establish and bank 40 cell lines. All are available as fibroblasts (skin cells) as well as myoblasts (muscle cells). DNA and RNA have been collected and stored for upcoming sequencing and samples have been already shared with other investigators in the HIBM field. Future plans include further collection and storage of samples that contain different mutations so as to obtain a good representation of all HIBM patients worldwide.



Thanks for all the work you do on behalf of GNEM patients. I am grateful and know you work diligently to find us a cure.

- Tara, GNE Myopathy patient

### Lek Lab at The Yale School of Medicine

#### CRISPR Gene Editing Approaches

Dr. Angela Lek focused on conducting proof-of-concept studies in cells in vitro and at correcting the M743T mutation in patient fibroblasts. The cell lines and constructs needed to carry on the project have been successfully generated and results on the feasibility of using CRISPR-mediated gene editing approaches should be obtained.



Scientific Advisors, Board members, and staff at our 2019 Gala

### **Lek Lab at Yale School of Medicine & PerkinElmer Whole Genomic Sequencing**

Our whole genomic sequencing project continues in our effort to help identify any modifiers and allows the medical community to better understand the reasons that patients show such diversity in the progression of the disease. We have collated the second wave of samples for WGS, which included critical samples collated from Iran and other samples collected from the various NDF patient conferences.<sup>1</sup>

### **Mount St. Joseph University Lectin Staining Biomarkers**

Dr. Kelly Crowe tested levels of GNE Myopathy biomarkers in patient cells in vitro before and following gene therapy. Studies will then be extended to patient muscle biopsies as well as zebrafish models for the disease. The results obtained are particularly important because, if successful, they will enable us to establish outcome measures to be used in clinical trials and are required by the FDA in order to receive approval of the therapeutic approach being tested.

### **National Center of Neurology and Psychiatry (Japan)**

#### **Activation of Endogenous Mutated GNE Product by Small Compound**

Dr. Ichizo Nishino and Dr. Wakako Yoshioka undertook a drug discovery project aimed at identifying compounds capable of activating the GNE/MNK kinase. The goal is to identify drugs that activate GNE/MNK kinase and therefore elevate supply of sialic acid (SA) to the whole body, including muscles. If proven safe and effective, the drug could be used alone or in combination with gene therapy-mediated approaches to HIBM, thus increasing the efficacy of the clinical approach.

### **National Institutes of Health (NIH) Identification of Biomarkers**

Dr. Marjan Huizing focused on identifying biomarkers and gene modifiers that could play a role in disease progression in order to identify new players in the disease as well as new potential outcome measures to use in clinical trials to validate the efficacy of therapy. Studies focus on identifying additional biomarkers which require less invasive procedures than muscle biopsy.



Your focus on maximizing funds to go to towards funding research, education & patient care is remarkable. Thank you so so much!!!!

- Kevin, GNE Myopathy patient

### **Nationwide Children's Hospital Development of FDA-Compliant Gene Therapy Assays for GNE Myopathy**

Dr. Paul Martin focused on developing a gene therapy clinical development plan to be used to demonstrate activity of AAV-mediated delivery of GNE into cells and muscles of mice. In particular, the project will establish a potency assay that effectively describes the biological activity of the AAV vector to be used, in this case an AAV.GNE gene therapy vector.

### **The Ohio State University Compromised Membrane Repair**

Dr. Noah Weisleder suggests that muscle cells isolated from GNE myopathy patients show to be more susceptible to damage than cells isolated from non-affected individuals. This finding is particularly important because it could explain the slow deterioration of muscles in patients. Furthermore, these studies will help establish important biomarkers and outcome measures to be used in future clinical trials which are critically needed at this stage of clinical development for HIBM. The assays being developed in the Weisleder Lab could, in fact, become an integral part of clinical practices in human trials and to identify different stages of the disease. In addition, the assay could be used to prove the efficacy of the gene therapy application being tested, thus becoming a valuable tool to ensure FDA approval.

<sup>1</sup> Update: The sequencing was performed in early 2021 and the analysis by the Lek Lab is currently on-going. Future plans for this year will involve collating the final wave of sequencing to complete the targeted 100 WGS samples.

# Highlights

## By the Numbers

### 93% of diseases

have no FDA approved therapies or cures.

There are 7000 known rare diseases affecting 1 in 10 Americans. More than 30 million Americans are living with a rare disease.

GNE Myopathy is one of ~5000 rare, monogenic diseases potentially eligible for gene therapy.

### +18% patients

Our list of known patients grew by 18% and our overall contact list grew by 5% in 2020 – mostly attributable to our Speaker Series.

22% of all new contacts were GNE Myopathy patients.

### 64%

of our income in 2020 came from grants. We are grateful to have been awarded grants by: The EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases, The Confidence Foundation, Whittier Trust, The Rotary Club of Beverly Hills, and The Iranian American Jewish Federation - New York.

### 1531 people

are served annually by our programs.

### \$7,300,000 funded

to date, in service of GNE Myopathy programs.

### 79 cents of every dollar

goes towards funding scientific research and core programs providing critical support to families living with GNE Myopathy.\*

\* vs. US-based non-profit organization average of 63%

### 100% of programming

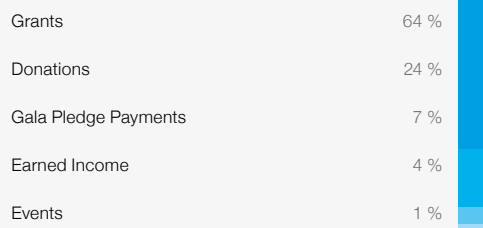
In spite of a global pandemic and compared to the previous year, we provided 100% of our programming with only 16% of the income.



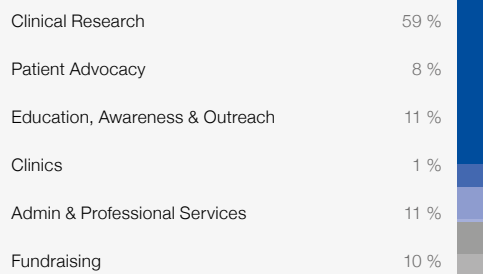
I'd like to thank you so so much for the work that you're doing! Sometimes this particular "walk" can be a lonely one for both the patient and their loved ones.

- Parent of a GNE Myopathy patient

#### 2020 Income



#### 2020 Expenses



## Outreach & Education

### Symposium Speaker Series

In 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, NDF quickly reinvented its in-person Symposia to a weekly, online Symposium Speaker Series featuring scientists and experts in many fields of interest to our patients, which has served to maintain critical discourse among scientists, educate the patient community and actually expanded our reach. Each week an expert in their field made a presentation about their NDF funded study or field of expertise, moderated by another scientist or NDF team member.

After each presentation, attendees (fellow scientists, industry professionals, family members and patients) were able to have their questions answered, creating a unique opportunity for interaction among community members.

Our online Learning Library has created an invaluable resource for visitors of our website to watch recordings of each presentation.

5

Months

22

Presenters

500+

Live Attendees

2000

Library Views

## Genetic Screening Education

As a member of the Jewish Genetic Disease Consortium and in partnership with JSscreen, we kicked off 2020 with in person programs which introduced clergy members and members of the Los Angeles community to the importance of pre-conception genetic screening and disease prevention, which were featured in **an article published in the Jewish Journal** with a circulation of 150,000 weekly readers.

NDF's Ambassadors, our committee of young professional adults in Los Angeles, worked with us and our partners at JSscreen to create a short, **educational video about GNE Myopathy** and the importance of pre-conception genetic screening.

**Educational materials** were distributed via socially distant campaigns targeted at newlyweds and those thinking about family planning.



In January 2020, **NDF Ambassadors hosted a fun, physical event** to raise awareness for NDF and GNE Myopathy among the young adult community in Los Angeles.

## Education & Awareness Event in West Africa

Organized by NDF Certified Patient Advocate, Rose Okoma, and sponsored by NDF, this meeting in early 2020 sought to educate doctors and scientists in West Africa about the challenges of diagnosis and management of GNE Myopathy and

other rare neuromuscular diseases in the face of therapeutic advances in the rest of the world. Doctors were also on-hand to speak to patients from the region who attended and who have struggled to be properly diagnosed.



## Clinics

# NDF-Sponsored, Multi-Disciplinary Clinic for GNE Myopathy Patients



Dr. Tahseen Mozaffar

To address the GNE Myopathy community's physical wellness while they wait for treatments and a cure, the NDF Board, in association with The University of California, Irvine's Neuromuscular Center and under the direction of GNE Myopathy expert and NDF Board of Directors and Scientific Advisory Committee member Dr. Tahseen Mozaffar, approved the launch of a first-of-its-kind **GNE Myopathy Multi-Disciplinary Clinic**. The creation of a clinic available to patients, either in person or via telehealth, and specific to the needs of GNE Myopathy patients has become necessary in ways never imagined before. Currently, because of their disparate geographical

locations, our patient population is limited to physicians and healthcare providers who may not fully understand GNE Myopathy, if at all, and may therefore not be in a position to make accurate judgments about secondary health issues. Being able to provide one-on-one health care by medical professionals trained in GNE Myopathy ensures that patients get optimal diagnostic procedures and receive state-of-the-art treatment at no cost to them. Patients at the clinic will be seen by specialists well versed in GNE Myopathy that include neurologists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, social workers, and geneticists.

## Holistic Care



Carol Gelbard, LCSW

In 2020 the emotional needs of our patient community became more apparent than ever before. In order to better meet the needs of people living with GNE Myopathy and their family members, NDF added Carol Gelbard, LCSW to our team as our dedicated **Emotional Wellness Director**.

Carol has many years of experience with GNE Myopathy patients, is an advocate for counseling and has been able to help us advance many of our patient programs.

With our **Emotional Wellness Clinic**, NDF offers GNE Myopathy patients an evaluation and needs assessment session with our Emotional Wellness Director at no cost to them. These sessions provide a mental health "check in" to help determine one's current needs in an effort to formulate recommendations for further supportive services. The consultation may be held via telephone or video session.



I have been feeling very emotional and upset lately... Carol is brilliant. I have never really had any form of counselling like this, so it was really valued. She was able to understand me and help me support myself better. Thank you so much for giving me that space to be open and honest.

- Anonymous GNE Myopathy Patient



# Support

## Programs & Groups

### HUDDLEs

Our monthly, virtual, peer-to-peer patient support meetings, called **HUDDLEs**, are confidential; giving patients an opportunity to discuss any topic in an open, safe and non-judgmental forum. People diagnosed with GNE Myopathy from all over the world join together monthly to discuss their shared experiences. Conversations about specific topics of interest and choice are often moderated by different patients, providing leadership opportunities and differing points of view.

### NDF Talks

**NDF Talks** is our Podcast series launched in 2020 and available on our website, on demand and on most podcast streaming services. Each episode provides insight into the experience of a member of the GNE Myopathy community. Scientists, patients, caregivers, therapists and industry professionals are asked questions of particular interest to our listeners in our effort to provide content that is engaging and specifically relevant to the GNE Myopathy community.



Being new to GNEM means that I am still processing and coping with the difficulties that have changed my life. I joined this HUDDLE to hear what others had to say about how they feel and be heard in a place where I know I'm understood. It was wonderful to be able to express those feelings without feeling judged or ashamed. The conversation was varied and the information and support provided was very helpful! I am so thankful for this support system!

- Sidney, GNE Myopathy patient

### Virtual Hang Outs

**NDF Virtual Hang Outs**, debuted in 2020, are purely social events for patients. Launched with a COVID-19 friendly, virtual game night, this event allowed patients from different countries to be together, doing something fun, while at home because of COVID-19 restrictions. This event was so popular that we intend to repeat it regularly, post pandemic, in an effort to allow patients the opportunity to continue gathering virtually.

### United Youth

**NDF United Youth** is a group dedicated to supporting the children and young carers of our patients. Their private Facebook page offers a safe space for children of people with neuromuscular disease (not limited to GNE Myopathy) to share their experiences and offer advice to one another.

### Ambassadors

**NDF Ambassadors** is a group of motivated, young professionals focused on raising awareness about GNE Myopathy and educating people about the disease and the importance and value of pre-conception genetic screening.

### Caregivers

Our **Care Partner Support Group** is designed to be a supportive and safe place for caregivers, care partners and family members who have a GNE Myopathy patient in their lives to support each other and talk about their shared experiences. Programming is created with their specific needs in mind.

# Support

## Certified Patient Advocates



Our **Certified Patient Advocate Program** empowers GNE Myopathy patients worldwide to work as our partners in advocating for and creating programming in their home countries.



Every day is extremely challenging for me in so many ways I never imagined for myself at this stage of my life. Nevertheless, I have found more creative ways of adapting. I persevere and find a way to get myself where I need to be. As a fellow GNEM-er once told me, "We still have full use of our mouth and brain," which has proven more useful than the use of limbs in certain scenarios! It's important to remember that we can live a "normal" life like everyone else. I am managing my disability through my mindset. Where there is a will, there is a way.

- Valenee, GNE Myopathy Patient and NDF Certified Patient Advocate

In 2020 we grew our Certified Patient Advocate Program by 50%.

Our goal is to have Certified Patient Advocates in every country where we have identified patients.

In 2020 we worked with our Certified Patient Advocates in Turkey, the Ivory Coast, and the UK to host events for the patient communities in their countries. Certified Patient Advocates in multiple

countries attended events (in person at the beginning of the year and virtually, later on) representing NDF and our mission to educate people about our work and their disease.

### United States:

- » Melissa Branch – Southeast
- » Amy Curran – East
- » Imad Kazim – New England
- » Tara Voogel – West

### Africa:

- » Rose Okoma – Ivory Coast

### Asia:

- » Sabeen Faisal – Pakistan
- » Tae-Eun Kang – Korea
- » Kelly Ma – Taiwan/China
- » Ashutosh Verma – India

### Europe:

- » Abajee Dharmajee – France
- » Valenee Gosine – U.K. South
- » Saskia Melches – Germany
- » Vaneesha Mohadawo – France
- » Michela Onali – Italy
- » Valeria Pace – Italy
- » Mona Patel – U.K. North

### Middle East:

- » Roberta Cirisyan – Turkey/Greece
- » Maya Davidovich Cohen – Israel
- » Suleyman Kus – Turkey
- » Guy Ratson – Israel
- » Abdullah Al Shamrani – Saudi Arabia

## Support Awards

While weren't able to acknowledge our honorees in person at a gala in 2020, we were able to highlight the consequential contributions of our 2020 award recipients: Founders' Circle Award winner NDF Founder, Gila Michael, on whose shoulders we stand today; Advocacy Award winner Michael Banayan; and Outstanding Service Award winner Doran Adhami, who both completed their long service to the Board of Directors in 2020.

Our 2020 awardees will be recognized, along with our 2021 winners, at our 2021 Gala.



Gila Michael



Michael Banayan



Doran Adhami

## Patient Fundraising Challenge Winners



NDF's 2020 Allstar Campaign was a coordinated effort by GNE Myopathy patients to raise funds and awareness for NDF as a team. We are very grateful to the patients around the world who, by participating, became proactive members of our fundraising team.

Special thanks to our winners: Imad for raising the most dollars, Valenee for bringing the most new donors to our cause, and special mention goes to Jennifer for her enduring and consistent support of our programmatic and fundraising efforts.



Imad



Valenee



Jennifer




NDF has been aggressive in its quest in pursuit of treatments and gene therapy for GNEM. Most of the 7000 orphan diseases do not have any approved treatments, and NDF is way ahead of the game.

**- Dr. Tahseen Mozaffar, NDF Clinic Lead  
Member, Board of Directors; Member, Scientific Advisory Committee**

# Support Global Impact



## 39 Countries & Territories

 local Certified Patient Advocate

» Australia	» Greece	» Nepal	» Scotland
» Bangladesh	» Guyana	» The Netherlands	» Spain
» Brazil	» India	» Northern Ireland	» South Korea
» Bulgaria	» Iran	» Pakistan	» Suriname
» Canada	» Ireland	» Palestinian Territories	» Taiwan
» China	» Israel	» Philippines	» Turkey
» Egypt	» Italy	» Poland	» United Arab Emirates
» England	» Ivory Coast	» Portugal	» United States
» France	» Japan	» Russia	» Zambia
» Germany	» Malaysia	» Saudi Arabia	



# Thank you

## *Your support makes our work possible*

### Visionaries - \$100,000 and up

Confidence Foundation

Iranian American Jewish Federation of  
New York

### Benefactors - \$25,000 - \$99,999

Whittier Trust

### Heroes - \$15,000 - \$24,999

Carolyn Yashari Becher and Rob Becher

Nasser David Haverim (WUO)

Lalé Welsh

### Champions - \$10,000 - \$14,999

Maria Montgomery

### Leaders - \$5,000 - \$9,999

Rotary Club of Beverly Hills

Orna Ravaei-Delrahim

Taban Family

### Partners - \$2,500 - \$4,999

Emser International, LLC

Ralph Loren

David Yerushalmi

EveryLife Foundation

Sepi &amp; Robin Nourmand

### Builders - \$1,000 - \$2,499

Wonderful Giving

Jeanne &amp; Carl Faber

Michele Ovesey

Neurology Reviews

Martha Kadue

Stacy &amp; Jesse Sharf

The Raich Family Fund

Imad Kazim

Lida &amp; Ebrahim Simhaee

M. Asselin - J Meltzer Fund

Tricia Mullins

Jila &amp; Benjamin Yadegar

Tawnie Crowe

Nancy &amp; Robert Lurie

### Advocates - \$500 - \$999

American Online Giving Foundation

Elijah Aron

Javed Khan

Elaine Albert

Paul Gilmour

Jennifer Yashari

### Supporters - \$250 - \$499

Network for Good

Sue &amp; John Hakimi

Jennifer Wilk

Amy Bersch and Christopher Crain

Tahseen Mozaffar

Nuria Carrillo

Becca Pitman

Jay Dee

Angela Shoushani

Wayne Grody

Mayumi Suzuki

## Friends - Under \$250

Barbara Adler  
Paulina Afshani  
Gerard Aghai  
Farad Ahmed  
Rebecca Ainley  
Matt Albert  
Julie Alexander  
Stella Altadonna  
Trina Ankney  
Donna Araneo  
Shahab Arianpour  
Kathy Artman  
Jennifer Babcock  
Jason Baker  
Lorraine Bakin  
Danielle Baldassari  
Lorraine Baldassari  
Mary Baldassari-Price  
Isaac Banafsheha  
Maria Barr  
Susan Barrett-Vukovich  
Dawn Bassano  
Jackie & Gary Becher  
Gopi Bhansali  
Barbara Bleimann  
Thomas Bonica  
Brian Boylan  
Ginger Brandhorst  
Chris Brick  
Daniel Britts  
Scott Brothers  
Sophie Brown  
Betsy Brown Braun  
Alan Buckley  
Alain Caillé  
Debbie Cameron  
Leigh Canning  
Tom Carey  
Ligia-Ioana Caruntu  
Cinda Cason  
Samantha Castano  
Louise Cataldo

Gary Chartier  
Janet Coiteux  
Zoe & Danny Corwin  
Rosetta Crupi  
Michele Crupi  
Fabian Cruz  
Laina Curran  
Jay Dassrath  
Kolby Dauler  
Ana David  
Chandler Davis  
Terri Davis  
Ryan Dean  
Kim Defenderfer  
Abram Delecki  
Candy Delorenzo  
Lisa DeMattia  
Elisha St. Denis  
Eileen Dershowitz  
Vid Dhanraj  
Gayle Diamond  
Brian Dige  
Eric Dilks  
Steven Dollar  
Emily Dossett & Giancarlo DiMassa  
Sheel Douglas  
Jon Drucker  
Sangeeta Dubb  
Lindsey Duran  
Karin Edlund  
Susan Elizabeth  
Lauren Elizabeth  
Hagit Elul  
Patti Engel  
Lili Eshaghzadeh  
Justin Farahi  
Ellen Felber  
Kayla Fenner  
David Ferrell  
Amy Foster  
Kim Fox  
Irene Frances

Becca & Gary Frank  
Jessica Gabayan  
Rosaclara Gable  
Pennie Gable  
Eduardo Gamez  
Mimi Ghitu  
Michelle Goldberg-Contovasilis  
Merry Goldfarb  
Shawn Golshani  
Jo-Ann Gosine  
Romana Gosine  
Valenee Gosine  
Leanna Grace  
Bob Gray  
Flora Habibian  
Gali Hagel  
Shane Hakakian  
Bodil Hanell

Ronald Izzo  
Brianna Jackson  
Vijay Jagassar  
Terry Janickey  
Jadine Kachan  
Erin Kelliher  
Hooman Khalili  
Kevin Kirby  
Gilda Kohan  
Ashley Kohanoff  
Davina Krakovic-Patel  
Martha Kravchak  
Sourabh Kulkarni  
Lesley Laine  
Rochelle & Harvey Laner  
Charles Larue  
Emily Lefkowitz  
Rachel Leib



Being a parent of two patients of GNE Myopathy, one since 1998, I consider any donation, big or small, would be of immense help in finding a cure for this rare disease, so that in future no parent may see their child suffering from it. May the efforts of NDF see the light of the day.

It is always a pleasure to interact with people who are doing so much for this noble cause. Keep up the good work.

**- Javed, parent of GNE Myopathy patients and monthly donor**

Tammy Hardman  
Alan Hardman  
Yvonne Harris  
Brenda Harrison  
Shahrzad Haverim  
Earl Hebert  
Jonathan Hekmat  
Bert Herrera  
David Howard  
Melissa Hunter  
Michelle Hunter  
Paulina Illoulia  
Ross Iosefson  
Nilo Irani  
Caroline Irwin George

Susan Leib  
Renee Leib  
Myra Leib  
Diane Leung  
Mariel Levine  
Robert Levy  
Ian Ley  
Nitara Lockwood  
Jennifer Lubold  
Kerstin Lundgren  
Chloe Makhani  
Karen Malatesta  
Maxine Malekmehr  
Deepak Malhotra  
Navid Mansourian

Karen, Leigh and Abby Manuel	Sharon Olivari	Shannon Rowland	Lonna & Allan Stork
Jan Marie	Karen Olney	Irwin Rudy	Brigitte Storti
Lindsay Marie	Leong Onn	Angelina Russell	Stephanie Strong Miller
Daniel Markowitz	Karin Östling	Jesse Salcedo	Christina Symons
Megan Martin	Anna Palmqvist	Brian Sandford	Sepideh Tabibian
Ann McCabe	Mats Palmqvist	Leigh Sanzaro	Ali Tabrizi
Jay McCarthy	Kamalpreet Panesar	Nahal Sarshar	Jasmine Tavakoli
Sandy Mckinnon	Zachary Parola	Osamu Sasaki	Parlee Teague
Lisa Mclean-Peaston	Lisa Parsons	Aaron Sassounian	Sweta Thakkar
Priscilla Mcwhorter	Negar Partiali	Christopher Scott	Joshua Thayer
Simin Mel	John Partridge	Sheryl Sebastiao	Cheryl Tucker
Jennifer Melecio	Sarasvati Patel	Jerry Seedborg	Zoltan Varga
Zelda Miller	David Pearce	Tiffanie Shelton	Tara Voogel
Shawn Moradian	Laura Pellizzi	Jeffery Shepardson	Mary Warner
Mer Morrison	Steve Pilot	Tamar Shiloach	Andrea Watson
Ali Mortazavi	Susan Powderly	Ethan Shirian	Jenna Wheeler Gathman
LeGrande Moseley	Erin Puma	Barbara Silverberg	Randall Williams
Deborah Mullins	Chris Puma	Mahroo Simantob	Courtney Williams
Sharareh Najafi	Bejan Rafii	Beatrice Emilia Simion	Josh Williams
Afsaneh Najafi	Andrew Rajpaulsingh	Chefnea	Alissa Wirth
Dina Nazarian	Guy Ratson	Liz Singh-Juarez	Courtney Wolff
Daniel Newman	Farah Ravon	Jonas Sjödin	Susan Wolkenbrod
Danny Nia	Patrick Redmond	Liz Sluder	Nancy Wood
Vince Nichol	Leeron Regev	Jim Sluder	Steve Yarnall
Gösta Nilsson	Mary Reilly	Rich Sluder	York Family
Rosemary Olivari	Peter Ricciardi	Bryan Smith	Zaybi Zaybi
Larry Olivari	Robert Rogers	Teresa Smith	Andrea Zirman
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