

MOMENTUM



PROGRESS IN 2006

National
Multiple Sclerosis
Society

THE FACTS ABOUT MS

A woman with dark hair, wearing a bright pink V-neck sweater and light pink pants, is sitting in a black wheelchair. She is smiling and looking upwards and to the right. Behind her, a young girl with braided hair and colorful beads is also smiling. They are outdoors in a park-like setting with green grass and trees in the background. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

Multiple sclerosis, or MS, is a chronic disease of the central nervous system (the brain, optic nerves, and/or spinal cord). It is as unique as the individual who has it.

MS is unpredictable. It may—or may not—cause one or many of these symptoms: fatigue, blurred vision, pain, numbness, paralysis, loss of balance, weakness, incontinence, sexual dysfunction, blindness, cognitive impairments, loss of coordination, difficulty swallowing. These may be permanent or temporary, severe or mild.

The fact is the emotional, financial, and social losses caused by MS are nearly impossible to calculate.

At least a million Americans live with MS—the estimated 400,000 women, men, and children who have the disease, and all those it affects—their families, friends, colleagues, and community members.



FACING THE FACTS

In 2005, the new Society CEO Joyce Nelson invited the MS community at large to talk about the impact of MS—and what should be done.

Responses came from people with MS, physicians, specialists, researchers, corporate sponsors, contributors, volunteers, Society staff—and from members of nearly all the other MS organizations.

There were thousands of e-mails and letters—and hundreds of meetings large and small.

THE MOMENTUM BEGAN.

In November, 2005—shortly after the start of Fiscal Year 06—the Delegate Assembly of the Society approved a mandate to design a strategic response to the effects of MS.

Five overarching goals were set. They will guide Society momentum to the year 2010. The goals were unanimously approved by the National Board in May 2006.

*I can deal with my disease.
I just don't want my children or
grandchild to have to deal with it.*

WE ARE A
DRIVING FORCE
OF MS RESEARCH
RELENTLESSLY
PURSUING
PREVENTION,
TREATMENT,
AND CURE.



Research is the key. We need more effective treatments, repair of MS damage, and prevention for future generations. We must pursue all avenues that hold potential promise.

FY 2006 Achievements in Research

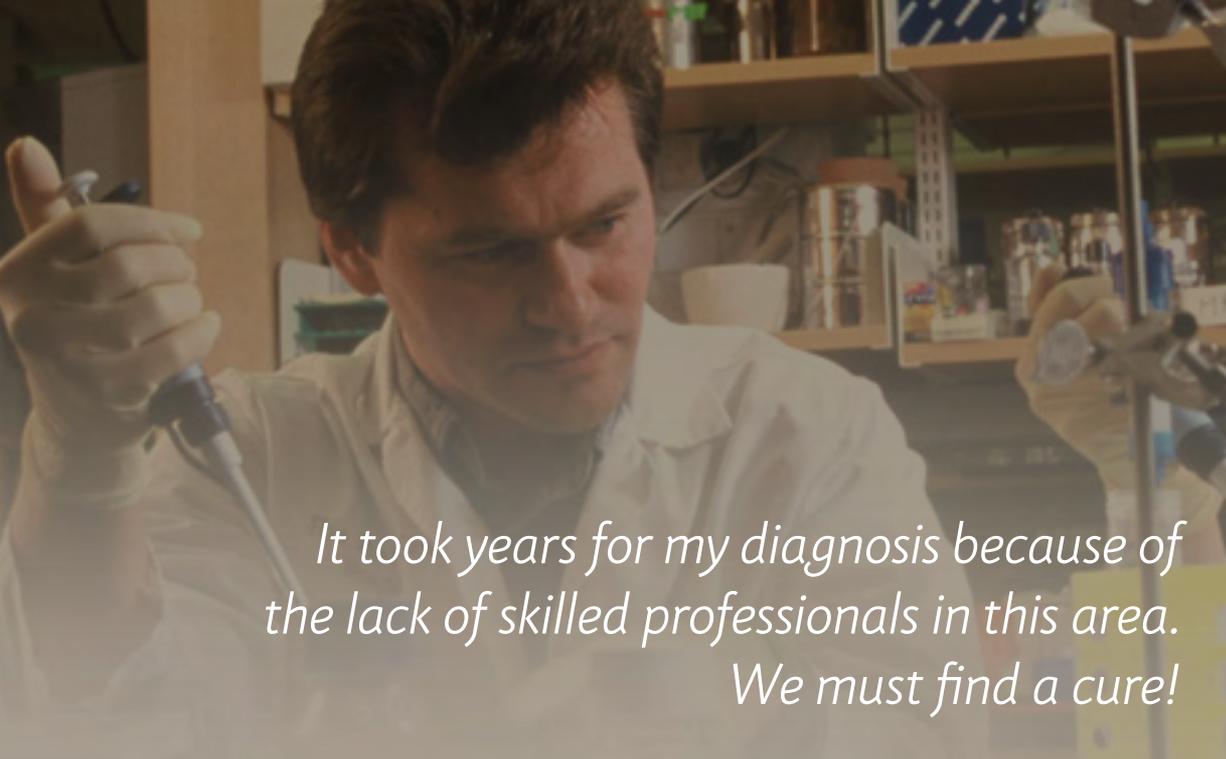
- › The Society devoted over \$46 million to drive research in 380 Society-funded research projects. This was a 15% increase in research investment over FY 05.
- › Four international teams focused on repairing MS damage and protecting the nervous system from MS with promise of laying groundwork for clinical trials by 2010. The four teams, who held their first collaborative meeting in November 2006, are organized around these specific goals:
 - › Finding better ways to detect and quantify tissue injury in MS and testing agents that may protect the nervous system from further damage;
 - › Identifying natural myelin repair factors in the brain and amplifying them through methods including transplantation of replacement cells;
 - › Attempting to turn cells into vehicles that will deliver repair molecules to sites of injury in the brain, and screening molecules for their protective properties;
 - › Developing better imaging technologies such as PET and MRI to visualize myelin and nerve fiber damage, and to detect its repair.

OUR STRATEGIC RESPONSE

OUR STRATEGIC RESPONSE

- › The International MS Genetics Consortium studying the genome of MS identified two more genes involved in MS susceptibility. The Society sparked formation of this group and provided \$2.6 million in support in FY06.
- › Six Pediatric MS Centers of Excellence in Alabama, California, Massachusetts, Minnesota and New York (Buffalo and Stony Brook), evaluated and treated 200 young patients. The six centers agreed to collect consistent data to foster future research efforts. The Society established an International Pediatric MS Study Group in 2002, and recently the MS International Federation, the MS Society of Canada, and the MS Society of Italy have joined in this worldwide initiative. Plans are underway to expand the Study Group which now involves clinicians and researchers from Germany, Canada, Argentina, France, Italy, Russia, Australia, and the United States.
- › Potential oral therapies continued progress toward the marketplace. Among them are fingolimod (or FTY720); oral cladribine (which was designated by the FDA as a “Fast Track Product”); oral BG00012; and oral teriflunomide.
- › Health-care professionals who treat people with MS as well as students and Society staff members increasingly used our Professional Resource Center for support. Approximately 125 requests were handled weekly with assistance as needed from members of our National Clinical Advisory Board who volunteer to freely share their MS expertise.
- › Eight full-time and one partial clinical fellowships were awarded, an increase of seven over previous years. A new kind of fellowship was created—a five-year grant to support a postdoctoral mentor for new rehabilitation researchers. Advanced training for MS nurses was also supported: two nurses attended a six-month MS specialty training program; 30 others were given concentrated three-day MS training.
- › 34 research fellowships were awarded to promising young researchers just entering the MS field—a 79% increase over 2005.

The government needs to support the MS research effort. Private support can't do the job alone.



It took years for my diagnosis because of the lack of skilled professionals in this area. We must find a cure!

Dr. Shannon Dunn | MS Researcher in Training

Shannon Dunn, PhD, is committed to curing MS. Her motivation is personal—her mother lived with MS for more than 30 years. Following pre-doctoral work in kinesiology and biochemistry, she chose Dr. Lawrence Steinman at Stanford University as her post-doctoral mentor. “He’s been successful in bringing therapies into clinical trials for people with MS,” she said. She’s now exploring cholesterol-lowering statins and their potential for treating MS. The field of immunology is new to her. Her Society-funded fellowship is enhancing her existing skills and moving her toward her central goal. She put it simply: “To help identify new therapies for people with MS.”



OUR STRATEGIC RESPONSE

Meeting human challenges means making human connections.

Whether the issue is complex or straightforward, the Society is committed to connecting with each individual who telephones, writes, attends a class or lecture, visits the Web site, reads a publication, or e-mails a question, in ways that help them continue to move their lives forward.

FY 2006 achievements in addressing challenges

- › The Society Web site received 21 million visits—an average of 55,000 visits a day. Pages with information on symptoms of MS were visited some 2,300 times a day.
- › Six issues of Inside MS, our bimonthly magazine on living with MS, were sent to 510,000 recipients—an estimated readership of 1.5 million people when the pass-along readership is included.
- › 31,644 people participated in chapter-affiliated self-help groups, learning from each other, and receiving input and materials from Society offices.
- › 172,520 callers got answers about MS from our nearest office or from the national Information Resource Center.

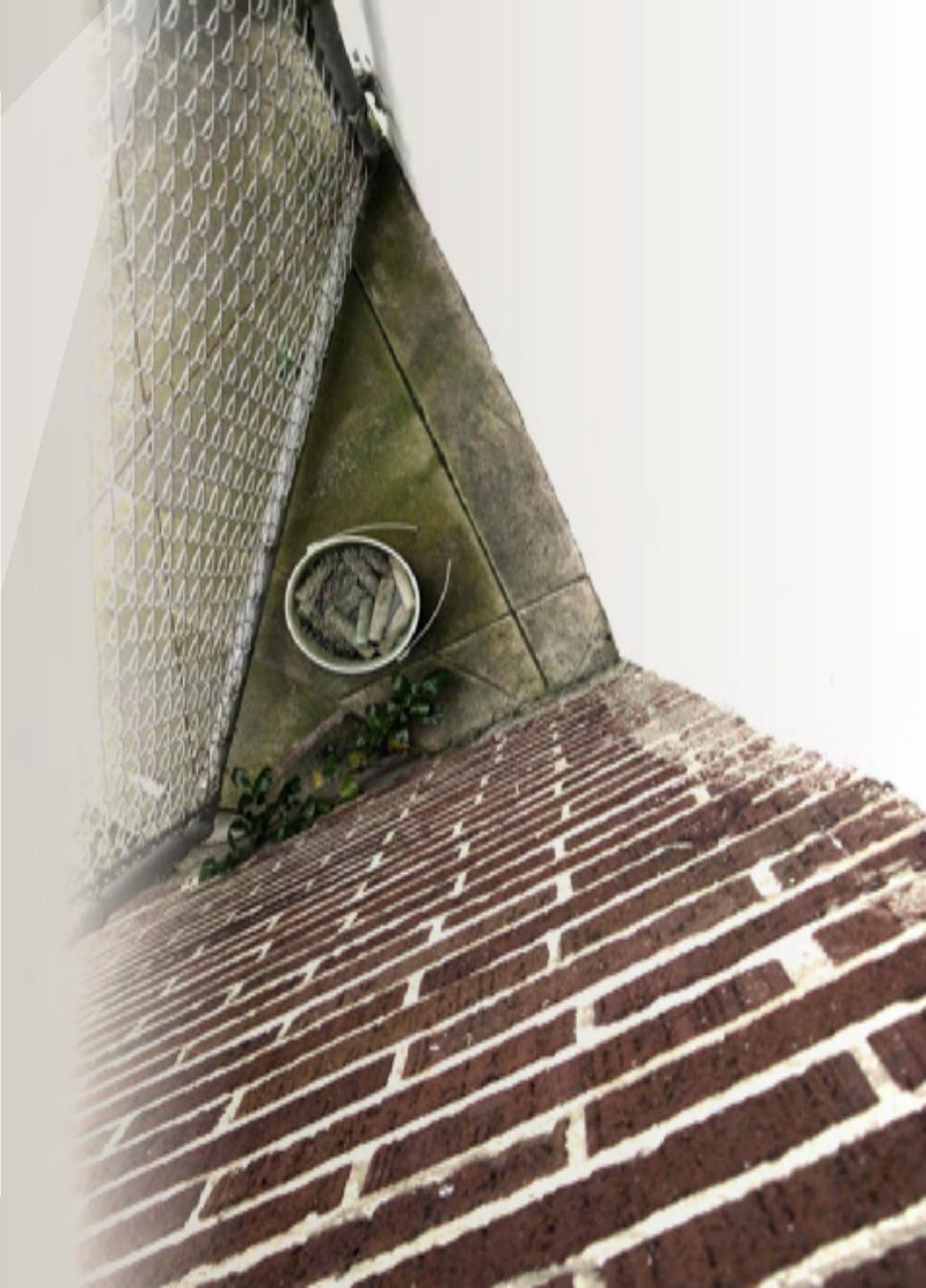
WE ADDRESS THE
CHALLENGES OF
EACH PERSON
WHOSE LIFE IS
AFFECTED BY MS

- › Nearly half a million brochures, booklets, and fact sheets on handling the challenges of MS were provided locally. Thousands more were downloaded or read online on our Web site.
- › 7,630 recently diagnosed people participated in Knowledge Is Power, our six-week home-study program offering clear information and calm answers about MS.
- › 204 new college freshman received scholarships, a total \$442,000 in direct support. The students are from families struggling with the costs of MS—or they are young people who have MS entering college for the first time.
- › 58 local offices trained volunteers or staff to help people navigate the new Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit.
- › All Society offices linked individuals and families to relevant community resources and offered loans of equipment and other assistance to meet emergencies.

Opposite page: *Backyard Walls*,
by Catherine Cole

This page:
Self-Portrait by Catherine Cole

*Catherine was a recipient of the Society
Scholarship in 2006.*



Tahirah Uqdah | Webcaster and mother



In 2003, at age 29, Tahirah Uqdah was overwhelmed by her diagnosis of MS. She took action, signing up for the 12-week Living Well program offered at the Marilyn Hilton MS Achievement Center, a joint program of the Society's Southern California Chapter and the UCLA Department of Neurology. Since then, Tahirah married Chaker Falah. Their baby was born in November 2006. "I've gotten great support from the Society," she said. "But you don't hear enough about MS in the media. I want to do what I can to get

the word out to others." She's now doing just that with her online radio program, "MS Mommies," which provides support and information about parenting.

When I was diagnosed my neurologist scribbled www.nationalmssociety.org on a piece of paper and handed it to me. Turned out that was all the education I needed.

OUR STRATEGIC RESPONSE

Every day volunteers make a difference by connecting with someone who has been affected by MS. The National MS Society is volunteer driven and its momentum is volunteer sustained.

FY06 achievements in mobilizing people who want to help

- › 1,368 individuals served as Society leadership volunteers.
- › Over 400 professionals volunteered on advisory committees and task forces.
- › 35 outstanding individuals were inducted into the 2006 Volunteer Hall of Fame.
 - › Some 1,667 people served as volunteer self-help group facilitators.
 - › 315 people visited federal legislators in Washington, DC, during the Public Policy Conference.
- › 845 people with MS shared a personal story of living with MS, in their own words and pictures, for the new www.faceofms.org Web site, which debuted in March during MS Awareness Week.
- › Every walker and bike rider is also a volunteer advancing MS awareness and raising vital funds. In 2006, 96,819 people cycled in Society Bike events; 161,758 people walked an MS Walk.

WE MOBILIZE THE
TALENTS AND
RESOURCES OF
THE MILLIONS
OF PEOPLE WHO
WANT TO DO
SOMETHING
ABOUT MS



Anne Davis, Esq. | Volunteer & Advocate

Anne Davis is an attorney who was diagnosed with MS in 1978. Ten years ago she created the Legal Services Program at the New York City Chapter. Each year, Anne, along with other lawyers and financial planners whom she recruits, provide free assistance to hundreds of people with MS. The program has become a model for other chapters. As an MS activist, Anne has been instrumental in the passage of state legislation that improves accessibility for people with disabilities. Among other achievements, she was able to persuade the City of New York to increase its budget for curb cuts from \$500,000 to \$7 million. For her extraordinary service Anne received both the Volunteer of the Year Award and the New York City Chapter's first Advocacy Award in 2006.

No other organization in America is better equipped to lobby on behalf of people with MS and the health system that supports them.

Helping one of our own

The Louisiana story

The Louisiana Chapter and the people it serves were devastated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in late summer 2005. Key chapter staff returned to work immediately afterwards despite their personal losses. But the chapter had to cancel Bike rides, Dinner of Champions, Walks, and WAMS fundraising luncheons. Physical damage to the office had to be dealt with, along with hundreds of requests from their members with MS. The Society responded with nationwide support, provided monetary and emotional support, including outreach for participants in a "virtual" MS Bike Ride. Today, the chapter is open and fully operational, but staff and volunteers are still reaching out to find members who were displaced by this disaster.

I had no idea about this disease until my friend was diagnosed. Now I'm an active participant in every Society event I can become involved in.

WE ARE ACTIVISTS



Whether trying to influence national legislation or helping individuals negotiate their relationships with public agencies, health-care professionals, or insurance companies, activism is a core activity for everyone in the Society.

FY06 Achievements in Activism

- › In June, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved the return to market of the disease modifying drug, Tysabri. Momentum was provided by Society members, dozens of whom traveled to Washington in March to testify. Thousands more sent messages in support of personal choice. The risks posed by the drug are now being managed by a special program created by Biogen Idec and Elan Pharmaceuticals, producers of Tysabri, with the cooperation of MS specialists.
- › Over 9,000 people responded to 41 federal alerts on issues ranging from stem cell research to maintaining funding for the Veterans Administration's MS Centers of Excellence.
- › A cadre of Society leaders and stakeholders from partner MS organizations began a movement to help update the criteria the Social Security Administration uses to evaluate MS-related disability applications. The Society also produced an educational video on the effects of MS that was broadcast to Social Security employees via the Agency's satellite network.
- › Chapters achieved 122 successes in state and local legislative initiatives involving health insurance, quality care, long-term care, and disability rights.

Activism depends on enlisting public understanding—and for that, MS needs media attention. The Society leveraged wide exposure of MS issues during 2006:

- › During MS Awareness Week, the FaceofMS.org Web site was launched to host personal stories, in video or words. By the end of the year, the site had received over 1,000 submissions and nearly a quarter million visits.
 - › The first MS Awareness Week made an impact nationwide with the help of Society corporate partners Bayer, Biogen Idec and Elan Pharmaceuticals, Clear Channel Communications, Developers Diversified Realty, EMD Serono/Pfizer, Teva Neuroscience, and Westfield Centers. Highlights included Society messages for radio, TV, billboards, taxi tops, and bus shelters in 30 major markets. Awareness buttons on Clear Channel radio-station Web sites stimulated 101,000 “click-throughs” to the Society’s home page. Society emails reached over 600,000 MS supporters, while advocates from the Society and five other MS groups banded together to urge federal legislators to increase support for MS research at the National Institutes of Health.
- › Over 100 feature stories drew attention to MS in national media. Newspapers and wire services include: five stories in Associated Press, three in The New York Times, three in The Wall Street Journal, five in USA Today, five in the Los Angeles Times, and two in United Press International. Magazines include: People, Newsweek, Family Circle and Forbes. Coverage in broadcast media was also extensive including two stories on NPR, three on ABC Radio, three on CBS Radio, three on CNN, two on Bloomberg News and one on The Today Show. The Society was the source for four entries on the WebMD Web site in 2006.



OUR STRATEGIC RESPONSE



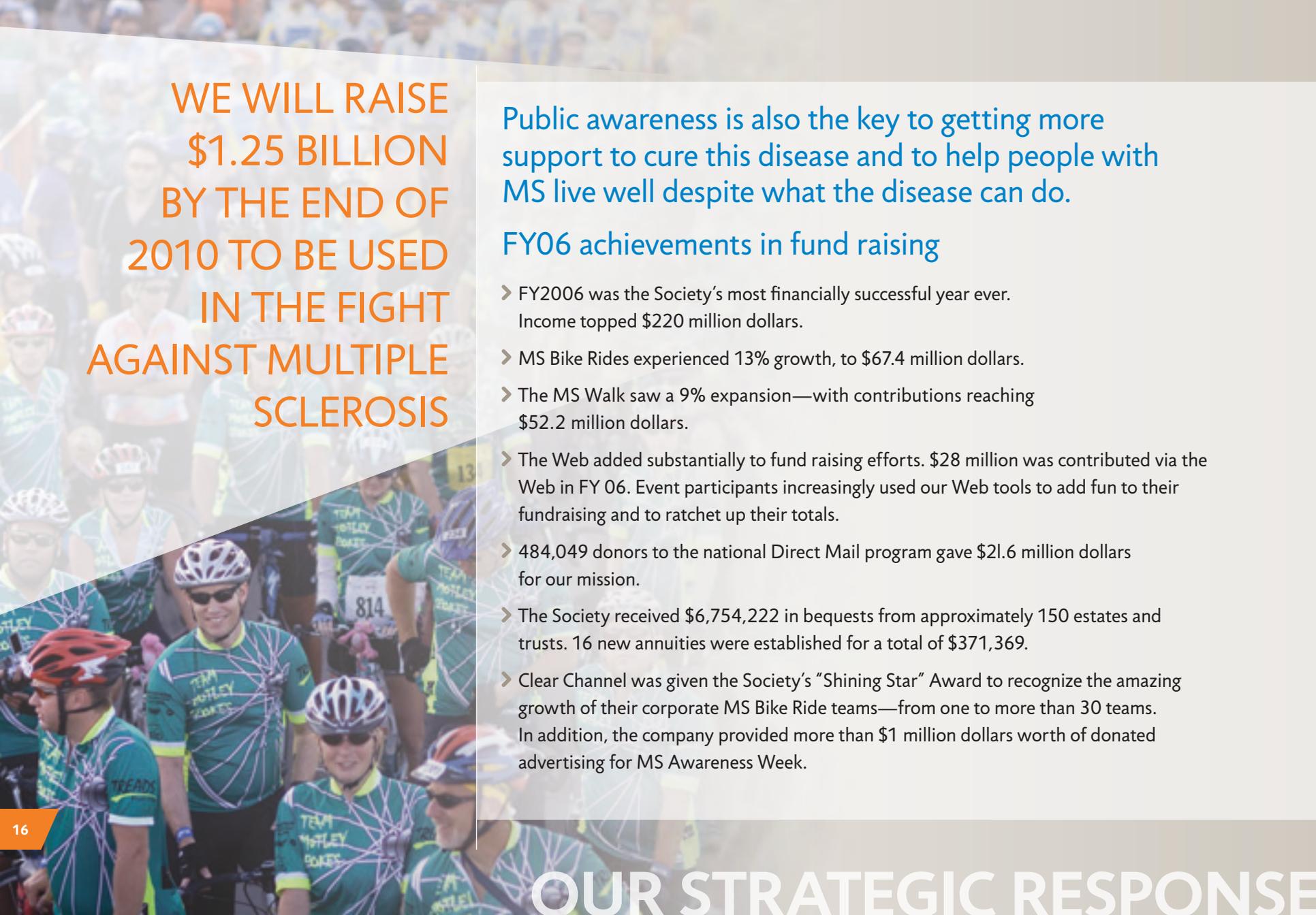
Barbara Crooks | Witness

Barbara Crooks is one of more than three dozen people who testified at the FDA Advisory Committee meeting on Tysabri in March 2006. Diagnosed with MS in 1998, she had taken Tysabri before it was pulled from the market for safety reasons. The Society was instrumental in compelling the FDA to hold a public hearing and to listen to the people who were most affected by their ruling. Barbara said, "The stories of people who, like me, were looking to have a greater choice in medications were moving and powerful. I felt that we made a difference." Ultimately, the FDA specialists agreed, and with rigorous new safety procedures in place, they re-approved the drug for the U.S. market.

› The 2006 Public Service Announcement campaign garnered \$8.9 million dollars in free print and broadcast advertising for the Society nationwide. Video and audio news releases to support the Pediatric MS Centers of Excellence reached 41.6 million listeners and 4.6 million viewers.

› Special ambassadors Alessandra Ambrosio, Neil Cavuto, Richard Cohen, Teri Garr, David Lander, Jonathan Katz, Martha Madison, Jacquelyn Mitchard, Bill Pullman, Rain Pryor, Meredith Vieira, Clay Walker and Tamia Washington all publicly supported the Society's mission.





WE WILL RAISE
\$1.25 BILLION
BY THE END OF
2010 TO BE USED
IN THE FIGHT
AGAINST MULTIPLE
SCLEROSIS

Public awareness is also the key to getting more support to cure this disease and to help people with MS live well despite what the disease can do.

FY06 achievements in fund raising

- › FY2006 was the Society's most financially successful year ever. Income topped \$220 million dollars.
- › MS Bike Rides experienced 13% growth, to \$67.4 million dollars.
- › The MS Walk saw a 9% expansion—with contributions reaching \$52.2 million dollars.
- › The Web added substantially to fund raising efforts. \$28 million was contributed via the Web in FY 06. Event participants increasingly used our Web tools to add fun to their fundraising and to ratchet up their totals.
- › 484,049 donors to the national Direct Mail program gave \$21.6 million dollars for our mission.
- › The Society received \$6,754,222 in bequests from approximately 150 estates and trusts. 16 new annuities were established for a total of \$371,369.
- › Clear Channel was given the Society's "Shining Star" Award to recognize the amazing growth of their corporate MS Bike Ride teams—from one to more than 30 teams. In addition, the company provided more than \$1 million dollars worth of donated advertising for MS Awareness Week.



FY06 achievements in fund raising, continued

› The Society received a \$1 million contribution from an individual philanthropist to launch a national fund to provide emergency assistance for people with MS and their families.

Other major donors provided critical support for wellness centers and scholarships for young people. Individuals directed generous gifts to a wide range of research projects including the International MS Genetics Consortium and the nervous system repair and protection projects of the Promise: 2010 campaign.

Gifts of \$10,000 and more from individuals and foundations increased from 245 in FY05 to 296 in FY06, raising \$8,398,033 and \$9,052,676 respectively.

Barbara Palmer | Philanthropist



Barbara Palmer has been involved with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society since her daughter Jan's diagnosis with MS over 28 years ago. She and her late husband James generously supported the Society's mission over the years. As research efforts increasingly focused on the genetic underpinnings of the disease, Ms. Palmer took a keen interest in it.

Spurred by a wish to protect future generations of her family and all families who live with the risk of MS, Ms. Palmer provided a \$1 million gift for the Palmer Collaborative MS Research Center Award: MS Targeted Haplotype Project—one of the Society's first five-year awards to promote interdisciplinary collaboration in research. Subsequently, top scientists from different fields were able to form the International MS Genetics Consortium and are now pooling their knowledge to advance genetics research.

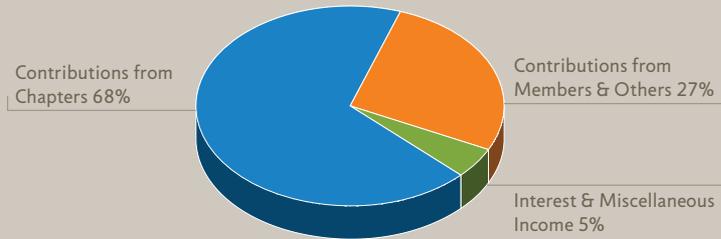
"My husband and I have always been grateful for having the ability to give... not only to our community, but also in the areas in which we have become involved."

NATIONAL & LOCAL OFFICE FINANCIALS

NATIONAL OFFICE

All statistics from Fiscal Year 2006
(October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006)

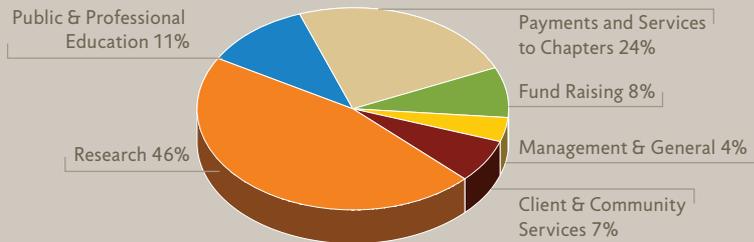
INCOME: \$100,361,956



NATIONAL OFFICE

All statistics from Fiscal Year 2006
(October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006)

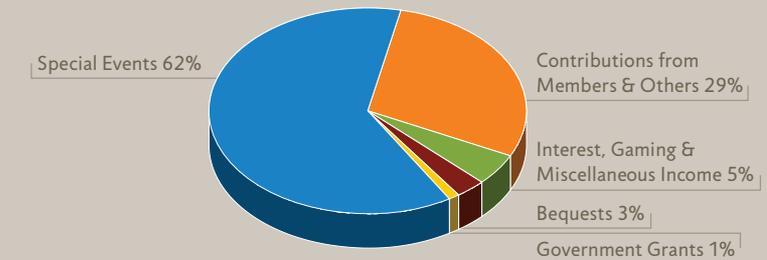
EXPENSES: \$99,919,292



NATIONAL & LOCAL OFFICES

All statistics from Fiscal Year 2006
(October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006)

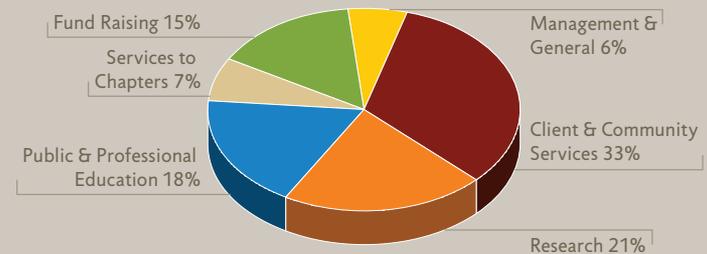
INCOME: \$219,948,644



NATIONAL & LOCAL OFFICES

All statistics from Fiscal Year 2006
(October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006)

EXPENSES: \$218,111,278





Weyman Johnson | Top Leadership Volunteer

Weyman T. Johnson, Jr., Esq. took the gavel of Society leadership in November, 2005, with these ringing words:

"I long for the day we have a cure. But until then we have to run the race every day. We need to do things that can help now as well as in the future. We can never be satisfied until the fight is over...and I want all of you to help me."

Mr. Johnson, a partner in the law firm of Paul Hastings LLP in Atlanta, Georgia, where he has practiced law for 28 years, has long been deeply involved in Society leadership. He served as chapter chair of the Georgia Chapter from 1990-94 and has been on the National Board since 1995.

His commitment to stop MS for the more than 400,000 Americans who live with it is also a personal fight. His father and his aunt, both now deceased, and his sister and himself each were or are people with MS.

"The leadership of the National MS Society recognizes that we as a society have changed during 2006, and that we have built on the strengths from our past. We have emphasized activism and advocacy. We have set bold fundraising goals. We have included all people, especially people with MS, in every aspect of the Society's life. We have sought aggressively to lead the entire anti-MS movement. But, as always, at least until MS is eradicated and we are out of business, there is much more work to do: to find better treatments, prevention and cure; and to help all people affected by multiple sclerosis," Mr. Johnson said.



Joyce Nelson | President & Chief Executive Officer

Joyce Nelson started her 24-year career with the Society as development manager at the Northern California Chapter. Rising through the ranks, she served as a chapter president and joined the national staff to take on responsibilities for improving chapter fund raising and organizational unity. Before being named president and CEO at the end of 2004, Nelson was vice president for

Field Operations and had been instrumental in managing the Organizational Effectiveness Task Force and in launching the on-going Promise: 2010 Campaign.

Her first full year in office was notable for her concerted effort to reach out to every individual and organization concerned about MS and to forge a Society-wide strategic response to counter the realities of the disease.

"We've identified five major goals supported by several very specific objectives to describe our response, we've defined the attitudes that will turn this organization into a movement. We will be bold. We will welcome innovation in research, programming, advocacy, and fund raising. We will be relevant. Our response to people...will be tailored to the needs they identify. We will engage everyone who wants to do something about MS now."



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as of June 30, 2007

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Arizona Chapter

Arkansas

All America Chapter
-Arkansas Division
Mid South Chapter

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Colorado Chapter

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Western Connecticut Chapter

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Delaware Chapter

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South Florida Chapter

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Georgia Chapter

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-Idaho Division
Inland Northwest Chapter

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Greater Illinois Chapter
Gateway Area Chapter

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Indiana State Chapter
Kentucky/Southeast
Indiana Chapter

Iowa

North Central States Chapter

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Mid America Chapter
All America Chapter
-S. Central/W. Kansas Division

Kentucky

Kentucky/Southeast
Indiana Chapter
Ohio Valley Chapter
All America Chapter
-West Virginia Division

Louisiana

Louisiana Chapter

Maine

Maine Chapter

Maryland

Maryland Chapter
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Massachusetts

Central New England Chapter

Michigan

Michigan Chapter

Minnesota

Minnesota Chapter
North Central States Chapter
Wisconsin Chapter

Mississippi

All America Chapter
-Mississippi Division
Mid South Chapter

Missouri

Gateway Area Chapter
Mid America Chapter

NATIONWIDE LIST OF THE SOCIETY'S LOCAL OFFICES *continued*

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All America Chapter
- Montana Division

Nebraska

Nebraska Chapter

Nevada

All America Chapter
- Great Basin Sierra Division

Nevada Division

Arizona Chapter

New Hampshire

Central New England Chapter

New Jersey

Greater North Jersey Chapter
Mid Jersey Chapter
Greater Delaware Valley Chapter

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- Rio Grande Division
- Panhandle Division

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Southern New York Chapter
Upstate New York Chapter

North Carolina

Central North Carolina Chapter
Eastern North Carolina Chapter
Mid Atlantic Chapter

North Dakota

North Central States Chapter

Ohio

Ohio Buckeye Chapter
Northwestern Ohio Chapter
Ohio Valley Chapter
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Oklahoma

Oklahoma Chapter
All America Chapter
- Panhandle Division

Oregon

Oregon Chapter

Pennsylvania

Allegheny District Chapter
Central Pennsylvania Chapter
Greater Delaware Valley Chapter

Rhode Island

Rhode Island Chapter

South Carolina

Central North Carolina Chapter
Eastern North Carolina Chapter
Mid Atlantic Chapter

South Dakota

North Central States Chapter

Tennessee

Mid South Chapter

Texas

Lone Star Chapter
North Central Texas Chapter
All America Chapter
- Panhandle Division
- West Texas Division
- Rio Grande Division

Utah

Utah State Chapter

Vermont

All America Chapter
- Vermont Division

Virginia

Blue Ridge Chapter
Central Virginia Chapter
Hampton Roads Chapter
National Capital Chapter

Washington

Greater Washington Chapter
Inland Northwest Chapter

West Virginia

All America Chapter
- West Virginia Division

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Chapter
Minnesota Chapter

Wyoming

All America Chapter
- Wyoming Division

The National MS Society is not only gaining momentum,
we're creating a whole new MS movement.
We are moving toward a world free of MS.

**MOVEMENT IS SO MUCH OF WHO
WE ARE, IT'S EASY TO TAKE FOR
GRANTED. MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS
STOPS PEOPLE FROM MOVING. WE
EXIST TO MAKE SURE IT DOESN'T.**

JOIN THE MOVEMENT



HOW WILL YOU JOIN THE MOVEMENT?

- › Be a voice in the online community
- › Volunteer locally or nationally
- › Participate in a Walk or Bike event
- › Join the MS Action Network for public policy
- › Donate generously

For more information explore nationalMSSociety.org
or call us at 1 800 344 4867

1 800 344 4867

for the Society office nearest you

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**National
Multiple Sclerosis
Society**