

# A \$30 Million Promise

BY THE DEVELOPMENT STAFF

**T**he **Promise: 2010** campaign was launched in 2005 to support a bold Society challenge. To keep MS research moving on track, four broad under-researched areas had to be tackled. You've read about some of the progress researchers supported by **Promise: 2010** are making on previous pages. You will hear more about their progress in the future.

**The MS Lesion Project**, an international study to map and understand the damage MS does, is uncovering what pathology patterns mean about the underlying disease, including response to therapy. Insights about the "heterogeneity" of MS are now emerging.

**The Sonya Slifka Longitudinal MS Study** measures in unprecedented detail what happens to people living with MS over time. Data from this ongoing study have already been instrumental in helping to drive advocacy efforts and chapter grant proposals in many areas.

**Pediatric MS Centers of Excellence** provide the best possible care for this under-recognized and underserved population—and set the stage for learning all that pediatric MS may reveal about genetic and environmental triggers of this

disease. The centers are now serving children and their families throughout the U.S. and are linked in an International Pediatric MS Study Group, involving researchers in more than 10 countries.

**The Nervous System Repair and Protection Initiative** is the largest project ever mounted to find ways to protect tissues against MS damage and to restore function lost to MS. Clinical trials are in planning stages, as four international "Dream Teams" collaborate on this great frontier for people living with long-term MS disabilities.

## **The Promise: 2010 goal**

\$30 million by the year 2010. This is \$30 million above and beyond the funds we raise to support programs and services, educational events and networking, national research, and direct assistance for families hit hard by MS. It's a promise of a better future for everyone affected by MS.

## **Join the movement**

Help us keep our **Promise: 2010**. Call 1-800-923-7727 or 1-800-344-4867 or go to "Find Your Chapter" on our Web site for the e-mail address and give generously. ■