FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

We try to bring a multi-faceted approach to all our programs, knowing a patient's diagnosis impacts more than just their physical health. At our Symposium, we offer sessions on coping with trauma, nutrition, help through adaptive devices and more. Patients can even visit our Zen Den for some yoga and meditation.

However, despite the variety of these offerings, we also realize there's a missing piece; the financial impact one of these conditions can have on an individual or family. We respond to 100-125 patient inquiries a month, and 10% of these are people looking for financial support.

In response, we partnered with other non-profit organizations who specialize in these offerings to launch two financial assistance programs for patients with GBS and CIDP.

NORD® National Organization for Rare Disorders

The GBS Financial Assistance Fund, administered by NORD, is for emergency relief and can cover rent, cell phone bill, car payment – anything needed within a year of a patient's diagnosis.

The Assistance Fund

For CIDP, it is a copay and premium assistance fund administered by The Assistance Fund. Our Board of Directors approved a plan to invest some of the Foundation's unrestricted money into these funds and remain committed to funding these programs into the future.

MORE INFORMATION

Donors, passionate about paying it forward and providing financial aid to others within our community can designate their contributions to our Financial Aid Programs. For more information, please contact Madeline Miller at Madeline.Miller@gbs-cidp.org.

GBS|CIDP Foundation International

CHARITY NAVIGATOR ★★★★ Four Star Charity

JUST ONE MORE

Imagine the impact we would have on our community with...

JUST ONE MORE

- Center of Excellence
- Research Grant
- International Meeting
- Informed Medical Professional

With your help, we will expand the vision of the Foundation and strengthen our community for patients, for years to come.

GBS|CIDP Foundation International

375 EAST ELM STREET | SUITE 101 | CONSHOHOCKEN, PA 19428 | WWW.GBS-CIDP.ORG | 610-667-0131

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

We've seen our largest patient engagement numbers to date. Helping over 1,000 patients and caregivers a year. At the end of each year, I review our key metrics, our number of interactions with our community, views on our educational online platforms, registration for in-person events, and most importantly, your feedback. I am blown away by the growth of our community and the new resources developed for both US and international communities. However, I still ask myself how can we positively impact the life of just one more patient?

We challenge ourselves to answer this question every day and I'm excited by our solutions.

Gratefully,

Lisa

LISA BUTLER
Executive Director

BE THE BRIDGE

Meet Ray Lopez, a volunteer for the Foundation for over 7 years.

In 1988 I was diagnosed with GBS and it took a full 10 months to regain control of my life. At that time, I did not know of the Foundation. I often think of how much better my recovery and experience might have been had I known of them sooner? Why didn't my healthcare professionals know of the amazing resources available at the GBS|CIDP Foundation? Even in today's digital world, many other patients and caregivers share that they too have these very same questions.

I was so excited when the Foundation launched a program that will build new connections to new healthcare professionals and their patients worldwide. It's called **Be the Bridge** and it is designed to raise awareness, within the healthcare community, of all the amazing resources the Foundation can offer to their patients with GBS, CIDP and MMN.

I'm one of the 56 grassroots volunteers who drop off materials about the Foundation to our local community hospitals, rehabs, even general practitioner offices. These packets contain valuable resources for healthcare professionals themselves, like physician-to-physician consults, research grants, and a center of excellence program. I'm passionate about educating the medical professionals because I know this will ultimately help the patient.

From my experience, GBS|CIDP patients normally end up hospitalized for an extended period not knowing what is happening and having a lot of unanswered questions. Be The Bridge is there to give patients hope. They will find their place in our community sooner.

Be The Bridge is there to give new patients hope. They will find their place in our community sooner.

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR BE THE BRIDGE PROGRAM AND SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER AT THE WEB ADDRESS BELOW

www.gbs-cidp.org/be-the-bridge-program

This expansion in the number of patients we have served is thanks to the unwavering generosity of our donors. As you review these milestones, we thank you for being a steadfast supporter of our community. You are behind the success of each chapter meeting, visit to Capitol Hill or awarded research grant.

At the same time, I hope you will join me to expand our reach. There will always be one more patient, one more Center of Excellence, one more research grant, one more member of Congress to educate. Each time we do this we are one step closer to ensuring no patient ever walks this journey alone and that all patients have access to a quicker diagnosis and better recovery. I hope you will continue to join us in these next steps.

SUPPORT

75 chapter meetings a year

57 Centers of Excellence in **20** countries

200 global volunteers representing **49** countries

4,493 interactions with patients, caregivers, families and medical professionals from **34** countries

100 patients contacted the Foundation each month

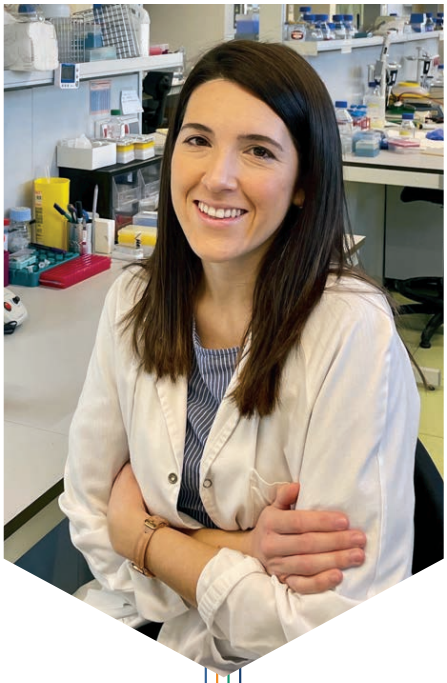
EDUCATION

44 virtual programs produced with over **2,100** participants from **27** countries

500+ patients and caregivers attending in-person programming

Patient educational booklets available in **17** languages

700,000 unique views on main website, **233,000** unique views on the European website



RESEARCH

$500,000 in research awarded this year

$7.3 million awarded through **71** grants since 2004

3 Benson Fellows supported since 2014

$200,000 annually awarded to support the International Guillain-Barré Syndrome Outcome Study (IGOS) and the Inflammatory Neuropathy Consortium Base (INCbase)

2,370 patients in the GBS|CIDP patient-reported registry

ADVOCACY

150 letters sent to Capitol Hill

40 meetings with members of Congress

16 Co-signers of the Foundation's legislation, HR-3808

15 patients presented during the "Voice of the Patient" meeting with the FDA

1 representative participated on DHHS advisory panel on plasma awareness

"It makes a big difference to have a place to go where people understand. I find myself continually telling people about the Foundation website so they can know about the Centers of Excellence and all of the other help they provide. I'm in a place now where I have a new normal and unwavering support by my side."

BRENDA PERALES, MMN

PROJECT PLASMA

LAUNCHED "PROJECT PLASMA," A PROGRAM RAISING AWARENESS OF PLASMA DONATIONS ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES.