

2009 Annual Appeal

Dear Friend,

Being a responsible health care organization means putting patients, families, research and the future of care first and foremost. In the United States, approximately 30,000 individuals are living with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). The Les Turner ALS Foundation works to advocate for those affected by this disease that knows no bounds, follows no pattern and has NO effective treatment or cure... and your help is needed now more than ever to help us carry on our mission.

As you are aware, the costs associated with all aspects of patient care have risen in the past year and the Foundation is not immune to increased patient transportation, medical equipment and programmatic printing and postage costs. What you may not know; however, is that we have experienced a 32 percent rise in new patients in 2008, increasing demand for services and stretching budgets. For instance, the cost of transporting one patient to and from Clinic appointments has risen from an average of \$187 per trip in 2007, to \$227 per trip in 2008.

The Foundation is absolutely **COMMITTED** to maintaining our programs and services to ensure the very best patient care; cutting or reducing programs is simply not an option. Currently, we serve over 90 percent of ALS patients in Chicagoland—your family members, your friends and your neighbors. To disrupt their care is irresponsible and unacceptable.

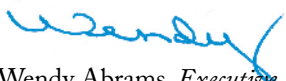
To continue funding our world-class research and patient-care programs, we have made some changes. For example, the Foundation has:

- Established a Board of Directors Sponsorship Committee to seek further resources to offset event costs.
- Teamed with the Young ProfessionalALS to create new and unique fundraising opportunities.
- Reduced the number of pages in each newsletter and will mail three issues per year instead of four.
- Consolidated and shifted a number of event promotions and event information online to cut overhead.
- Limited this year's annual appeal (this piece) to one page, saving significant printing and design costs.

It is important for you to know that 83 cents of every dollar donated to the Foundation directly funds our programs and services. In fact, we recently earned Charity Navigator's prestigious 4-star rating, outperforming approximately 75 percent of nonprofits in America with respect to financial responsibility. The care of our patients and families has always been our primary concern, but we also take great pride in being the greatest of stewards for all contributions.

Demand for our services is now at an all-time high and shows no sign of waning. **WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT IN 2009 TO CONTINUE PROVIDING THE PINNACLE OF CARE FOR ALL AFFECTED BY ALS. FOR UNTIL THERE IS A CURE, THERE IS NO REST.**

Sincerely,



Wendy Abrams, *Executive Director*

Pledge your commitment on the back of this form.

YOUR COMMITMENT SUPPORTS

- Two world-class research laboratories at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
Les Turner Research Laboratory II dedicated in Fall 2008
- The Lois Insolia ALS Center, which provides the best in ALS patient care
- A Home Care and Community Services Team with four healthcare professionals
- Six monthly support group meetings
- A Communication and Durable Medical Equipment Bank
- The Ralph Russo Patient and Family Services Grant Program
- A Respite Grant Program
- The Stuart Rosen Transportation Program

YOUR 2008 COMMITMENT EQUALED

- **\$1,099,590** allocated to research programs
- **\$918,428** in patient care and program support
- **518** Lois Insolia ALS Center patient visits
- **600** Home Care Team visits
- **1,274** hours of patient care
- **\$60,000** in Patient and Family Service grants
- **\$35,000** in Respite Grants
- **1,400** hours of respite care
- **50** speech communication devices distributed
- **20** researchers working in 2 laboratories
- **336** telephone and e-mail referrals
- **40** community education programs
- **30** respite grant family recipients
- **30** equipment grant family recipients

YOUR COMMITMENT COUNTS!

The Foundation exists because thousands of people just like you have stepped up and made the **COMMITMENT** to rid the world of ALS. But it's not over. Make your donation today to help the Les Turner ALS Foundation continue its world-class patient services, research and educational programs; and provide **HOPE** to the many individuals and families affected by ALS.

Please take the time to fill out the back of this form and return to the Foundation in the envelope provided, or visit www.lesturnerals.org.

*All service figures are approximate based on the Foundation's internal quarterly summary of service reports.

Thank you for your support!

Save a stamp! Make your gift online at www.lesturnerals.org.
All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

THIS GIFT IS GIVEN BY:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

DAYTIME PHONE: _____

EMAIL: *(By providing your email address, The Foundation will automatically subscribe you to its email list.)* _____

EMPLOYER: _____

MAKE THIS GIFT ANONYMOUS

I AM A...

PERSON WITH ALS FRIEND OF PALS (PERSON WITH ALS)

RELATIVE OF PALS HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL

OTHER: _____

I WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE:

\$70* \$100 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 \$5,000

OTHER: \$ _____

**Honor the 70-year anniversary of Lou Gehrig's historic speech at Yankee Stadium.*

PAYMENT:

Please make check payable to "Les Turner ALS Foundation" or charge my:

VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS

CARD NUMBER: _____

EXPIRATION DATE: _____

SECURITY CODE: _____

DAYTIME PHONE (REQUIRED FOR CREDIT CARD DONATIONS): _____

MY EMPLOYER WILL MATCH MY GIFT

EMPLOYER: _____

MATCHING GIFT FORM ENCLOSED? YES NO

PLANNED GIVING OPPORTUNITIES:

I am considering a provision through a gift annuity will or bequest and would like more information on this program.

I have not previously informed you, but I have already included the Foundation in my estate plan through:

MY WILL A TRUST ARRANGEMENT AN INSURANCE POLICY

MY RETIREMENT PLAN ASSETS OTHER