



To educate and support patients, along with their families, by increasing awareness of the disease and improving communication among healthcare providers and the general public.

A Note from the Founder

Greetings to all this holiday season! I am grateful to you as friends and supporters of the PA Fund. This newsletter will recap the entire year of accomplishments, and I'm excited to update you on the positive outcomes and advancements the PA fund has produced so far in 2023. These advances would not be possible without your generous contributions.

The details on the following pages exemplify the Fund's commitment to improving the lives of individuals with lupus by providing resources to assist them and enhance their quality of life. These programs also enable individuals with lupus to feel valued.

I'd like to thank the incredible teams on both the Lupus Emergency Grant Program and Support Groups who help move the Fund's mission forward. Without their volunteer initiatives, these programs would not be the vital resources they are today.

Together, we turn up the dial to make a significant difference in the lives of those with this complicated disease.

Wishing you a joyful and safe holiday season!

Happy Holidays,



Results of 2023

1. Lupus Emergency Grant Program (LEGP)

Delivered single-year milestone \$103,479 YTD with 2 months yet to go!



We’re excited to tell you the 2023 program has increased its number and dollar amounts awarded **by more than 50%** over 2022. Since inception in 2019, the LEGP has distributed grants totaling more than \$220,000. These grants provide short-term financial relief for emergency-related expenses due to lupus.

The top categories of expense relief from applicants remain consistent to previous years.

- Utilities (32%)
- Medical (31%)
- Rent Arrears (18%)

	2019*-2022	YTD 2023**	Total
# Awards	252	218	470
Total Amount	\$117,252	\$103,479	\$220,731
Average Award Amount	\$465	\$475	\$460

* First grant awarded in August 2019. ** As of 10/31/23.

Comments from recipients of emergency grants:
“Massive appreciation for your generosity. This means so much to me. I accept & acknowledge the emergency grant award.” Wanda
“Thank you for making a difference in lupus patients’ lives. I’m crying right now after receiving this grant.” Maribell

2. Lupus Advocates Take it to the Hill

The PA Fund has been a supporter of this annual advocacy event sponsored by the Lupus Research Alliance (LRA) for eight years. The 2023 *Take it to the Hill* Conference took place virtually in March.



- The Fund’s support provided:
- Advocacy training for all participants from the LRA’s DC-based consulting firm.
 - Education regarding important issues for funding lupus research.
 - Peer-to-peer training from seasoned advocates.

The virtual format allowed for increased participation. Over 151 individuals registered for the event representing 31 states, the District of Columbia and 115 Congressional Districts. *Take it to the Hill* is a unique opportunity for individuals with lupus to advocate for themselves by sharing their story and having their voices heard by members of Congress.

3. Support Groups = Emotional & Educational Support

They continue to be a critical resource for the lupus community.

These groups provide a safe space to share personal feelings and experiences which are essential for one's well-being. They provide coping strategies and current information about the disease. Support groups continue to meet one to two times a month, both in-person and virtually. The virtual platform allows individuals to attend who would otherwise not be able to do so.



Holiday Giving to the PA Fund

In the spirit of the holiday giving season, your continued support is needed to ensure these programs can be sustained as available resources for the lupus community.

We ask that you consider earmarking a portion of your charitable donations to the PA Fund.

Your gift will be applied to:

Lupus Emergency Grants address the dire need for emergency financial relief from day-to-day living expenses is greater than ever today. The need for this has increased during these unstable financial times.

Support Groups provide a sense of community and hope for those who attend.

Take it to the Hill event where hundreds of advocates from around the country tell members of Congress why increased funding for lupus research is so critical.

Lupus Research Alliance c/o Patti Allen – PA Fund
270 Madison Avenue, Suite 300 • New York, NY 10016.

For online donations, go to: <http://bit.ly/DonatetoPAFund>

