



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.

Happy Spring!

It's the time of year when new beginnings emerge with all things possible!

Most exciting for the PA Fund is the relaunch of its Lupus Emergency Grant Program (LEGP). After pausing the LEGP in 2024 due to demand exceeding funding, the monies raised this past year from generous donors such as yourselves enabled the relaunch of this much-needed emergency financial assistance.

Overall, the PA Fund has enhanced the lives of those struggling with this devastating disease. Read on for more details about how your support has impacted those with Lupus:

- Emergency financial relief (LEGP)
- PALS program
- Support groups

Lupus Emergency Grant Program (LEGP)

Since its inception in 2019, the PA Fund has given grants of \$500.00 each to more than 470 people through the LEGP. The continuation of this emergency program has been a lifeline for many facing urgent need.

After pausing the program in 2023 due to grant demand exceeding available funds, we're thrilled to report the relaunch of program in January of 2025. As a result, we've received many, many applications. We are now focused on providing grants based on dire need, such as potential eviction or loss of utilities.

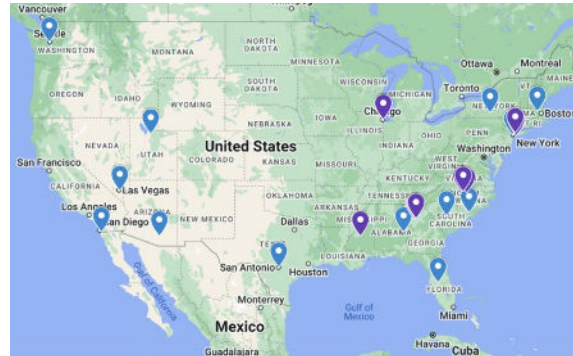


I am forever grateful to the LEGP volunteer review committee: Alison Lee, Brianna Fitzpatrick and Estela Mata. They give tirelessly of their time, insights, and deep desire to assist those in our lupus community.

PALS PROGRAM

The Patient Advocates for Lupus Studies (PALS) is a peer education program designed with those living with lupus to improve awareness and education of new clinical drug trials. Each PAL has lupus and can effectively teach others with lupus about the clinical trial process based on formal training and their personal experience being in a trial.

With the dollars donated by the PA Fund, the PALS program was able to train its 2nd team of PALs educators, bringing the total number to 26. As you'll note from the map to the right, PALS has expanded to many cities throughout the country. With this growth, the implementation of a centralized referral model is underway.



Hear from those impacted by these efforts below:

"Sometimes when you talk about things and people haven't done it, they don't fully understand what you're saying. But the PAL is a person you can speak to honestly and talk about your experience... I also feel...confident knowing that this person, they know something about it. So, it's...reassuring to have a person to talk with who you really feel understands."

-PALS Participant

SUPPORT GROUPS

Support groups have been integral pillars of the PA Fund by providing high levels of emotional support to the lupus community. Read below a quote from a support group participant:

"The PA Fund has helped provide resources, fund support programs, and most importantly, remind our community that we are not alone in our journey."

-Nandan B., Support Group Attendee



Every donation fuels the future of the PA Fund, and no donation is too small to make a big impact. Your generosity has the power to inspire others and provide hope to those who are struggling.

Please consider donating today. For online donations, go to: <http://bit.ly/DonatetoPAFund>

Grateful for your support,



Founder, PA Fund