

The ALS Association Greater New York Chapter

April 2012

Monthly Update

Serving New York City, Long Island, Westchester County, Hudson Valley and Northern & Central New Jersey
42 Broadway, Suite 1724 • New York, NY 10004 • (212) 619-1400 • www.als-ny.org

April Support Groups

NASSAU COUNTY, NY

Sunday, April 1st - 2 pm to 4 pm
North Shore LIJ - Plainview Hospital
888 Old Country Road, Plainview - Downstairs
Guest Speaker: Jeffrey Abrandt - Elder Care Attorney
Contact: Theresa Imperato, RN, (516) 946-5467 and
Jody Wiesel, PhD (917) 699-9751

SUFFOLK COUNTY, NY

Tuesday, April 3rd - 6 pm to 8 pm
Stony Brook University, Dept. of Neurology
179 North Belle Meade Rd, E. Setauket
Topic: Open Discussion
Contact: Theresa Imperato, RN, (516) 946-5467

HUDSON VALLEY, NY

Tuesday, April 3rd - 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Ambulatory Surgery Center - Bldg C - 3rd floor
200 Westage Business Center, Fishkill, NY
Guest Speaker: Ben Lieman, Assistive Technology
Massage Therapist Max Cohn will be onsite donating
massages for both CALS and PALS
Contact: Helen Mayer, RN, (845) 520-0952

SADDLE BROOK / NORTHERN NJ

Thursday, April 5th - 7 pm to 8:30 pm
Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation
300 Market St., Saddle Brook, NJ
Guest Speaker: Allison Lardner, 2012 Walk Season
Contact: Debbie Schlossberg, LMSW (732) 710-8832

MANHATTAN, NY

Tuesday, April 17th - 6 pm to 8 pm
Phillips Ambulatory Care Center (Beth Israel)
10 Union Square East (b/w 14th & 15th streets)
Neurology Dept- 5th floor Conference Room
Guest Speaker: Allison Lardner, 2012 Walk Season
Contact: Jody Wiesel, PhD, (917) 699-9751

NEW BRUNSWICK / CENTRAL NJ

Saturday, April 21st - 1 pm to 3 pm
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital
Medical Education Building, Rm. 108A
180 Somerset Street, follow signs to meeting
Guest Speaker: Allison Lardner, 2012 Walk Season
Contact: Debbie Schlossberg, LMSW and
Mary Ann Mertz, RN, (732) 710-8832

TELEPHONE SUPPORT GROUPS

Caregivers: Wednesdays - 11 am to 12 pm
Patients: Wednesdays - 3 pm to 4 pm
Adult children of PALS: Friday - 11 am to 12 pm
Contact: Sue Zimmerman at (212) 720-3050

Enroll with the National ALS Registry

People living with ALS may self enroll in the Registry via a secure online web portal at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, www.cdc.gov/als.

Help researchers determine a cause for ALS and stay informed on new clinical trials. Do your part in finding a cure. Register today.

For more information about the National Registry visit: www.als-ny.org or call Daryl Cochrane at the Chapter office at (212) 720-3051.

National Volunteer Month!

April marks National Volunteer Month and on behalf of all of us at the Greater New York Chapter, we'd like to give a heartfelt thanks to all those who have volunteered for the Greater New York Chapter over the years and those who will volunteer in the coming years.

Special kudos to our 2011 Thanksgiving volunteer team for delivering nearly a dozen meals with tremendous holiday spirit.

Thank you to the army of volunteers who help with home visits, the Chapter's Walks to Defeat ALS, our advocacy efforts, and other special events. Also thank you to our exceptional office volunteers who come to the office or clinic regularly and serve as an additional set of hands for the entire staff. You all bring joy and hope to the families we serve.

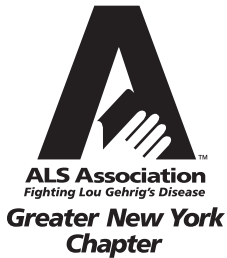
Happy National Volunteer Month to all of you! We appreciate you.

Spring has finally sprung! What a great time this is to get involved! If you would like to register as a Volunteer or if you are a patient, caregiver, or family member and need a little assistance to lighten your work load, please contact us so we can assign a volunteer to work with you. There are any number of ways to help those impacted by ALS but the first step is to call. If you live in New York please contact Christine Dunn at (212) 720-3044 or dunn@als-ny.org. If you live in New Jersey contact Debbie Schlossberg at (732) 710-8832 or Schlossberg@als-ny.org.

National Advocacy Day & Public Policy

National Advocacy Day is just next month in Washington, DC. Join us as we go to our nation's Capital to talk to our Senators and Representatives to discuss ALS research, veterans issues, the National Registry, potential treatments, and much more. Advocates from around the country will converge to make our voices heard. Be among them.

For more information on Advocacy Day, contact Daryl Cochrane at dcochrane@als-ny.org or (212) 720-3051. Early bird registration ends Friday, April 13th.



Greater New York Chapter
42 Broadway, Suite 1724
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212-619-1400
f: 212-619-7409
www.als-ny.org

Rand Prize Recipient Donates Award Money to the Greater New York Chapter

We are pleased to announce that Adele Marano, Director of Patient Services at The ALS Association Greater New York Chapter, has been awarded *The Lawrence A. Rand Prize* from The ALS Association's national headquarters for her dedication to patients and families affected by ALS. We are so proud that Adele's leadership of our talented, caring, and dedicated patient services staff has been recognized with this prestigious award.

Along with the honor of being named recipient of this year's Rand Prize, Adele received a gift of \$5,000. In an act that typifies Adele's extraordinary commitment to the families the Chapter serves, she immediately donated the prize money to the Chapter to be used for the Transportation Program!

The Rand Prize is an award established by Lawrence Rand, former Chairman of the Board of the National ALS Association. Mr. Rand himself, has done tremendous good works for ALS patients and their families while the disease has personally affected his own family, taking his mother-in-law, sister-in-law, and just last year his wife, Madelon. As a New Yorker, his involvement was critical in the development of the Greater New York Chapter and he has continued to play a key role in the Chapter's growth by co-chairing our annual Lou Gehrig Sports Awards benefit.

Adele is in very good company with this award. Past recipients of The Rand Prize include - Shonda Schilling, wife of baseball great Curt Schilling; Avi Kremer, a successful biotech entrepreneur and ALS patient; and Pete Duranko, former collegiate and professional football champion.

Congratulations Adele and thank you!



Rand Prize honoree Adele Marano, Director of Patient Services; Lawrence Rand, National ALS Association Chair Emeritus; and Dorine Gordon, President & CEO Greater New York Chapter.

Restructuring Medicaid

We wanted to inform you about some upcoming changes in the way Medicaid will be offering various services, including home care. Medicaid very soon will be transitioning most recipients into Managed Care Programs. Some people will not be affected, including anyone who pays a "surplus" or people who have both Medicaid and Medicare.

If you receive a notice from Medicaid advising you to select a managed care program, we recommend you contact New York Medicaid CHOICE which can answer questions and help you make informed decisions about which plan best serves your healthcare needs. Once you receive a notice, you will have some time to make your choice but it's important to do so in a timely manner. If you do not take this action, a plan will be assigned to you and there is no way to be sure it will be the best one for you.

If you have any questions or would like additional information please call Medicaid CHOICE at (800) 505-5678. Their hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, and Saturday, 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. You may also call us at the Chapter office. Ask for Sue Zimmerman, Patient Services Coordinator, at (212) 720-3050 and we will be happy to assist you.