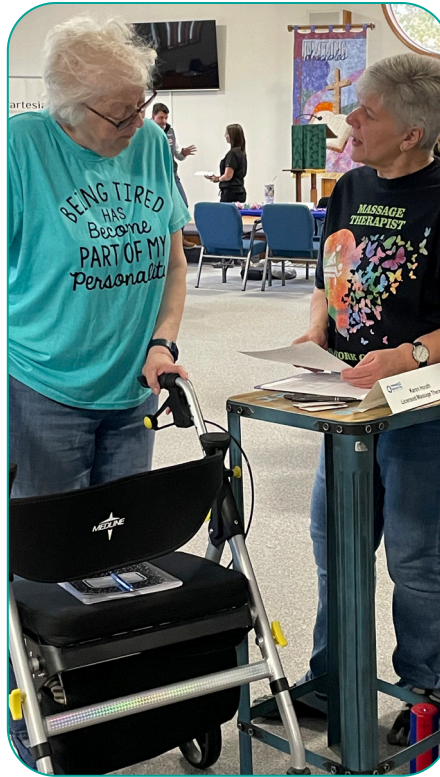


# CONQUER MG

2024

# ANNUAL REPORT

MG Strikes  
Any Age  
Any Income  
Any Ethnicity



# About Conquer MG

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## Our Focus

### Understanding Myasthenia Gravis (MG)

Myasthenia Gravis (MG) is a chronic, fluctuating neuromuscular disorder causing weakness in the voluntary muscles of the body. Symptoms are highly varied—often described as “the snowflake disease”—and can include:

- Fluctuating weakness in the arms and legs.
- Drooping eyelids (ptosis) and blurred or double vision (diplopia).
- Difficulty with essential functions like chewing, swallowing, and speaking (dysarthria).
- In severe cases, difficulty breathing.

The unpredictable nature of MG—with symptoms changing hour-to-hour and day-to-day—underscores the critical need for timely diagnosis, robust patient support, and ongoing education.

## Our Core Commitments

### Mission Statement

To facilitate the timely diagnosis and optimal care of individuals affected by myasthenia gravis and to improve their lives through programs of patient services, public awareness, medical research, professional education, advocacy, and patient care.

### Vision Statement

Eliminate myasthenia gravis.

### Values

We achieve our mission and vision through our organizational values of: Care, Hope, Inspiration, Awareness, and Advocacy.

## Our History

### Rooted in Local Support

Conquer Myasthenia Gravis (Conquer MG) was established in 1972 by a dedicated, grassroots group of patients, family members, and physicians (originally as the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of Illinois).

The founders recognized that local patients needed direct access to communication with peers and the most current information. Since our inception, we have expanded our reach to serve patients across Illinois, northwest Indiana, and southeast Wisconsin. In June 2016, we adopted the name Conquer Myasthenia Gravis to reflect our proactive and determined spirit. We remain a strong, independent nonprofit organization, deeply rooted in our original mission to empower those living with MG.

# Letter from the Board Chair

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Fellow Members, Friends, and Supporters,

As we present the Conquer MG Impact Report for 2024, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the collective journey we have shared. This year has been defined by the resilience of our community and the significant strides we have made together in the fight against myasthenia gravis (MG).

Our core mission remains to build a strong, connected community. We recognize that MG can be isolating, which is why our focus in 2024 was on ensuring every individual affected by this disease feels seen, heard, and supported, no matter where they live.

## Key Achievements in 2024:

**Expanded Outreach:** We successfully broadened our virtual support infrastructure, allowing our network to connect MGers across the globe. Our online platforms are now more vibrant than ever, serving as vital hubs for exchanging information, offering encouragement, and strengthening our collective voice.

**Deepened Connections:** Our in-person and virtual support groups saw significant growth, providing essential, safe spaces for sharing experiences and celebrating milestones. These connections are more than conversations—they are lifelines that empower members and reinforce the fact that no one faces this journey alone.

The power of connection cannot be overstated. When we share our struggles and triumphs, we find the strength to persevere. Every dollar donated, every hour volunteered, and every conversation shared contributed directly to these successes.

As we turn our attention to 2025, our commitment to innovation and expansion of support programs remains unwavering. We will continue to meet the evolving needs of the MG community and advocate tirelessly for greater awareness and improved care.

Thank you for being an indispensable part of the Conquer MG family. Your support and dedication are the foundation of our success.

Together, we are stronger, and together, we will continue to conquer MG.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Rosecrans". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Bob Rosecrans  
Board Chair, Conquer MG

# Patient Assistance Program: A Critical Lifeline



The Patient Assistance Program remains a critical pillar of Conquer MG's mission, directly translating our commitment to improving the lives of individuals managing myasthenia gGravis (MG).

## Unmatched Support for Financial Stability

Conquer MG is proud to be the only patient advocacy organization offering a program of this kind. We are dedicated to helping defray the cost of expensive medications and treatments directly and indirectly associated with MG.

While new therapeutic advancements are transforming the MG treatment landscape positively, the associated costs continue to impose an overwhelming financial burden on many patients and their families. This program serves as a crucial bridge, reducing financial stress so patients can focus on their health.

## 2024 Impact

In 2024, we successfully processed 24 applications, providing direct financial relief to those most in need.

## The Voices of Our Recipients



Photo by Çağlar Oskay on Unsplash

The direct impact of this program is best understood through the gratitude of those we serve:

*"Right now, I am being treated with three medications. They are so expensive, but I cannot survive without them. In between treatment cycles, I start to have a hard time talking, chewing, and swallowing. Please help!"*

*"Once again, I must thank Conquer MG for awarding me this assistance grant to help cover medical expenses for my MG. I am grateful for this program!"*

Your continued support ensures this essential program remains available to those facing the immense financial challenges of living with MG.

# 12<sup>TH</sup> Annual Viking Challenge For MG



The 12th Annual Viking Challenge for MG goes in the books as it does—a successful friend-raising and fundraising event that brings MGers, families, and friends together to show their support and raise money for programming, education, and research funding for MG patients.

We are thrilled to continue this tradition of bringing our community together to enjoy some outside fun, reconnect in person, and yes, win some prizes!!

## Education and Resources: Bridging Knowledge Gaps



In 2024, Conquer MG hosted two dedicated Resource Fairs in Illinois designed to bring crucial educational resources directly to the MG community.

These highly successful events served as essential forums, gathering leading MG experts, healthcare professionals, and pharmaceutical companies together. The goal was to provide attendees with comprehensive education on the latest advancements in treatment, practical management strategies, and available resources, reinforcing the importance of staying informed and proactive in managing MG.

Conquer MG partnered with the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America to hold the Regional Conference and Community Health Fair. The event saw an enthusiastic turnout, with more than 60 attendees participating in the morning speaker series and enjoying the health fair in the afternoon.

# Fostering Connection: Creating Safe Spaces



Kathryn Wotman (standing center) and family.



Creating safe, accessible spaces for people living with MG and their loved ones is at the core of our work. These environments serve as essential hubs for peer-to-peer learning, meaningful connection, and sharing invaluable firsthand knowledge about myasthenia gravis.

We consistently witness the transformative power of shared experiences. Patients who attend our meetings and share their stories have a profound sense of empowerment, knowing that their lived experience offers comfort and critical guidance to others in similar situations.

Support groups truly offer a lifeline to patients and their loved ones. By leveraging virtual platforms like Zoom, our community now spans the globe. Our ability to connect virtually means we are hosting more meetings and can better meet people where they are. For those who prefer in-person connections, we remain committed to offering local meetings as well.

*“We had never heard of myasthenia gravis (MG). Our daughter’s physical appearance the day she arrived back home frightened us. Learning more about MG through doctor’s visits, participating in Conquer MG support groups, and reading made us realize how serious the disease can be. We found great comfort in the material from Conquer MG and knowing that Kath had the support of the group.”*

— Sidney and Meredith Wotman  
Parents of MG patient, Kathryn Wotman

# Our Funders

We are grateful to our generous supporters who make our work possible. Thank you for contributing to the cause!

## 2024 Corporate Partners

Alexion  
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Lindus  
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Soleo Health Holdings Inc.  
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Catherine DiVenere  
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Janet Edquist  
Craig Eicher  
Esther Eisenstein  
Dianne Elman  
Susan Engel-Arieli  
Carl Faingold  
Fred Feinstein  
Mara Feldman-Fox  
Jerry Fields  
Jessica Fiorita

## Patients/Family/Friends

Delores Adams  
Steve and Sharon Adamscheck  
Roop Agarwal  
William and Dottie Akre  
Diane Alexander  
Ghena Alhajeri  
Luis Almora  
Lewis Anderson  
Peggy and Willard Anderson  
Don Applegate  
Charles Archer  
Janice Arrott  
Helen Ballweg  
Kevin Banks  
Lenore Banks  
Tom Banks  
Ariel Barbick

Roxanne Fitzpatrick	Demetris Hogan	Randy Larson
Michael Formento	Linda Kay Hogan	Maria LaTorraca
Janeen and Kevin Freeman	Joyce and Randy Holste	Harriet Lefton
Delores Frey	Jane Horan	John and Diane Leistman
James and Lillian Gaba	Annsofi Horton	William and Cindy Lesperance
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James Gordon	Leon Jefferson	Rhonda McAllister
Kevan Granat	Greg Jillson	Karen McCarthy
Schwab Grant	Glenn and Tracy Johnson	Julie McCracken
Robert Green	Jean Johnson	Michael McCracken
Daniel Greene	Paul Johnson	Andrew (Andy) McGaughan
Ann Greenen	Ralph Johnson	Pat McGonigle
John Grochowski	Raymond Johnson	Maureen McGrath
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Warren Hansen	Denise Kleis	Mary Helen Mercado-Torres
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Sandra Hasemeyer	Betsy Koch	Dianne Miller
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Kami Hilinski	Estate of Donald E. Lackie	Loretta C. Nelson
Debra Hinson	Craig Lagowski	Kristin Neusel
	Pat Landgrebe	Pam Newman

Darlene Niemczura  
Gary Noore  
Sharon O'Bryant  
Trudi O'Neill  
Claudia Opat  
Ron and Linda Osborn  
Diane and Jim Ostarello  
Georgiandra Ostarello  
Miguel Palacio  
Carole Parks  
Clyde Partner  
Dominic Paruolo  
Logan Paul  
Alicia Peconio  
Jasmina Pedi  
Debra and Michael Perrella  
Darlene Perrone  
Cara Petros  
Robin Place  
Michael and Sally Pope  
Margaret Prendergast  
Sharon Price  
George and Gloria Radcliffe  
Troy Ratliff  
Bob Ratzel  
Joseph Reinhardt  
Paulina Reyes Letelier  
Tim Reynolds  
Jack Rhodes  
Lynda Riches  
Edward and Cherie Rickert  
Carol Ritt  
Gerald Robertson  
Elizabeth Robinson  
Pennie Robinson  
Jeanie Roder  
Gerard Rogers  
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Marlene Rosecrans

Megan Rosecrans  
Art and Eileen Roth  
Harriet Rothstein  
Mark Roulette  
Sharon Ruddy  
Kathleen (Fitzpatrick) Samuels  
Lois and Arnold Samuels  
Arlene Sangmeister  
Lynda Santrella  
Roland Saucier  
Walter Scahill  
Barbara Scherg-McDonald  
Lisa Schill  
Stephen and Bonnie Schmidt  
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Roger Van Tine  
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Subham Vidyant  
Ben Wagenaar  
Amy Walch  
Linda Watland  
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# Financial Summary as of December 31, 2024

## Assets

Current Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$67,147
Investments	1,335,362
Inventory	328
Prepaid expenses	2,001
Accounts Receivable	11,000
Total current assets	<u>\$1,415,387</u>
Property and Equipment	
Website costs	8,500
Less accumulated amortization	(8,500)
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$1,415,837</b>

## Revenues and Other Support

Contributions, Grants and Other Similar Amounts	\$34,554
Investment Income, net of fees	25,567
Advertising Income	-
Sponsorships	119,875
Event Fundraising	20,998
Miscellaneous	168
<b>Total revenues and other support</b>	<b>\$201,162</b>
Net assets released from restrictions	-
<b>Total Revenue, Gains, and Other Support</b>	<b>\$201,162</b>

## Liabilities

Current Liabilities	
Accounts payable	\$25,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>
Net Assets	
Without Donor Restrictions	1,390,837
With Donor Restrictions	-
Total net assets	<u>1,390,837</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$1,414,837</b>

## Expenses

Program services	\$113,420
Management and general	43,737
Event Expenses	8,017
Research Grants	25,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$190,1742</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>87,573</b>
<b>Net Assets at Beginning of Year</b>	<b>1,301,585</b>
<b>Net Assets at End of Year</b>	<b>\$1,415,837</b>



SUPPORT

EDUCATION

RESEARCH

AWARENESS

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