

EVERY MOMENT MATTERS

#EVERYmomentmatters

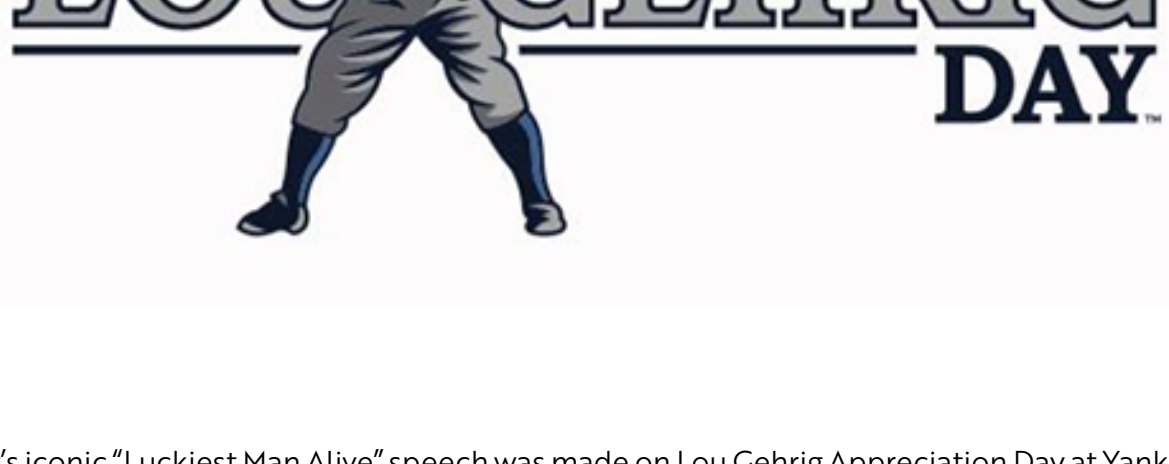


May is ALS Awareness Month, Will You Help Us Create a World Without ALS?

For those living with ALS and their loved ones, every moment matters. As we usher in ALS Awareness Month, Sally Dwyer from The ALS Association Mid-America Chapter shares some of the meaningful moments she's observed throughout her 26 years of service to the ALS community.

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Lou Gehrig Day



Lou Gehrig's iconic "Luckiest Man Alive" speech was made on Lou Gehrig Appreciation Day at Yankee Stadium. It's time to bring that back, in every stadium. June 2 will be Major League Baseball's first Lou Gehrig Day, an annual day for teams to raise awareness of ALS. An incredible team of people impacted by ALS, including caregivers, family members and those living with the disease, worked tirelessly to establish the day.

[Learn More](#)

care corner

CMS Expands Telehealth Coverage for Speech-Language Pathology Services: Another Win for the ALS Community



Recent changes at the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will enable people with ALS to receive critical services provided by speech therapists, normally provided at in-person visits, via telehealth during the pandemic. These services include clinical care for swallowing and speech-generating devices - many challenges people living with ALS are faced with every day.

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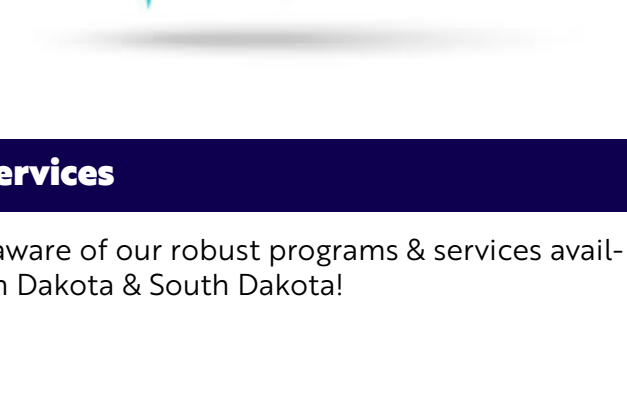
To Spark Your Interest!

Does your loved one have FTD with the ALS diagnosis?

Here is information about the upcoming [AFTD conference](#) in May.

Want to be a part of research and communication?

Watch an [introductory video](#) about a study on communication methods.



Programs and Services

In the spirit of ALS Awareness Month, we want to make you aware of our robust programs & services available to persons with ALS & their families in Minnesota, North Dakota & South Dakota!

SUPPORT GROUPS

We have [support groups](#) that meet monthly around our service area.

There is a monthly [education hour](#) for those that want information about ALS, symptom management and resources. There are also [discussion groups](#) for those with ALS and family members, two evening groups specifically for caregivers and one for young adults with a parent with ALS.

DME LOAN POOL

An occupational or physical therapist might recommend specific DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (DME) for you to use. We have many of those items in our [DME loan pool](#).

HOME SAFETY

Our Home Safety Program is designed to ensure that people living with ALS receive the necessary services to ensure their safety and maintain their quality of life. This may include coordinating occupational and/or physical therapy services for instruction on proper transfer techniques, durable medical equipment recommendations and long term planning for home modifications. These services may be covered under insurance, if not, our Chapter will cover the costs. These assessments can be completed in person or virtually. For more information, email corrie@alsmn.org or tiffany@alsmn.org.

COMMUNICATION

Our COMMUNICATION program provides equipment to individuals who have lost their ability to communicate orally. The program also helps people with ALS maintain their independence by providing computer access equipment and/or environmental control devices. [Click here](#) for more information.

CAREGIVER RESPITE

Our [Caregiver Respite Program](#) is intended to give a live-in, full time caregiver a respite, or a break, from caregiving. The ALS Association partners with local home care agencies to provide up to 18 hours/month of respite so that caregivers can step away knowing their loved one with ALS is safe and has their basic needs met. [Click here for FAQs](#) about the program.

FAMILY ASSISTANCE

Our [Family Assistance Program](#) matches trained volunteers with families affected by ALS to assist with tasks around the house or to be a friendly visitor. This program is currently available for outside tasks only.

Upcoming Care Services Programs

May 13	Northern MN Support Group (Virtual Meeting)	May 19	Family Caregiver Support Group (Virtual Meeting)
May 13	Family Caregiver Support Group (Virtual Meeting)	May 24	SD and Southern MN Support Group (Virtual Meeting)
May 18	ND and Central MN Support Group (Virtual Meeting)	June 2	Minneapolis/St. Paul Metro Area Support Group (Virtual Meeting)
May 18	Young Adult Hangout (Virtual Meeting)		

Midweek Meditation - Every Wednesday at 11:00 AM (CT)

hey volunteers

Want to Connect Directly with Someone? Become a Family Assistance Volunteer

Through this program, volunteers are connected with families affected by ALS to help with everyday tasks or provide companionship.

With assistance, families report that their stress level is lowered knowing certain tasks will get done on a regular basis. The person living with ALS may not be able to physically complete the tasks and their caregiver may not have the time or energy. Additionally, most volunteers and families develop close relationships as time progresses.

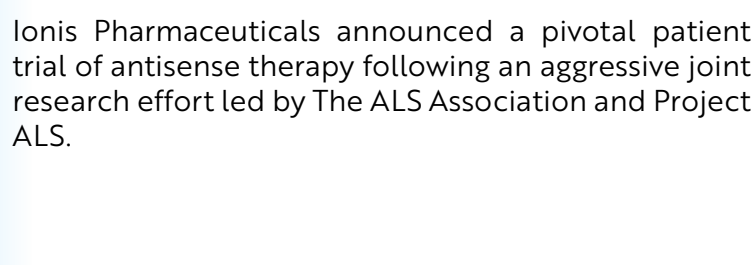
The requests for assistance vary by task, frequency, and length and you can choose what's best based on your interests and availability. However, because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, volunteers are currently only assisting with outdoor tasks.

If you have any questions about volunteering, the volunteer positions available, or the application process, please call 888-672-0484 or email volunteer@alsmn.org.



research updates

Nonprofit Partnership Spurs Phase 3 Clinical Trial for Patients with Rare Genetic Form of ALS



Ionis Pharmaceuticals announced a pivotal patient trial of antisense therapy following an aggressive joint research effort led by The ALS Association and Project ALS.

The ALS Association Launches New Grant Funding Programs in the Search for Treatments and a Cure



The ALS Association, in partnership with The CReATe Consortium, is proud to announce a new request for applications (RFA) to support the discovery and/or validation of biomarkers for ALS, a third grant funding opportunity now available to researchers seeking to find new treatments and a cure.

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event news

Show Your Support with Facebook Fundraising

Did you know you can use social media to raise funds in the fight against ALS? Facebook's fundraising tool makes it easy to set up a fundraiser in a matter of minutes and show your support for the ALS community. By sharing your ALS story and connecting with your friends and family on social media, you can raise hundreds—even thousands—of dollars to support people living with ALS across our region.

It's easy, fast and secure, plus with Facebook fundraising, there are no transaction fees—every cent goes to The ALS Association, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota Chapter. Turn your birthday, anniversary, ALS Awareness Month, or any other occasion into an opportunity to support families with ALS and fund the search for treatments and a cure.

Visit <https://fb.com/fund/ALSAssociationMNNDSD/> to get started, or reach out to Hannah Bremer at hannahbremer@alsmn.org with questions.

This ALS Awareness Month...

Show your support through a Facebook Fundraiser.

Amy's fundraiser for The ALS Association, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota Chapter
Fundraiser for The ALS Association, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota Chapter by Amy Jones
\$725 raised of \$500 7 days left

Want to join me in supporting a good cause? I'm raising money for The ALS Association, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota Chapter and your contribution will make an impact, whether you donate \$5 or \$500. Every little bit helps. Thank you for your support. I've included information about The ALS Association, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota Chapter below. [See More](#)

Visit the 'Fundraisers' tab on our profile to get started

Get on the Walk to Defeat ALS Map!

This year, teams across our entire region will rally as one on their state's Walk Day in support of the ALS community, to raise awareness, and in search of a cure.

Help us fill the map in cities big and small by registering today: web.alsa.org/mnndswwalk



Cast for a Cause at the Kolar Toyota ALS Fishing Tournament

Never Surrender's Kolar Toyota ALS Fishing Tournament has been raising funds for the fight against ALS since 1995. This year's event offers two different participation options. Anglers can fish Island Lake in Duluth, MN (\$250 per angler) or virtually on any lake in North America (\$200 per angler). Proceeds benefit families living with ALS. [Register today](#) for fishing, fun and prizes while making a positive difference for the ALS community.

