



**National
Multiple Sclerosis
Society**

Dear Supporter of the National MS Society,

FY21 was our 75th year of building on progress; fueled by a relentless determination to create life-changing results. FY21 was also the final year of our FY19-22 Strategic Plan, a year that demanded persistence and resilience as we continued to navigate the ongoing global pandemic. Throughout the uncertainty we remained focused on providing impact.

- We kept people with MS connected to the best information about COVID-19 and MS.
- We stayed connected and took care of each other.
- We honed our expertise in virtual fundraising events and programs.
- And when it was safe to do so, we started coming back together for in-person events.

While raising revenue is not the mission of the Society, it is a necessary and critical requirement of fulfilling our goals. Remarkably, despite all of the obstacles thrown our way, we managed to raise \$144 million in FY21 – exceeding our revenue budget by over \$10 million.

We take pride in the impact we have made in people's lives, which includes, but is not limited to:

- First ever virtual Public Policy Conference engaged three times as many people compared to prior years – 888 people sent 2,442 emails to members of Congress and held over 266 virtual meetings.
- MS Navigator services, including case management, continued uninterrupted and we increased our capacity to assist people with rent, mortgage, utilities, home modifications, mental health, respite care needs and more.
- Over 7,770 healthcare providers attended educational programs and are better equipped to take care of their patients with MS.
- Black MS Experience Summit had 1,063 participants with 23% connecting to the Society for the first time.
- Declared global consensus on the Pathways to Cures roadmap.
- Provided \$2.95 million in bridge funding to ensure Society-supported research projects could restart after COVID-19 shutdowns.
- Created the COViMS registry in partnership with the Consortium of MS Centers and the MS Society of Canada, which collected outcomes for people with MS who developed COVID-19. It is now the largest registry of its kind in the world.

For more highlights about the Society's impact: [FY 2019-2021 Strategic Plan Progress Report](#)



Our mission is clear. We will cure MS while empowering people affected by MS to live their best lives. In non-profit accounting terms, our functional reporting of expenses is described as:

- 73.4% for program activities
- 18.6% for fundraising
- 8.0% for general management

We measure our impact routinely to ensure our investments are effective. Additionally, we monitor our operations continuously to maximize efficiency.

The Budget Development Advisory Committee, a group of volunteer leaders which includes corporate finance professionals as well as strategic experts, provides insightful advice after an in-depth review and discussion of our finances. The National Board of Directors is engaged in the budget work and assessment and provides in-depth oversight. Our expenses are balanced and well within the target range considered appropriate by ratings agencies of 65% to 75% for programs expense.

Charitable ratings agencies (i.e., Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance Standards, Charity Navigator, GuideStar) are working toward more standardized impact reporting. Links to each of these reports, which are always at least a year in arrears because of the reporting requirements and timing, can be found on the National MS Society website (<https://www.nationalmssociety.org/About-the-Society/Charitable-Ratings>).

We are most grateful for your support of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and our drive to make an impact in the lives of people affected by MS. If you have questions about the audited financial statements, contact Tami Caesar, Chief Operating Officer, at tami.caesar@nmss.org.

Sincerely,



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Richard Knutson
Chair, National Board of Directors