



WHO WE ARE: The Lupus Foundation of America, Southeastern PA Chapter, Inc. is a federally registered charitable organization (EIN: 23-7080555) and a chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America (LFA) whose mission is to improve the diagnosis and treatment of lupus, support individuals and families affected by the disease, increase awareness of lupus among health professionals and the public, and find the causes and cure. We are currently the only chapter of the LFA in PA and we provide direct services in Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties. Peer-counseling and support, information and referral and educational materials may be obtained anywhere in the state by calling our toll-free (PA,NJ & DE) number at **866-517-5070**.

WHAT WE DO:

- ❖ Raise funds to support local research annually as well as national research efforts
- ❖ Provide multiple support groups throughout Southeastern Pennsylvania
- ❖ Plan and sponsor educational seminars for people with lupus and their families
- ❖ Sponsor workshops for those newly diagnosed
- ❖ Provide information in navigating the health system
- ❖ Engage in a sustained and comprehensive advocacy program at the national and state levels, aimed at increasing public funding for lupus research, education and patient services and fostering public policies that help people with lupus and their families
- ❖ Sponsor awareness and educational campaigns through the media
- ❖ Outreach to medically underserved communities
- ❖ Provide awareness and continuing medical education offerings for physicians and allied health professionals

HOW WE DO IT:

- ❖ Individual giving via our Annual Fund/Membership Campaign
- ❖ Solicitation and grant applications to companies, corporations and public and private foundations and government agencies for support of various programs and events
- ❖ Plan and implement special events
 - Lupus Loop, 5k run and family walk, held on the last Sunday of October
 - Annual Bridge Tournament for Lupus – held in October
 - Movie Mania (minimum of 6 movie screenings throughout the year)
 - We also assist individuals who wish to hold their own events

WHAT IS LUPUS?

- ❖ A chronic autoimmune disease where the body's cells fight themselves causing inflammation that can affect any organ of the body, such as the skin, joints, heart, blood, kidneys, brain and central nervous system
- ❖ Affects between 1,500,000 and 2,000,000 Americans and an estimated 66,400 Pennsylvanians (over 20,000 in southeastern PA). Lupus strikes one in 185 Americans, with frequency 10-15% higher in adult woman than men and has an even higher prevalence among African Americans, Hispanics, Asians and Native Americans.
- ❖ No known cure, and no new treatments in nearly 40 years
- ❖ Difficult to diagnose because symptoms are so like other illnesses
- ❖ Can be mild to life-threatening

The official registration and financial information of the Lupus Foundation of America, Southeastern PA Chapter, Inc. may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll-free, within PA, 1-800-732-0999 Registration does not imply endorsement