

Parkinson's UK

PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
FIND A CURE.
JOIN US.

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Mission

As the United Kingdom's primary Parkinson's support and research charity, Parkinson's UK aims to improve life for everyone affected by Parkinson's and find a cure for the disease.

Strategy/Approach

To support its mission, the organization offers a host of patient support activities and public advocacy efforts, and also funds innovative research and researchers.

A five-year plan established in 2010 guides the organization in six goals to help achieve their vision by the end of 2014:

1. No one has to face Parkinson's alone
2. Listening and responding to the needs of everyone affected by Parkinson's
3. Improving life for everyone affected by Parkinson's
4. Research resulting in better treatments and progress towards a cure
5. Raising £110 million to meet the costs of these plans
6. Being a united, focused, and effective organization

Parkinson's UK is currently developing another ambitious 5 year plan to guide the organization's efforts from 2015 through 2020.

Research Portfolio

Parkinson's UK has invested more than £65 million in Parkinson's research and is currently supporting 90 projects across the UK and have recently opened up their innovation grants scheme to international applicants. The organization's medical research is focused on several areas: why nerve cells die in Parkinson's; developing new animal models for the disease; establishing faster, better drug screening; and finding biomarkers for earlier diagnosis. Parkinson's UK also funds research studies that focus on improving quality of life for people with Parkinson's.

The major endeavors Parkinson's UK is undertaking include a clinical trial of the GDNF protein aimed at slowing disease progression, developing better brain scans for Parkinson's, trying to identify individuals who may be at higher risk before symptoms develop, and new treatments for dyskinesia. The two largest research projects at this time are the Monument Discovery Project and Tracking Parkinson's.

- **Monument Discovery Project**—£5 million over five years; The University of Oxford Parkinson's Disease center is investigating the earliest changes central to Parkinson's in both patients and siblings of those with Parkinson's.

- **Tracking Parkinson's**—Aims to be the world's largest study of people with Parkinson's. People diagnosed within the last three years and before the age of 50 are tracked through questionnaires, blood samples, and monitoring of symptoms.

Partnership Practices

Parkinson's UK works collaboratively with many stakeholders in the Parkinson's community. The charity is largely funded by voluntary donations but also partners with both corporations and pharmaceutical companies to support specific programs of work.

Additionally, Parkinson's UK collaborates with GlaxoSmithKline for the Healthy Alliance, providing support and training for Parkinson's nurses across the UK. They are also a member of the Neurological Alliance and the Dying Matters Coalition.

Financials

Parkinson's UK is a nonprofit charitable organization. The most recent financial data is from 2012.¹

Year ending 12/31/12:

- Revenue: £23,937,000
- Assets: £14,524,000
- Grants: £5,666,000
- Gifts Received: £120,000
- Expenditures: £26,591,000

Key Accomplishments

- Invested more than £65 million since the charity was founded in 1969.
- Launched a clinical trial to test the ability of the GDNF protein to slow disease progression.
- Established "Tracking Parkinson's," the largest ever Parkinson's cohort study. More than 2,000 participants were recruited by the end of 2013.
- Public awareness campaign reached nearly one-third of the UK population.

Leadership

Parkinson's UK is governed by a **Board of Trustees** and led by a **Senior Management Team**.

- **President:** Jane Asher, jashser@parkinsons.org.uk

¹ Information obtained from 2012 Annual Report.
<http://www.parkinsons.org.uk/content/annual-report-and-accounts>.
Accessed March 2014.

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