



NATIONAL
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS
SOCIETY

Thousands Walk The Streets

(NAPS)—Every year, thousands of people walk the streets of America to help one organization perform some amazing feats.

The volunteers walk to help the National MS Society fund research to fight MS (multiple sclerosis), a chronic disease of the central nervous system.

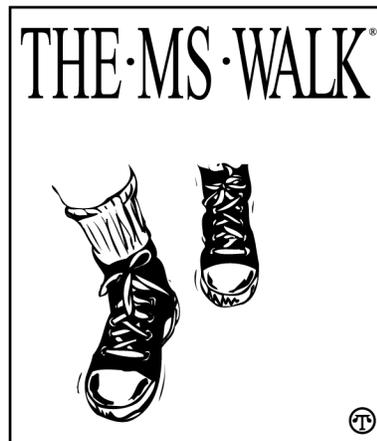
The annual walkathon, known as The MS Walk, takes place in all 50 states and has raised more than \$100 million in the past eleven years.

Revenue generated by the event goes towards funding national research and local programs for people with MS. There are nearly 700 MS Walks nationwide, involving nearly one quarter of a million people.

“Our group hopes to raise both money and awareness about MS,” says a spokesperson for the charity. “People need to know that drug therapies are available that might alter the course the disease takes.”

MS—often referred to as a “prime of life disease” because of its tendency to strike young adults—manifests itself in a number of unpredictable ways. Those who have the disease exhibit a variety of symptoms ranging from mild numbness to paralysis or loss of vision. Symptoms can come and go without warning, and often strike when they are least expected.

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is a non-profit organization with 87 chapters and divisions throughout the U.S. The group supports more research and serves more people with MS than



The National MS Society sponsors an annual walkathon that has raised over \$100 million to fight multiple sclerosis.

any national voluntary MS organization in the world.

In 1999 alone, the Society donated over \$23 million to more than 300 research projects in the U.S. and abroad.

The group seeks to help people diagnosed with MS learn how to live their life with the disease.

“When I was first diagnosed with MS six years ago,” says a member of the Society, “I had so many questions and concerns. Fortunately, the National MS Society was there for me, providing information, referrals and self-help groups. They helped me to know that I was not alone.”

Walkers can register for a walk or pledge support for any walker nationwide at www.nationalmssociety.org or call 1-800-FIGHT MS to locate the chapter nearest you.