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Parkinson's Foundation Grants \$1.5 Million to Local Communities for Parkinson's Programs

American Dance Festival Awarded \$18,000 for Parkinson's Movement Initiative

Durham, NC – August 14, 2020 – The Parkinson's Foundation today announced the recipients of more than \$1.5 million in community grants for Parkinson's programs. Community grants support local health, wellness and educational programs that address unmet needs in the Parkinson's disease (PD) community. American Dance Festival was awarded \$18,000 for its Parkinson's Movement Initiative (PMI), which collaborates with NC Dance for Parkinson's and Poe Wellness Solutions to provide weekly, cost-free movement opportunities for individuals living with PD and their caregivers.

"We are proud to continue to provide community grants and expand programs and resources that focus on diverse and underserved populations within the PD community," said John L. Lehr, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Parkinson's Foundation. "With COVID-19 impacting the world and Parkinson's community as a whole, this is a vital year for the Parkinson's Foundation to provide support and funding for grant recipients who can remain committed and undeterred in their commitment to make life better for people with Parkinson's."

The Parkinson's Foundation awarded more than \$1.5 million in community grants, ranging from a minimum of \$5,000 to a maximum of \$25,000 per grant application. This year's grant cycle focused on three areas, including: programs that provide services for diverse and underserved populations, initiatives that reach the newly diagnosed and programs that address mental health and Parkinson's.

"We are so thrilled to continue the Parkinson's Movement Initiative in 2020 – 2021. The Parkinson's Foundation Community Grant enables ADF to offer our program at no cost to individuals living with PD and their caregivers. This year, PMI is offering four weekly dance and Pilates for PD classes, and we are deepening community partnerships to reach underserved individuals living with PD," said Caitlyn Swett, PMI Interim Program Facilitator. "This is an important time to keep our community moving, and we look forward to offering live Zoom classes this fall. Additionally, ADF's Samuel H. Scripps Studios [YouTube channel](#) now has a catalogue of video classes that participants can access at any time and from anywhere."



New this year, the Parkinson's Foundation launched the Centers of Excellence Community Outreach Resources Education (CORE) grants to support community-based education and outreach programs that address unmet needs in the Parkinson's community. The Foundation awarded 19 CORE grant recipients across the [Parkinson's Foundation Center of Excellence](#) network for programs that align with the community grants focus areas and offer a variety of innovative therapies, programs and professional healthcare training. Center of Excellence are designated medical centers with a special Parkinson's care team that practices the latest treatments and research while providing the best care.

Programs funded by the Parkinson's Foundation community grants also include wellness, dance, music therapy and educational classes and services that can help people with Parkinson's live better with the disease. These programs will benefit communities in 37 states across the country.

Since 2011, the Parkinson's Foundation has funded more than 436 community-based programs that help address unmet needs for people with PD. To see the full list of the 2020 community grant recipients, visit parkinson.org/2020grants.

About the Parkinson's Foundation

The Parkinson's Foundation makes life better for people with Parkinson's disease by improving care and advancing research toward a cure. In everything we do, we build on the energy, experience and passion of our global Parkinson's community. For more information, visit www.parkinson.org or call (800) 4PD-INFO (473-4636).

About Parkinson's Disease

Affecting nearly one million Americans and 10 million worldwide, Parkinson's disease is the second-most common neurodegenerative disease after Alzheimer's and is the 14th-leading cause of death in the United States. It is associated with a progressive loss of motor control (e.g., shaking or tremor at rest and lack of facial expression), as well as non-motor symptoms (e.g., depression and anxiety). There is no cure for Parkinson's and 60,000 new cases are diagnosed each year in the United States alone.

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