

A large rectangular area with a pink background featuring a fine, repeating pattern of small, overlapping lines.

breaking new ground

The S.L.E. Foundation, Inc. 2001 Annual Report

life without lupus

our mission

The S.L.E. Foundation has one mission - we are dedicated solely to serving people with lupus by:

- > Encouraging and supporting lupus research
- > Providing services for people with lupus and their families
- > Educating and informing the public about the disease

Life without Lupus continues to be our fervent hope and our crusade. Our focus is unique, and our one overriding goal is to defeat this destructive illness and support those whose lives are devastated by it.

what is lupus?

Lupus can have many faces: fatigue you can't shake, fever you can't control, a rash you can't understand.

A chronic autoimmune disease that can affect virtually any organ of the body, lupus is complex and often misunderstood. It can be difficult to diagnose and, because no two lupus cases are alike, there is no certain way to predict its course. Lupus can be managed with treatment, but as yet no cause or cure exists and, even with treatment, it can be fatal.

Almost two million Americans - one out of every 185 - suffer from lupus. Nine out of ten of them are women - and most are in the prime of their lives. Yet lupus is America's least recognized major disease.

We must continue to provide help and hope to alleviate the suffering of this disease - and to accelerate and intensify new research to find a cure.

2001 proved to be a year dedicated to breaking new ground for the S.L.E. Foundation.

year in review

This year we:

- > Built a presence on the west coast with Lupus LA, a new division of the Foundation
- > Established the Bronx Lupus Cooperative, based on the success of our East Harlem Lupus Cooperative
- > Raised more than \$1.5 million at our 2001 Gala
- > Pledged \$2 million to support novel research through the Lupus Research Institute (LRI)
- > Refocused our efforts to champion New York City institutions and build a base of young investigators there
- > Continued our essential outreach programs for people suffering from lupus

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President

Susan Golick,
Vice President

Robert J. Ravitz,
Vice President

Irving Wahl,
Secretary

Margaret G. Dowd,
Executive Director

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Cindy Wilford Kemp

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Medical Advisory Board

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Physicians and Surgeons



Clockwise from main photo: David Wofsy, MD. William E. Paul, MD. Ward Wakeland, PhD and David Wofsy, MD.

board members

new research
paths

Blazing a significant new path, the Foundation pledged \$2 million to support novel research through the Lupus Research Institute (LRI). With this, we became a key participant in what Dr. William E. Paul, Chair of the LRI Scientific Advisory Board and Chief, Laboratory of Immunology, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, has called "an imaginative and courageous enterprise." Established for the express purpose of engendering new thinking about lupus, the LRI awarded \$2.7 million in grants to 12

biomedical scientists at its inaugural Scientific Conference in June. With this first-ever round of grants dedicated solely to new scientific initiatives to understand lupus, the LRI acted on its commitment to "stay open to new science."

Setting a new record in private sector funding for lupus research, the S.L.E. Foundation and the LRI now provide more than \$6 million to support 38 outstanding scientific studies and fellowships at leading academic medical centers nationwide.

With startling news from the American College of Rheumatology - that the decrease in the number of new research fellows over the last ten years has been dramatic - our board resolved to strengthen the core and future of lupus research in New York. To this end, we determined to focus on recruiting, funding and supporting new investigators in the New York area.

awards

In 2001, the Foundation awarded new Extended Fellowship and Career Development grants to the following gifted, New York City-based scientists to pursue critical research:

EXTENDED FELLOWSHIPS

Meera Ramanujam, PhD

Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Gero von Gersdorff, MD

Albert Einstein College of Medicine

CAREER DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Kaoru Saijo, MD, PhD

Rockefeller University

The Foundation also awarded research grants to the following scientists working to find a cure for lupus:

Robert M. Clancy, PhD

Hospital for Joint Diseases

Keith B. Elkon, MD

University of Washington

Joan Merrill, MD

Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation

The 2001 Scientific Leadership Award went to Peter E. Lipsky, MD, Scientific Director, National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, National Institutes of Health, with gratitude for his dedication to advancing lupus research.



From left to right: Carol Weisman, center, with her parents Jean and Meyer Steinberg, Jessye Norman, Morrie and Susan Golick, then-Mayor-elect Michael R. Bloomberg, Honorable Mario Cuomo, and Peggy Dowd, Herb and Rose Estrin, Robert Ravitz and Martin E. Segal

a sparkling event

In a glittering evening that drew leaders from business and the medical community, as well as then-Mayor-elect Michael R. Bloomberg and the Honorable Mario Cuomo, the Foundation's 2001 Gala raised more than \$1.5 million to support lupus research.



Top: Then-Mayor-elect Michael R. Bloomberg, center with Jennie and Richard DeScherer,
Below left to right: Jerome and Simona Chazen, Tony Bennett, Willa Bernhard,
left with Betsey and Arty Selkowitz



As Tony Bennett, a long-time supporter of the lupus cause, performed to a wildly enthusiastic audience, Gala honoree Martin E. Segal, Chairman Emeritus of The Segal Company and of Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, declared, "We are the energy of promise and hope that a cure for lupus will be found. And we will indeed overcome!"

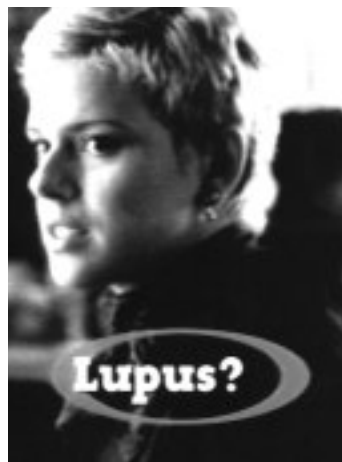
Jessye Norman, S.L.E. Foundation Board member and Honorary Chair, told the 800 attending friends and supporters, "We are willing to take risks to create a future without this vicious disease. We search for new paths to a cure by daring to ask new hard questions; we risk exploring new research that oversteps previous boundaries; and bring talented new minds to solve old problems."



Left to right: Wayne Newton and Howie D., Marla and Bud Paxson, James N. Gianopulos and Daniel J. Wallace, MD

breaking new ground from coast to coast

The launch of Lupus LA, a new division of the Foundation, heightened awareness of lupus from coast to coast.



Dedicated to raising funds for the Lupus Research Institute, Lupus LA raised \$150,000 at its launch event: a concert under the stars, hosted by Bob Saget. Held at the home of Marla and Bud Paxson and co-chaired by Carrie and Bernie Brillstein, the event featured Wayne Newton and Howie D. of the Backstreet Boys, who entertained glamorous guests such as Sylvester Stallone, Richard Thomas, Tom Bosley and Ryan O'Neal.

Additionally, some 1,000 Paxson TV and radio stations across the country backed our efforts to reach a wider audience with information about lupus by airing our "Get into the Loop" public service announcements. With announcements in both English and Spanish, the broadcasts generated more than 20,000 calls for assistance and information about lupus.



We also broke new ground in New York City this year, as we added another outreach office to our established bases and expanded our ongoing programs:

- > We opened the Bronx Lupus Cooperative, based on the success of the East Harlem Lupus Cooperative, to help patients and increase community awareness of lupus
- > With the New York Academy of Medicine, we organized the second professional educational conference to increase awareness and understanding of lupus among inner-city health care professionals

Clockwise from main photo: Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion, left, State Senator Efrain Gonzalez, Peggy Dowd, S.L.E Foundation Executive Director and Pedro Santiago, Program Coordinator, East Harlem and Bronx Lupus Co-ops. Bronx Borough President Adolfo Carrion and Paloma Hernandez, CEO, Urban Health Plan. Lupus Patient Elba Reyes, Pedro Santiago, and Dimitrios Asters, MD, Saint Vincent's Medical Center. Attendants at professional education conference co-sponsored with the New York Academy of Medicine. Speakers, Anne Davidson, MD, Albert Einstein College of Medicine; Joan Merrill, MD, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation; Thomas Lehman, MD, Hospital for Special Surgery; and Jill Buyon, MD Hospital for Joint Diseases.



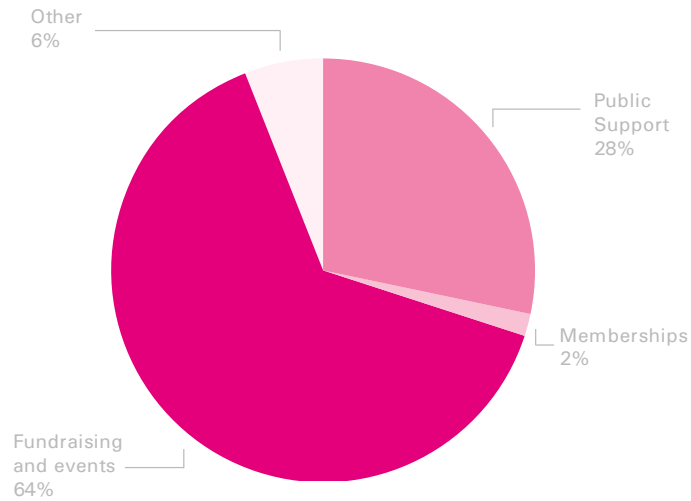
- > As part of our continuing Let Kids Be Kids program, the Foundation sponsored 15 children with lupus and their families for a wonderful week at Camp Sunshine in Lake Sebago, Maine
- > The Let Kids Be Kids program also provided art, music and swimming lessons to disadvantaged children and teens with lupus

- > Lupus patients and families turned out in great numbers for support group meetings and workshops that offered an informal, caring environment
- > Lupus Emergency Grants continued to pay for basic shelter needs and prescription medications for seriously ill patients in crisis situations

statement
of financial
position

The S.L.E. Foundation, Inc.

June 30, 2001



Revenues

Assets

Current Assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$41,265
Investments, at fair market value	312,696
Contributions receivable, temporarily restricted	205,000
Prepaid expenses and miscellaneous receivables	1,860
Due from broker	609,252
Due from affiliate	3,032
Total Current Assets	1,173,105
Fixed assets, at cost, net of accumulated depreciation	22,531
Other assets	11,223
Total Assets	\$1,206,859

Liabilities and net assets

Current Liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$18,788
Grants payable	467,500
Advance revenues from fundraising benefit	-
Total Current Liabilities	486,288
Commitments	
Net assets:	
Unrestricted	515,571
Temporarily restricted	205,000
Total net assets	720,571
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$1,206,859

The S.L.E. Foundation, Inc.

For the year ended June 30, 2001

Revenues

Contributions	\$690,496
Special bequests	43,208
Memberships	42,448
Fundraising events, net of direct expenses of \$206,786	1,563,549
Investment income, including expenses of \$4,447	98,830
Other income	5,550
Total Revenues	2,444,081

Expenses

Program services:

Medical research, grants and support	1,058,118
Public awareness, patient education and support	729,234
Total program services	1,787,352

Supporting services:

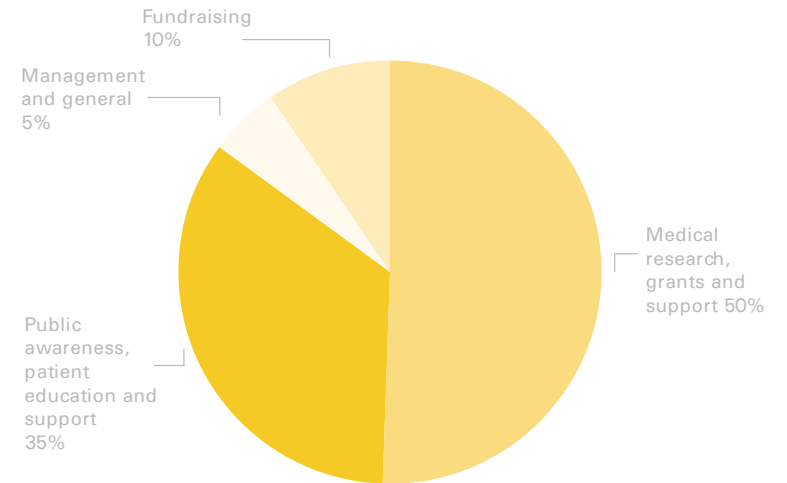
Management and general	112,812
Fundraising	199,762
Total supporting services	312,574

Total Expenses 2,099,926

Change in net assets - unrestricted 344,155

Net assets - beginning 376,416

Net assets - end of period \$720,571



Expenditures

