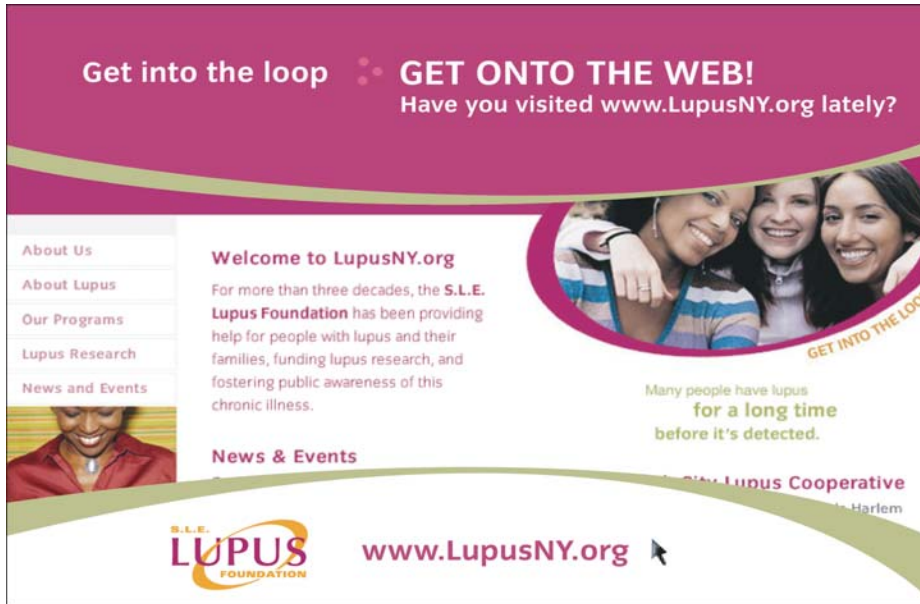


New Face for www.LupusNY.org



To meet the growing information needs of the lupus community, the S.L.E. Lupus Foundation has redesigned its website at www.LupusNY.org. The new website serves as a comprehensive resource on lupus to anyone searching for information on the disease. With one click of the mouse, you will find:

- Education on lupus diagnosis and treatment
- The latest research news
- Information on community programs and patient services
- Links to an extensive list of resources

"Because lupus is a very complex and often frightening disease, one of the most important goals of the new website is to provide support and education on lupus and

to keep newly diagnosed and existing patients up to date on the latest developments in research," said Peggy Dowd, the Foundation's Executive Director.

The new site will be updated frequently, and web visitors are encouraged to check back often for updates.

"We are grateful for the outstanding web development expertise of Greater Than One, a leading interactive agency specializing in health care," said Ms. Dowd. The Foundation also thanks ParadyszMatera, a direct response media services firm, which helped to facilitate online response. Both Greater Than One and ParadyszMatera donated the major portion of the new web design as pro bono work.

A Time to Give

The holiday season is traditionally a time when we express thanks for the blessings we have received, and a time to pause and make plans for the future. For many, it can also be a time for sharing with others through charitable gifts.

We hope you will consider a year-end gift to the S.L.E. Lupus Foundation. A timely gift can reduce your 2004 income taxes while providing meaningful support to the Foundation to advance lupus research, public education and patient services.

There are many forms of giving including cash/checks, credit cards and appreciated securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds). Planned or deferred gifts, such as wills, life insurance policies, and retirement accounts, are additional ways to make an important contribution.

Donations can be made on-line at www.LupusNY.org or contact Andrea O'Neill at 212-685-4118.

Foundation and The New York Academy of Medicine to Co-Sponsor Fifth Annual Professional Education Conference on Lupus

New York inner-city health care professionals will participate in the Foundation's annual professional education conference on December 3rd, focusing on the role of primary care medicine in diagnosing and treating lupus. Co-sponsored by The New York Academy of Medicine, the conference will be held at Metropolitan Hospital Center, New York. Leading lupus specialists from NYU School of Medicine, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Hospital for Joint Diseases and North Shore University Hospital will discuss various aspects of the disease, including prevention and treatment of skin lupus, systemic lupus erythematosus in children, novel therapies, and estrogens and lupus. More information on the program and registration can be found at www.nyam.org/events.

African Americans and Lupus: Key Topic at Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Congress

The S.L.E. Lupus Foundation, along with the Lupus Research Institute National Coalition, organized a comprehensive forum on lupus for participants of the Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Congress held in Washington, D.C. in September. The forum, "African Americans and Lupus: Invisible No More," was sponsored by Congressman Edolphus "Ed" Towns (D-NY) of Brooklyn. The panel discussion highlighted the urgent need for more education and outreach on lupus in African-American communities.

Forum speakers pointed out that lupus is three times more common in black women than in white women, and has a higher frequency of complications such as stroke and kidney disease in this population. Former Congresswoman Carrie Meek issued an urgent "Call to Action" to Congress to promote a major educational campaign on health disparities in lupus and to increase funding for lupus research.

Patient advocate Judith Anderson of Buffalo, New York, shared her experience with lupus, and Myna Majors of New York City spoke about her daughter's struggle with the disease. She also performed a poetry presentation, a technique she developed to help others understand what lupus is all about. Ms. Majors also discussed her outreach in Harlem and the Bronx in conjunction with the S.L.E. Lupus Foundation's program, the New York City Lupus Cooperative.

Other panelists included Gregory Dennis, MD, Director of Clinical Care and Training at the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Diseases, and John Reveille, MD, of the University of Texas Health Science Center. In addition, Congressman Danny K. Davis (D-Illinois) addressed the crowd.

The Foundation thanks patient advocate Kathleen Arntsen for helping to organize the forum, and LaJolla Pharmaceutical Company for its generous support.



Dr. Lucille C. Norville Perez (left), President of The Cave Institute and Past President of the National Medical Association, moderated the forum. Dr. Vivian Pinn (right), Director of the NIH Office of Research on Women's Health, outlined research priorities and stressed the importance of encouraging participation of women of color in the entire research process. Below, Foundation Executive Director Peggy Dowd (left) with Frances Ashe-Goins, RN, MPH, Deputy Director of The Office on Women's Health, US Dept. of Health and Human Services.



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