Years of Service and Commitment to the Parkinson's Community
We live in unprecedented times. This year, 2020, we have had to postpone the Parkinson’s Unity Walk—something that has not happened since 9/11. Indeed, in 2001, we were scheduled to hold the Unity Walk in September, just two weeks after the terrorist attack.

That devastating event led us to postpone the Unity Walk until the following April, Parkinson’s Disease Awareness Month. But with this move, the Unity Walk blossomed to become even bigger than before, and today is the central, “can’t miss” event for the Parkinson’s community.

And for good reason: the Unity Walk is the only event that brings everyone in the Parkinson’s community together for one shining day. That’s why year after year, thousands—more than 10,000 strong last year—have come to New York’s Central Park each April.

Together, we have accomplished a lot over the past 25 years. Thanks to all of our wonderful participants, the Parkinson’s Unity Walk, along with its sister organization, The Parkinson Alliance, has been able to fund more than $32 million in research aimed at curing the disease, or making lives better now. As Chairman, I am tremendously proud and grateful, as was my wife Margaret, who passed away in 2018 and who was instrumental in making our efforts successful.

While we did not meet in Central Park this April, I hope that this report will bring fond memories, and reflect our accomplishments and many of the people who have helped make them happen. I am confident that our mission remains as relevant as ever. And that in the not-too-distant future, we will be joining together, unified by our commitment to research, and stronger than ever.

MARTIN TUCHMAN
Chairman of the Board
The Parkinson’s Unity Walk plays such an important role in the community beyond the funds raised for research. The walk raises awareness and brings the entire Parkinson’s disease community together for a single mission; to improve the lives of those who suffer from PD. It is so inspiring to see the many families and friends who gather each April.

– Carol J. Walton, Executive Director, Parkinson’s Unity Walk
200 WALKERS AT THE FIRST UNITY WALK RAISED $16,000

11,000 WALKERS IN 2019 RAISED OVER $1.5 MILLION
32 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

500+ TEAMS PARTICIPATE FROM ACROSS THE U.S.
I was drawn to Acorda given their work in neurology and Parkinson’s. Acorda has been the t-shirt sponsor for the past couple of years, and this has given me the opportunity to not only attend the Unity Walk, but also interact with and be inspired by the community. This is one of the most inspiring community events I have ever been to. The crowd, full of not only people with Parkinson’s, but also their care partners, family and friends, is electric with hope, resilience and passion and it transforms Central Park for those few hours each Saturday morning.

— Laura DiBenedetto, Acorda Therapeutics

It’s been a pleasure to work with this unique organization that combines research and invaluable patient resources. The Parkinson Alliance is a true, patient centric organization with every initiative supporting comprehensive issues affecting the population. The Unity Walk is an extraordinary forum for patients and their families to connect and educate themselves.

— Danielle Fried, Abbott DBS
LEADERS UNITE FOR RESEARCH
100% of all Parkinson’s Unity Walk proceeds go to research.

367 grants funded by the Parkinson’s Unity Walk and the Parkinson Alliance.

$32+ million total research funded.
Our main focus is research, the key to unlocking better care today and ultimately a cure tomorrow. Our patient-centered research gives patients a voice, making them equal partners in improving quality of care.

Carol J. Walton
President & CEO, The Parkinson Alliance
3,400 PARTICIPANTS WITH PARKINSON'S, INCLUDING 800+ PEOPLE WITH DBS
We’ve had more than 25 people with Parkinson’s finish the LA Marathon for Team Parkinson. It’s important to raise funds for research. But to see people able to set goals for themselves and achieve something that they didn’t think they could, that makes us proud.

— John & Edna Ball, 20-year participants

Team Parkinson is also committed to research. Started 20 years ago, Team Parkinson has grown from a single effort to events from California to New Jersey. Similar to the Unity Walk, all proceeds go to research.
$3.2+ MILLION RAISED IN LOS ANGELES MARATHON AND OTHER EVENTS

$450+ THOUSAND RAISED BY THE CENTRAL COAST FOLLIES AND COMMUNITY

$1.3+ MILLION RAISED BY THE CARNEGIE CENTER 5K & FUN RUN IN PRINCETON, NJ

10,500 REGISTERED RUNNERS
Margaret Tuchman
Co-Founder & President
The Parkinson Alliance
1941 – 2018

Fierce advocate,
steadfast friend,
tirelessly curious.
She built bridges within the
community, nationally and
internationally, and
touched the lives of thousands.
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Parkinson's Unity Walk

PO Box 275
Kingston, New Jersey 08528
Phone: 866-789-9255

unitywalk.org