

"I began working with ALS TDF because they are more interested in working to find a cure for ALS than they are in finding out why I have it. There's a personal interest in finding a cure there, and I believe that's important. You can tell they have a goal they are trying to reach. They are accessible, and open with their information. They've tested more drugs than anybody else for ALS."

JOE PAGLIUCA : ALS Patient

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Please contact us at any time to find out more about ALS TDF's work and how we might work with you to slow, arrest, and cure ALS.



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ALS TDF is a 501c3 organization.



Leading Drug Discovery for Today's ALS Patients

ALS TDF – The ALS Therapy Development Foundation

A nonprofit biotechnology company dedicated to developing effective treatments for today's ALS patients.

ALS TDF combines the passion and dedication of a nonprofit organization with the entrepreneurial and scientific spirit of a biotechnology company.

- Our laboratory, the leading drug discovery program for ALS, bridges a critical research gap.
- Our in-house expertise translates research into potential drug candidates by screening drugs in the SOD1 mouse model of ALS.
- Our scientific collaborations bring the most promising leads closer to FDA approval.
- We share emerging knowledge on the disease with patients, physicians, and researchers as quickly and comprehensively as possible.
- Every decision is made in the interest of finding effective treatments for people living with ALS.
- Our unique approach accelerates drug development for ALS.



Mukur Gupta, Ph.D., ALS TDF Senior Research Scientist, Pharmaceuticals.

“ALS TDF is an inspiration for all of us at the Alzheimer Research Forum. They produce more innovative ideas per pound than most research institutes I know of.”

JUNE KINOSHITA : Founder and Executive Editor, Alzheimer Research Forum

ALS is a Devastating Disease

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a fatal neurological disorder that causes muscle atrophy, paralysis, and respiratory failure. ALS has no prejudice – it occurs worldwide, with no age, ethnic or economic boundaries.

- 30,000 Americans have ALS today.
- Up to 8,000 new cases are diagnosed in the U.S. each year.
- 90% of patients die within 5 years of diagnosis.
- There is no known treatment or cure.

Our Story – Patients Today

James Heywood founded ALS TDF in 1999, four months after his brother Stephen was diagnosed with ALS at age 29. Frustrated by the lack of treatment options and determined to save his brother and all others living with ALS, he left his job at the Neurosciences Institute in California. Together with his family and friends, he founded the world's first ALS-focused nonprofit biotechnology company from his parent's basement in a Boston suburb.



James Allen Heywood, ALS TDF's d'Arbeloff Founding Director, with brother Stephen.



ALS TDF staff at their offices in the Biotech Cluster in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Today, one man's personal tragedy now provides hope for thousands of people suffering from ALS and points to new possibilities for fighting other neurological disorders.

ALS TDF now operates out of a high-tech research facility where a dedicated team of researchers and staff search each day for a treatment and cure on behalf of today's ALS patients.

Who We Work With

ALS TDF runs the leading drug discovery program, the ALS Hope Drug Discovery Center, focused on ALS. We combine in-house technology and expertise with key scientific collaborations to accelerate the process of finding effective treatments for ALS.

Our collaborative approach to drug discovery involves many groups in the scientific and ALS communities.

SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATORS

We work with pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and academic collaborators to screen drugs in the SOD1 mouse model of ALS and inform our work through basic research. Our goal is to make working on ALS a worthwhile investment for our corporate partners. In addition to sharing data and expertise with our collaborators, we help design, fund, and evaluate experiments.

CLINICAL CENTERS

We partner with researchers at leading ALS clinics to conduct clinical trials on promising drug leads. ALS TDF's San Francisco office organizes the majority of our clinical partnerships. Members of our Clinical Advisory Board represent the foremost ALS research institutes in the country.



ALS TDF's Director of In Vivo Pharmacology, Gwendolyn T. Wong, in ALS TDF's laboratory.

“The ALS TDF model can be transferred to a number of diseases – it's about more than just ALS. It's exciting to be a part of something new that can change the way drugs are discovered.”

BRIT D'ARBELOFF : ALS TDF Founders' Council Member

“[The model] ALS TDF has developed is long overdue for small-market diseases.”

DENNIS A. AUSIELLO, M.D. : Physician-in-Chief, Massachusetts General Hospital, ALS TDF Board Member

Philanthropic Support

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

The Family and Friends Community is a network of more than 60 grassroots fundraising efforts that raise money to benefit ALS TDF. FFC members also serve as ambassadors, representing ALS TDF to their communities and assisting other groups with events.

MAJOR GIFTS

ALS TDF is entirely supported through the generous contributions of individuals, corporations, and foundations. Ongoing support is critical to advancing our work. All gifts directly support our drug discovery program. Leadership gifts qualify donors for membership in a series of leadership councils at a variety of levels \$1,000 and above.

DRIVING 4 LIFE

Professional golfer Tom Watson and his caddy Bruce Edwards, along with his wife Marsha, and another professional golfer Jeff Julian and his wife Kim, started the Driving 4 Life campaign in 2003 to raise awareness and funds for ALS TDF. Sadly, both Bruce and Jeff passed away from ALS within a year of founding Driving 4 Life, but the campaign continues on in their memory hosting golf tournaments and other events across the U.S. to fund ALS TDF's laboratory.



ALS TDF established a biomarker program to speed the drug discovery process in ALS.