

LEADING THE WAY



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message From the Chair and the President.....1

Leading the Way 2-8

Advocacy / Mission Delivery3

Special Events5

Financial Report7

Florida Chapter Locations9



New KidsGetArthritisToo.org Website

Since the site's launch in July 2013 through the end of June 2014, **99,145 PEOPLE** used KidsGetArthritisToo.org (or KGAT.org) to get information, download resources, sign up for events and connect with others.

The site helps parents, kids and teens learn about:

- what to expect
- treatment options
- getting access to care
- rights in school
- local camps and family days
- transitioning to adulthood

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND THE PRESIDENT



Arthritis is the number one cause of disability in our country. It affects one in three Americans including over 300,000 children. The Arthritis Foundation is the only nationwide nonprofit health organization dedicated to preventing, controlling and curing this pervasive disease.

Thanks to our donors, volunteers and sponsors, the Arthritis Foundation is leading the way to a world free of arthritis pain through advocacy, medical discovery, help and support and Juvenile Arthritis (JA) initiatives. Without you we would be powerless to achieve our mission to make a difference in the lives of people with arthritis. We are truly grateful for your support.

In this Annual Report you will meet some very special volunteers who are leading the way toward making life better for millions of Floridians living daily with the pain of arthritis. We hope that their stories will inspire you to join us in our efforts to prevent, control and cure arthritis and related diseases.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Olden".

Dennis Olden
Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anne Fair Forrest".

Anne Fair Forrest
President/CEO

LEADING THE WAY



Dennis Olden grew up witnessing the impact Arthritis had on his family.

His mother, diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis at a young age, fought the pain and disability in her hands and always tried to live a full life with a bright outlook. One of the lessons she taught Dennis and his sisters were to look towards others and give back. Active involvement with the Arthritis Foundation is Dennis's way to give back in honor of his mother. He is currently the Florida Chapter Volunteer Board Chair and has served on our national board and numerous committees.

Dennis says he really enjoys working with the Arthritis Foundation, noting that improving the quality of life for those with arthritis and their families is where he feels we have the most

impact. And in his heart there is a special place for our Kids with Arthritis. In honor of his late wife and mother, The Boki and Jenne Olden Endowment Fund has been created to help fund Florida's JA Programs and Summer Camps. Dennis feels the work the Arthritis Foundation Florida Chapter is doing will have a lasting impact for generations to come. For him the gratification comes from the people who make up the Arthritis Foundation. He encourages us all to make an impact: become a volunteer, team captain, committee member, board member. He knows it will have an impact on you too.

Arthritis Foundation advocates successfully fought to maintain \$557 million in research funding at the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Department of Defense in the 2013 appropriations bill.

Florida Arthritis Advocates Lead the Way in Washington and At Home

March 2013 – Five Florida Arthritis Ambassadors traveled to Washington DC to meet with Congress to inform them of the impact arthritis has on our state and on the nation. Emi Dalyn of Pensacola; LaRita Jacobs of St. Petersburg; Andrea and Gavin Jones of Tampa; and Mireya Kilmon of Miami joined other Ambassadors from around the country to hone their advocacy skills during training sessions and prepare for their congressional visits. Their successes include:

Access to Care

The Patients' Access to Treatments Act HR 460: Re-Introduced

If passed the Patients' Access to Treatment Act (HR460) will end specialty tier practices that put patient medicine out of reach.

The Pediatric Subspecialty Reauthorization Act HR 1827: Introduced

If passed this Act will bring more pediatric rheumatologists to areas where we need them most.

Medicare Win!

Advocates took on Medicare coverage of infused drugs and successfully convinced the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to demand a reversal of harmful policies.

Research Funding - UP \$557 Million

Arthritis Advocates successfully fought to maintain research funding at the NIH, CDC and Department of Defense.

Awareness

38 Members of Congress took action during "Arthritis Month" on behalf of people with arthritis. 70 Members of Congress have joined The Arthritis Caucus.

You can help lead the way! Join The Movement at www.arthritis.org/advocacy.

Kids with Arthritis Lead the Way in the Fight Against Arthritis

Families dealing with Juvenile Arthritis (JA) joined together in 2013 to raise awareness that Kids Get Arthritis Too. Parents volunteered to plan and host JA Family Fun Days across the state. Through eight one-day events, families were brought together to network, have fun and connect with the Arthritis Foundation. Other Florida JA highlights include:

- 181 campers attended Florida's arthritis specialty camps for kids.
- Camp FunRise, Miami in partnership with Miami Children's Hospital; Dr. Rafael Rivas-Chacon – Camp Medical Director, Dr. Steven Goodman – Volunteer
- Camp Boggy Creek, Eustis, Member of SeriousFun Children's Network founded by Paul Newman; Dr. Steve Goodman and Dr. Renee Modica – Camp Doctors
- Miracle Camp, Pensacola In partnership with Sacred Heart Hospital; Dr. Brandon Dorion, Camp Medical Director
- 64 families attended JA Family Retreat Weekends at Camp Boggy Creek.
- 20 families received scholarships for the National JA Conference in Anaheim California.
- 995 individuals participated in Florida JA Programs in 2013.

Walking Impacts Arthritis For the Good

Florida has taken to walking with ease to fight arthritis. The Arthritis Foundation's walking program "Walk with Ease" is helping those with arthritis improve their overall fitness and reduce their pain. It can also help prevent Osteoarthritis, the most common form of the disease. Across the state, participants join the program at community centers and at their workplaces while others engage in the self-directed program.

Other Florida program highlights include:

- 2,945 participants enrolled in Arthritis Foundation's "Programs for Better Living" including Aquatics, Exercise and Tai Chi.
- 33 new program leaders and instructors were trained.
- 1,105 people attended Arthritis Foundation sponsored Educational Programs.

LEADING THE WAY



Living with purpose! To say that George and Lisa Schott have made an impact in the lives of many is an understatement!

As active members of the Jimmy Buffet themed social club, the Parrot Heads of Central Florida, George and Lisa created Fruitcakes in the Alley, a 3-day long annual event featuring a bowling tournament, outstanding musical entertainment, prizes, silent auctions, raffles, great food, and more. The event benefits children living with Juvenile Arthritis via the Arthritis Foundation.

What you may not know is that George and Lisa do this labor of love, year after year, to honor the memory and legacy of George's beautiful daughter Jennifer Schott, who was diagnosed with Juvenile Arthritis at 2 years old. Sadly, Jenny passed away at the young age of 26 after a brave battle against arthritis. She lived a short but full, and meaningful, life. In spite of living with this debilitating disease, she accomplished her dream of becoming a teacher, making an impact on many people along the way!

After losing Jenny, George and his family were devastated. Many years passed where George found it too difficult to talk about Jenny's disease. Eventually, the time came when he was ready to turn this life-altering experience into something that would pay tribute to Jenny and help other families dealing with Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis. He found strength and purpose in the idea of honoring Jenny's legacy by helping other children who face similar challenges. After all, as a teacher, Jenny loved helping other children and young adults. From this concept, Fruitcakes in the Alley was created.

The Schotts are leading the way toward better lives for many JA children. Since 2009, George and Lisa's fun event has resulted in a total donation of \$147,110 to the Arthritis Foundation Florida Chapter on behalf of Kids with Arthritis. Another important outcome is that it has raised awareness among the many attendees who have said they never realized that kids get arthritis too. In 2014, they raised more than \$35,000 in vital funds, getting all of us closer and closer to a CURE! To learn more about the event and find out how to participate, please visit www.fruitcakesinthealley.com.

During the past six years of the event, the Schott's efforts have been helped by several child honorees from the Central Florida area, who have various forms of Juvenile Arthritis, and their families. They include: Hunter Brown (2009), Rachel Haas (2010), Sydney Pickens (2010), Alexa Anderson (2011), Sophia Vrolijk (2011), Parker Lentini (2012), Delaney Hutchinson (2013), Sadie Veselka (2013), and Allie Yesbeck (2014).

SPECIAL EVENTS



The Florida Chapter had many outstanding special events in 2013. Here are some of our Highlights!

Our **Joints In Motion** team started off the year by participating in the Walt Disney World Marathon weekend. Eighteen members participated in the marathon, half marathon or Goofy Challenge and together they raised over \$34,000 for the fight against arthritis.

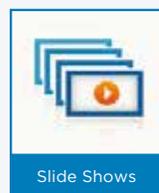
The much treasured **“Magic of Caring”** fashion show in West Palm Beach features children, young adults and their families who live daily with some form of arthritis. This wonderful event not only heightens the awareness of Juvenile Arthritis but also raised over \$56,000 in 2013. Sincere appreciation to all the kids, parents, volunteers and sponsors whose hard work and dedication make this event so successful year after year.

The Florida Chapter staged seven **Arthritis Walk** events in 2013 with over three thousand participants. An army of enthusiastic volunteers and faithful sponsors were successful in raising over \$445,000! Walks were held in Miami-Dade County, Palm Beach County, Tampa, Jacksonville, Orlando, Broward County and Pensacola. In 2014, this national signature event, was rebranded as the **“Walk To Cure Arthritis”**.

The year ends with everyone’s favorite holiday happening, the Arthritis Foundation’s Jingle Bell Run/Walk for Arthritis. Always a fun and festive way to kick off the holiday season, Jingle Bell Run/Walks were held in Bradenton, Tampa, Orlando, Jacksonville, Pensacola Beach and Fort Walton Beach. Our largest event in Bradenton once again exceeded the \$100,000 goal! Statewide this signature event generated over \$350,000 moving us closer in our quest for a cure.

The crowning glory of our “third-party” events was the **“Fruitcakes in the Alley”** bowling tournament. This rousing extravaganza of Jimmy Buffet music, auctions, raffles and games is the brainchild of Lisa and George Schott. This dynamic duo inspired the Parrot Heads of Central Florida to party their way to a grand total of \$34,500 in support of the Arthritis Foundation Florida Chapter!!

996,593
PEOPLE
used the Arthritis Foundation’s
online tools and resources in 2013.



LEADING THE WAY

Jim and Kathy Minton have been active and passionate volunteers with the Arthritis Foundation Florida Chapter for over 10 years! The Minton's have been major contributors both financially and with their time.

The Minton's reflect back to 2008 - "We watched as donations diminished, volunteers turned to tending their finances and the Arthritis Foundation slowed and, eventually, stopped growing; this was very sad to both Jim and I! Arthritis is a cause very dear and personal to our hearts.... We both have had family members suffer immensely with debilitating arthritis and we want a cure! We love our Arthritis Foundation Florida Chapter so we continued to fight the good fight! WOW! We are sure glad that we did! What a difference a couple of years can make! We have been experiencing a revival here in the Arthritis Foundation of Northeast Florida! It is Awesome!

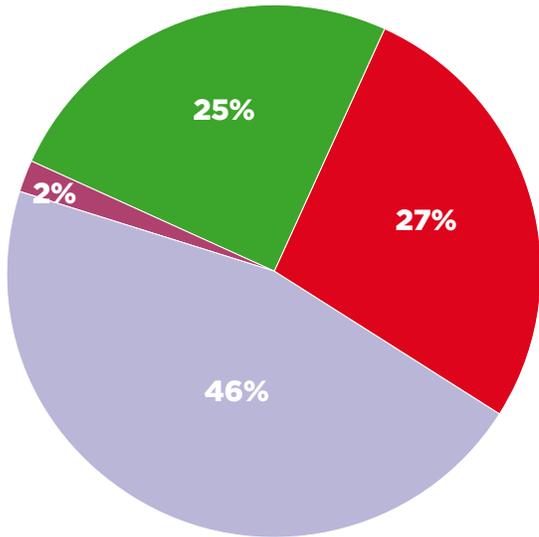


"These past few years have brought an enormous amount of energy, enthusiasm, ideas, and hope to our organization. In just a few years we have turned our annual walk and Jingle Bell Run/Walk into a huge success! Both events have \$10k Sponsors and partners anxious to work with us. We even received permission in 2013 to hold our Walk at Ever Bank Field with a great deal of support from the Jaguar management - this is unheard of! Our media exposure is extensive and we are lucky to have so many amazing partners in the media helping us spread awareness about arthritis! We have had an incredible event called "The Legacy of Leaders" which recognizes positive leadership in the Jacksonville area and features a traveling exhibit called the "Portrait of Leadership Gallery". Jim has been a leader in this event and has been blessed to be able to be a role model to so many in our community.

"We are proud to be a part of the AF Jacksonville team and the AF Florida Chapter Team! It is because of the team's hard work that we are getting one step closer to a cure."

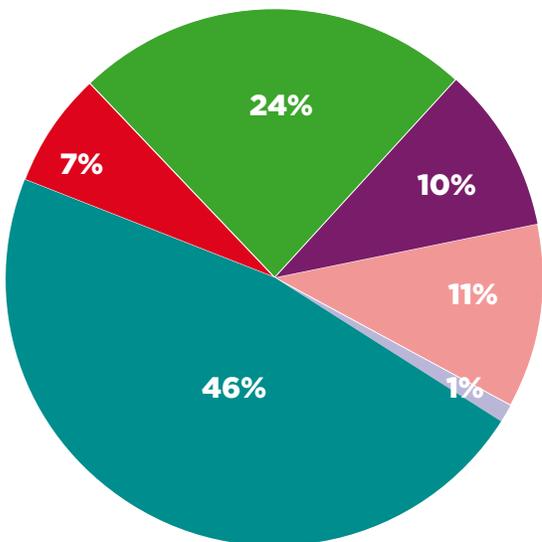
FINANCIAL REPORT

FLORIDA CHAPTER REVENUE 2013



Contributions	\$926,593
Investment and Other Income	\$58,508
Special Events	\$1,027,084
Bequests	\$1,680,820
TOTAL REVENUE	\$3,693,005

FLORIDA CHAPTER EXPENDITURES 2013



Research	\$228,928
Public Health Education	\$1,606,826
Professional Education	\$48,845
Patient & Community Services	\$825,283
Fund Raising	\$342,253
Management & General	\$360,205
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$3,412,340

LEADING THE WAY

Making a long-term impact requires an investment of time and commitment. This was something Saul and Theresa Esman Foundation Executive Director Murray Levin understood when he first reached out to the Arthritis Foundation Florida Chapter in 2010.



Thanks to his painstaking research, Murray and Mrs. Esman were impressed with the Arthritis Foundation's full spectrum of services, support and research and wanted to make a difference.

As someone living with arthritis, Mrs. Esman has an intimate connection with the disease and is well versed in its daily impact on health, wellbeing and lifestyle. She started the Esman Foundation after Mr. Esman passed away in 1999, with Murray as her guide, as a way to preserve and enhance her and Saul's long history of philanthropy in Southeast Florida. The Esman's generosity is known to a variety of local important health, educational and civic charities.

The Esman Foundation made sizable gifts to the Arthritis Foundation in 2010 and 2011 which helped support Arthritis Walk events (now called the Walk to Cure Arthritis) in both Broward and Miami-Dade counties, bringing hundreds of participants together to form a nascent arthritis community, as well as local services and the Arthritis Foundation's national research agenda.

Thanks to an ongoing relationship with Arthritis Foundation leadership and local staff, Murray and Mrs. Esman have gained a deeper appreciation of the staggering economic and societal impact of the more than 100 varieties of arthritis. They have been particularly moved by meeting some of the 300,000 children with juvenile arthritis (JA) and their families.

In early 2012 the Esman Foundation made a five-year, \$400,000 commitment to the Arthritis Foundation, Florida Chapter. The gift has been put to good use supporting annual summer camps for kids with JA throughout Florida as well as sending Florida families to the Arthritis Foundation's annual National Juvenile Arthritis Conference. These experiences provide a layer of support that helps make kids resilient and strengthen families during difficult times for years to come.

Jackie Robinson once said, "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." How true that is and how exemplified by the philanthropy of Saul and Theresa Esman and the foresight of Murray Levin in helping the Arthritis Foundation Florida Chapter lead the way toward finding a cure and ending arthritis pain.

FLORIDA CHAPTER LOCATIONS

CHAPTER OFFICE

410 12th Street West, Bradenton, FL 34205
(941) 747-8303 (800) 672-0882 FAX: (941) 748-6767
E-mail: info.fl@arthritis.org

CHAPTER MISSION DELIVERY

14499 N. Dale Mabry Hwy, Suite 139, Tampa, FL 33618
(813) 968-7000 (800) 850-9455 FAX: (813) 968-1119

NORTHWEST (PENSACOLA)

8383 North Davis Highway, Pensacola, FL 32514
(850) 471-1541 FAX: (850) 471-1483
E-mail: info.fl.b1@arthritis.org

NORTHEAST (JACKSONVILLE)

Jacksonville, FL
(904) 644-7317

E-mail: info.fl.b2@arthritis.org

CENTRAL (ORLANDO)

13000 Avalon Lake Drive, Suite 302, Orlando, FL 32828
(407) 208-1766 FAX: (407) 208-1765

E-mail: info.fl.b3@arthritis.org

GULF COAST (TAMPA)

14499 N. Dale Mabry Hwy, Suite 139, Tampa, FL 33618
(813) 968-7000 (800) 850-9455 FAX: (813) 968-1119

E-mail: info.fl.b4@arthritis.org

MIDEAST (WEST PALM BEACH)

400 Hibiscus Street, Suite 100, West Palm Beach, FL 33401
(561) 833-1133 (800) 654-1046 FAX: (561) 833-0311

E-mail: info.fl.b6@arthritis.org

BROWARD (FORT LAUDERDALE)

3405 NW 9th Avenue, Suite 1206, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
(954) 616-1233 FAX: (954) 616-1232

E-mail: info.fl.b7@arthritis.org

SOUTHEAST (MIAMI)

3405 NW 9th Avenue, Suite 1206, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
(305) 873-6323 FAX: (954) 616-1232

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Arthritis Today Magazine

4.2 Million readers per issue



In print or online, readers look to the Arthritis Foundation's award-winning magazine as their trusted source for information about healthy living with arthritis or related conditions. Each bi-monthly issue is filled with inspirational and informative articles to help make everyday life easier. *Arthritis Today* can be found in 70,000 health care facilities around the U.S., including offices of rheumatologists, orthopedic surgeons and primary care physicians.

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