

# Multiple sclerosis (MS)

## Raising Awareness Of MS Caregiver Needs

Multiple Sclerosis, or MS, is a chronic, debilitating disease of the central nervous system that can significantly impact the lives of people living with the condition, as well as families and loved ones.<sup>1,2</sup> Due to the unpredictable nature of the disease, MS caregivers (also called “support partners” or “care partners”) can face many challenges while navigating the often-changing care needs for their loved one.<sup>3</sup>



To help improve caregiver support, the STEP Program<sup>TM</sup> provided a total of USD 150 000 to two organizations for their proposals that demonstrate innovation in emotional support, physical care, and everyday assistance needs.

Funded programs include:

**Accelerated Cure Project’s iConquerMS Caregiver Connection<sup>TM</sup>** - Provides emotional support, everyday assistance, and other community-building resources to MS caregivers through easy access to dedicated MS caregiver resources, a peer-to-peer discussion forum, and social media platforms.

**Can Do MS’s Communication Guide for Support Partners and People Living with MS** -Includes multimedia and individualized toolkits that will provide resources and tips to help manage challenges of MS caregiving.

## References

1. Multiple sclerosis FAQs. National Multiple Sclerosis Society. <https://www.nationalmssociety.org/What-is-MS/MS-FAQ-s>. Published 2019. Accessed November 26, 2019.
2. McKeown L, Porter-Armstrong A, Baxter G. Caregivers of people with multiple sclerosis: experiences of

support. Multiple Sclerosis Journal. 2004;10(2):219-230. doi:10.1191/1352458504ms1008oa. Published September 1, 2004. Accessed August 11, 2021.

3. The National Alliance for Caregiving, National MS Society. Multiple sclerosis caregivers. <https://www.nationalmssociety.org/NationalMSSociety/media/MSNationalFiles/Brochures/Brochure-A-Guide-for-Caregivers.pdf> Accessed November 26, 2019.

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