

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between the

National AHEC Organization and the National Parkinson Foundation

Whereas the Purpose of the National AHEC Organization (NAO) is to support the national network of Area Health Education Center (AHEC) programs and Health Education Training Center (HETC) programs dedicated to improving the supply, distribution and quality of health care professionals through community/academic partnerships, and

Whereas the Mission of the National Parkinson Foundation (NPF) is to find the cause of and the cure for Parkinson disease through research, to improve the quality of life for persons with Parkinson and their caregivers, and to educate persons with Parkinson, their caregivers, healthcare professionals, and the general public about Parkinson disease and its treatment, and

Whereas, NAO and NPF desire to establish a formal liaison between their two organizations that will further the above-stated goals;

Now, therefore, the NAO and NPF agree to:

1. Designate from within each organization
 - a. One member who will be its principal liaison for issues related to this agreement and will communicate regularly with the other organization's liaison about such issues;
 - b. Members, in addition to the appointed liaison, to work on specific issues and activities of mutual interest to the two organizations; and
 - c. A staff person who will work with the designated liaisons to assure effective implementation of this agreement.

2. Using strategies listed below, develop mechanisms through which members of each organization will become better informed about the mission, activities, and issues of importance to the other organization:
 - a. Share NPF chapter/AHEC Program and Center contact information;
 - b. Arrange for reciprocal publication of information about each other's conferences and activities of general interest to members of both organizations;
 - c. Invite contribution of articles and other appropriate submissions for each other's publications;
 - d. Establish on each organization's web site a link indicating the collaborative relationship and liaison contact information;
 - e. Review membership, trainings, and conference attendance and/or exhibit rates to seek reciprocal fee waivers and/or discounts as part of the partnership; and
 - f. At least biennially review and up-date this document to represent the goals of the inter-organizational relationship.


3. Collaborate on education and policy issues of mutual interest:
 - a. Identify ways in which the two organizations can more effectively engage in joint advocacy on legislative, regulatory, and public policy issues of mutual concern;
 - b. Collaborate on development and /or presentation of educational projects addressing issues within the mission and expertise of each organization;
 - c. Upon specific request and specific agreement, share data to address questions related health care workforce and health professions education.


4. Work together on organization activities to:
 - a. Prepare collaborative seminars for presentation at appropriate national and regional conferences;
 - b. Update, produce, and distribute the Parkinson's Diagnostic card (and other education resources as appropriate) for professionals and students;
 - c. Foster other mutual partnership linkages to further our collaborative goals through discussions with organizations such as NACHC and the National Alliance for Hispanic Health;
 - d. Review options for expanding information resources by such means as translating existing materials into multiple languages and developing interpreter resources and student education packages.

5. To expand dissemination of information about Parkinson Disease through the AHEC student and continuing education network programs, NPF will:
 - a. establish/provide vetted speaker recommendations for local programs
 - b. develop lists of locally developed, adaptable educational materials (posters, PSA's, etc.) for distribution and use through the AHEC network

This Memorandum of Understanding does not constitute a fiscal arrangement for the obligation of funds by either party. Any joint endeavors involving reimbursement or transfer of funds between the parties to this agreement will be handled in accordance with prescribed financial procedures of both parties.

This Memorandum of Understanding will become effective upon the signature of the authorized officials of the respective parties. It will remain in effect until terminated by mutual agreement. The Memorandum will be reviewed periodically, but not less than biennially, and it may be amended by mutual agreement of both parties in writing.


President + CEO
National Parkinson Foundation
Date: July 18/07


President
National AHEC Organization
Date: 8/15/2007