In 1983, the Sjögren’s Syndrome Foundation was created to help patients living with Sjögren’s syndrome. The mission that was created more than twenty years ago remains the same today:

■ To educate patients and their families
■ To increase public and professional awareness of Sjögren’s syndrome
■ To encourage and support research for new treatments and a cure

We remain committed to this mission and are proud of our many accomplishments.

In 1992, the SSF created its own research program and today provides more than $250,000 a year to directly fund a broad range of projects. This figure marks a 250% increase in funds over the last five years, making SSF the premiere funding organization for Sjögren’s syndrome research.

We are proud that our program fosters the best and most innovative projects. These projects are designed to have the greatest potential impact on Sjögren’s syndrome patients, ensuring new therapeutics are developed and a cure is found.

We are pleased to report that researchers have made tremendous progress in the fight against Sjögren’s syndrome. The scope of these accomplishments includes:

• Significant progress on understanding the causes of Sjögren’s syndrome
• Increased understanding of the pathophysiology of Sjögren’s syndrome
• Development of novel research projects sponsored by the National Institutes of Health
• Development of new centers of excellence in Sjögren’s syndrome research
• Increased funding of innovative research projects
• Increased awareness and understanding of the disease among healthcare professionals

In the past ten years, researchers have made extraordinary progress in the fight against Sjögren’s syndrome. Below are some of those accomplishments:

• The first-ever FDA-approved medications for Sjögren’s syndrome
• New therapies (prescription and over-the-counter) for treating the many manifestations of Sjögren’s syndrome
• Increased funding of innovative research projects sponsored by the National Institutes of Health
• Clinical projects to increase our knowledge about how patients' lives are affected by Sjögren’s Syndrome
• Patient surveys that yielded insights into the disease, which in turn has spurred new funding opportunities and partnerships with corporations and research communities
• Scientific workshops and conferences to encourage collaboration among the medical community and educate healthcare professionals about the disease
• Encouragement of young and new investigators to distinguish themselves in the field of Sjögren’s
Dear Friend:

I hope this brochure answers your questions about our research program and how you can help. Thank you for your support! With your gift to our research campaign, we can increase funding for research that has improved, and will continue to improve, the lives of Sjögren's syndrome patients.

At Singers' Syndrome Foundation (SSF) we are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of patients and researchers by supporting cutting-edge research that will further our understanding of Sjögren's syndrome and accelerate the pace of medical discoveries.

Innovative Concept Grant – This brand new initiative, which offers a $50,000 annual award, is intended to nurture the development of innovative hypotheses that reach beyond the paradigms of current research projects.

Research Grants – $35,000 grants offered to basic and clinical scientists investigating the complexities of Sjögren’s syndrome.

Outstanding Abstract Awards – The Outstanding Abstract Award is given to new and/or young investigators who present outstanding abstracts on Sjögren’s syndrome research at professional meetings.

Student Fellowships – The Foundation offers student fellowships for medical, dental, and PhD students working on a semester research project in Sjögren’s syndrome. Awards are for $2,000.

The SSF has introduced a new category for research grants called the Innovative Concept Grant. This grant encourages scientists to think outside the box and investigate new avenues of research into the occurrence of lymphoma in the Sjögren’s syndrome patient. This new grant is for 3 years and does not have a renewed application process. The project must be innovative and the goal is to help the Sjögren’s syndrome patient.
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The Foundation’s research program has also played a major role in supporting and launching various avenues of research that have led to new therapies as well as new theories on Sjögren’s syndrome. In addition, the program has inspired collaborations among researchers in multiple specialty areas, which is critical for making progress in such a complex and multi-faceted disease.

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Dear Friend:

The Sjögren’s Syndrome Foundation (SSF) is proud of the role it has played in developing and shaping the course of Sjögren’s syndrome research, but our work is far from over. We need your help to continue the fight. With your gift to our research campaign, we can increase funding for SSF’s Research Program and attract talented researchers who will invest their time and resources towards Sjögren’s syndrome.

Our commitment to research has fueled interest in new research areas and built collaborative relationships among researchers in many different fields. Over the years, we’ve been able to build a wide network of researchers, attract grant funding, and provide research funding to new and established researchers.

In 2001, SSF supported the Innovative Concept Grant ($20,000) for Dr. Cristian A. Perez of The Rockefeller University, who was exploring a new approach to understanding and treating Sjögren’s syndrome.

His experiments eventually led to groundbreaking research that has changed the course of SSF-funded research. Dr. Perez says, “The Sjögren’s Syndrome Foundation (SSF) grant allowed us to begin experiments far outside the scope of the work funded by our NIH grant. Without SSF funding and I would have to consider stopping my work.”

Without SSF funding, Dr. Perez would have been forced to abandon his work, and potentially millions of Americans suffering from Sjögren’s syndrome would have been deprived of important research that could lead to new treatments and cures. SSF is proud of the innovative work it funds. We support promising research ideas that may be passed over by larger funding organizations such as the National Institutes of Health.

SSF has also partnered with 11 leading research institutions and 8 medical centers in the country. In addition, we have sponsored scientific workshops that brought together talented and promising researchers in the field of Sjögren’s syndrome.

In 2006, SSF introduced the Innovative Concept Grant. This grant encourages scientists to think outside the box and evaluate new ideas and approaches. The SSF Innovative Concept Grant ($20,000) is a one-year grant to support research projects that are outside the NIH funding envelope and that have the potential to make a significant contribution to the field.

In 2007, the Foundation introduced a new category for research grants called the Translational Research Grant ($50,000). This grant supports translational research that ultimately leads to the implementation of new ideas and approaches into clinical practice.

Your support will help us build a more powerful research program that will fund novel research projects and attract talented researchers who will invest their time and resources towards Sjögren’s syndrome.

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please contact me about setting up a monthly or quarterly gift.

organization:

please accept my tax-deductable gift to help find a cure for Sjögren’s Syndrome

SSF is proud to partner with world-class research facilities and medical centers across the country. In addition, we have sponsored scientific workshops that brought together talented and promising researchers in the field of Sjögren’s syndrome.

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I hope this brochure answers your questions about our research program and how you can help. Thank you for your generous financial support as we can to continue the work that has begun. Millions of Americans are counting on us.

“With funding by the NIH so tightly constrained, projects that offer the possibility of transforming our understanding of Sjögren’s Syndrome are being delayed, and risk not being done. Period.” —

“SSF funding allowed us to begin experiments far outside the scope of the work funded by our NIH grant. Those experiments ended up changing the direction of our entire program.” —

“SSF funding has helped me to establish baseline results that are supporting my applications to the National Institutes of Health, and led to federal support from the National Institutes of Health.” —

“Your support will help us build a more powerful research program that will fund novel research projects and promising research projects that will lead to unlocking the mysteries of Sjögren’s syndrome. Together, we can find the answers!”

“If you have an interest in Sjögren’s syndrome, please consider making a gift in support of our research program. It will be used to support the ongoing work now being done, and to expand the scope of our research to find the answers that millions are counting on us to provide.”

For more information on Sjögren’s syndrome and the Foundation, please visit www.sjogrens.org

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Sjögren’s Syndrome Foundation

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Bethesda, MD 20814

www.sjogrens.org

(301) 535-7540

info@sjogrens.org

Charitable contributions to the Sjögren’s Syndrome Foundation are deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Contact us at info@sjogrens.org or call 301-535-7540.

Thank you for your support of Sjögren’s Syndrome research!
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Dear Friend,

The Sjögren’s Syndrome Foundation (SSF) is working with children in elementary and supporting cutting-edge research that is emerging and continues to improve the lives of Sjögren’s syndrome patients. Your financial support is crucial to our mission. Your gift -- no matter how small -- is important to our ability to support research programs that are making a significant impact in the fight against this debilitating disease.

I hope this brochure answers your questions about our research program and how you can help. Thank you for your support.

Nelson Rhodus, DMD
University of Minnesota

These statements are a testament to the importance of the SSF’s Research Program and why it is critical to provide as much financial support as we can to continue the work that has begun. Millions of Americans are counting on us.

Cristian A. Perez, PhD
The Rockefeller University

Nelson Rhodus, DMD
University of Minnesota

Your support will help us build a more powerful research program that will fund novel research projects and accelerate the pace of finding a cure.

The Sjögren’s Syndrome Foundation (SSF) has made great strides in encouraging and supporting cutting-edge research that has improved, and will continue to improve, the lives of Sjögren’s syndrome patients.

[Note: The text continues with a list of universities and organizations that have received SSF grants, along with details about the SSF's various research programs and funding opportunities.]
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The Sjögren’s Syndrome Foundation’s Research Campaign

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