As we end the third year of our 5-Year Breakthrough Goal, “to shorten the time to diagnose Sjögren’s by 50% in 5 Years,” we are honored and excited to announce that we have seen another decrease in the average diagnosis time! It is now 3.9 YEARS!

Three years ago, in January 2012, when the SSF announced our 5-Year Breakthrough Goal, research showed that the average Sjögren's patient waited over five years to receive an accurate diagnosis. The Sjögren’s Syndrome Foundation (SSF) Board of Directors understood it would take a huge initiative to change the diagnosis time but knew it was important to help those 2.5 million American’s not yet diagnosed but suffering from the symptoms. And that is why we created our 5-Year Breakthrough Goal:

“The To shorten the time to diagnose Sjögren’s by 50% in five years!”

Since then, the SSF has worked with a marketing research company to survey newly diagnosed patients to seek the time it took them to receive a proper diagnosis of Sjögren’s. This data, along with other important questions we ask, is then used to set our new benchmark and develop awareness-increasing programs.

The SSF knows that having patients spend an average of 3.9 years searching for answers without receiving treatment is still too long but this decrease reflects the major progress being made in the awareness of Sjögren’s. We know that having patients diagnosed faster will also benefit all Sjögren’s sufferers because as physicians start seeing more patients in their practice with Sjögren’s, they will need to become more knowledgeable about the different manifestations of Sjögren’s and the treatment options available.

As many SSF members know, to achieve our 5-Year Breakthrough Goal and shorten the time it takes to be continued page 2
diagnosed to less than 2.5 years by 2017, we are focusing on three specific action items:

- Increasing public awareness
- Increasing involvement from our friends and partners
- Increasing education and awareness among healthcare professionals

Increasing public awareness

Sjögren’s can often be overlooked or misdiagnosed because a patient’s symptoms can manifest in various ways and the disease can affect every body system. We know that diagnosing a patient quickly can be a challenge because often a patient will discuss tooth decay with their dentist, vaginal dryness with their gynecologist and fatigue or joint paint with their primary care doctor. While each symptom alone wouldn’t indicate an underlying autoimmune disease, when coupled together they would suggest Sjögren’s. This is why our awareness efforts work on educating all specialties within the medical community, as well as encourage the general public to be their own health advocate by knowing the symptoms of Sjögren’s!

Since the launch of our Breakthrough Goal, SSF Awareness Ambassadors have been on the front lines of increasing public awareness by helping distribute Sjögren’s educational information throughout their local communities. Taking the torch from our Awareness Ambassador Chairperson, Venus Williams (Olympian and Pro-Tennis Player), we now have over 525 Awareness Ambassadors educating their communities about the disease. These volunteers have stepped up to be a part of our Carroll Petrie Foundation Sjögren’s Awareness Ambassador Program and have distributed information on various themes to specific businesses or medical professionals this past year. In 2014, our Awareness Ambassadors (AA) volunteered their time to focus on three specific campaigns:

- Theme 1 – “SSF Patient Resource Sheets” This campaign focused on our AA distributing information about the 20+ Sjögren’s Patient Resource Sheets that are available for download on our website, www.sjogrens.org. These sheets are available for rheumatologists to print out and distribute to their patients to help them with their various manifestations and complications with Sjögren’s.

- Theme 2 – “Dry Mouth Issues” This theme was our focus on making sure that dentists and primary care physicians knew that increased tooth decay could be a sign of a systemic issue, such as Sjögren’s. In addition, we asked our AA’s to distribute this information on dry mouth and tooth decay to local community health centers.

- Theme 3 – “Fatigue & Sjögren’s” Our final theme was our first foray into educating physicians about the connection between fatigue and Sjögren’s, a huge issue for many of our patients and an area that we know physicians
DRY MOUTH RELIEF NOW BEING SERVED

Aquoral® is approved for dry mouth due to Sjögren’s Syndrome1
• Coats, lubricates, and protects
• Reduces mouth dryness 2,3
• Improves ability to chew and swallow 2,3
• One application lasts up to 4 hrs2,3
• Easy to afford with patient savings card
• Gluten free4

INDICATIONS: Aquoral is intended to provide relief from chronic and temporary xerostomia (dry mouth), which may be a result of disease such as Sjögren’s Syndrome, oral inflammation, medication, chemo or radiotherapy, stress or aging. Aquoral relieves symptoms of dry mouth such as difficulties in swallowing, speech, and changes in taste.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

CONTRAINDICATIONS: Aquoral is contraindicated for any patient with a known history of hypersensitivity to any of its ingredients.

PRECAUTIONS: Read package insert carefully before using this spray. Avoid contact with eyes. Flush eyes with water if accidental introduction into eyes should occur.

INTERACTIONS: There are no known interactions with medicinal or other products. Please see full Prescribing Information provided.

To report a serious adverse event or obtain product information call (800) 531-3333.


Please see full Prescribing Information on next page.
need to be educated about. This information was distributed specifically to primary care physicians, rheumatologists and OB/GYNs.

We hope that in 2015, more of you will step up and serve as an Awareness Ambassador. We encourage you to visit our website at www.sjogrens.org to sign up and get more information.

In addition to our strong Awareness Ambassador program, the SSF has also used our online presence and social media outlets to get Sjögren’s information out to the masses. The SSF blog, “Conquering Sjögren’s: Follow us on our journey to change the face of Sjögren’s,” launched simultaneously with our Breakthrough Goal as a way to educate and increase awareness for both diagnosed and undiagnosed patients. The blog alone has over 3,000 subscribers and over 500,000 views! Coupled with our strong online presence on Facebook and Twitter, it is our hope that information shared will encourage undiagnosed patients to talk to their doctor about the possibility of a Sjögren’s diagnosis.

The most recent survey results also showed that a significant number of newly diagnosed patients were referred by another physician to a rheumatologist to be tested for Sjögren’s. Most impressive, however, was that many of the newly diagnosed patients went on their own and were not referred by another physician, which shows that our specific strategy of increasing general awareness and driving potential patients to our website to learn more about Sjögren’s is working!

**Increasing involvement from our friends and partners**

Increasing involvement from our friends and partners is a critical aspect to achieving our Breakthrough Goal. The SSF strongly values our partnerships with other autoimmune disease organizations, especially those that regularly coincide with Sjögren’s. The SSF staff serves on various coalitions to advocate on Capitol Hill and ensure Sjögren’s patients are not forgotten in the healthcare debate.

Most recently this past December, Steven Taylor, SSF CEO, went with Virginia Ladd, president of Autoimmune and Autoimmune Related Diseases (AARDA), and three other patient organizations to meet with Health & Human Services (HHS) and further the conversation about the healthcare coverage needed for autoimmune patients, specifically those suffering from Sjögren’s. Joining together has helped make the SSF effective in changing the way Sjögren’s is viewed within the healthcare policy community, on Capitol Hill as well as among our elected officials.

As you have seen in past issues of *The Moisture Seekers*, we continually ask our contacts, friends and their families to help us spread the word by participating in awareness events and other activities. Our *Sjögren’s Walkabouts, Sip for Sjögren’s* and our *Team Sjögren’s* events allow patients to connect in a casual and fun environment that also increases awareness in their community and raises funds for Sjögren’s. We encourage you to check this issue to see a calendar of upcoming SSF events this spring and summer. If you don’t see an event near you – we hope you’ll contact the SSF about organizing one in your area.

And finally, the SSF has worked hard at creating partnerships with corporations and private foundations...
Sjögren’s is a systemic disease in which the body’s immune system mistakenly attacks its own moisture producing glands. The hallmark symptoms are dry eye, dry mouth, fatigue and joint pain, but Sjögren’s can affect any body organ or system. While an early diagnosis and treatment are important for preventing complications with Sjögren’s, unfortunately, reaching a diagnosis is often difficult and has been found to take an average of 3.9 years from the onset of symptoms, which is why the Foundation launched our 5-Year Breakthrough Goal.

Interstitial lung disease is the most common pulmonary manifestation in Sjögren’s, but pulmonary hypertension, amyloidosis, cystic lung disease and MALT lymphoma can also occur in the lungs. Few studies have been done in pulmonary manifestations of Sjögren’s, and few pulmonary experts who are also knowledgeable about Sjögren’s have been available to patients.

To change this, in 2013 the SSF began a partnership with The LAM Foundation to create pulmonary clinics with a Sjögren’s focus in order to improve the care and treatment of patients. Our hope is that these clinics will provide our patients with expert specialized care and lead to an expanded interest in pulmonary manifestations in Sjögren’s and create future studies that will increase knowledge and improve care in this field.

Pulmonary Clinics with a Sjögren’s Focus

The Sjögren’s Syndrome Foundation is pleased to announce that pulmonary clinics with a Sjögren’s focus have been established in the following states:

- **Alabama**
  Birmingham, University of Alabama at Birmingham

- **Arizona**
  Scottsdale, Mayo Clinic- Scottsdale

- **California**
  San Francisco, University of California
  Los Angeles, UCLA Clinic- Los Angeles
  San Jose, Stanford University Medical Center
  La Jolla, University of California

- **Colorado**
  Denver, National Jewish Health

- **Florida**
  Jacksonville, Mayo Clinic- Jacksonville
  Miami, University of Miami

- **Georgia**
  Atlanta, Emory University School of Medicine

- **Illinois**
  Maywood, Loyola University Medical Center

- **Massachusetts**
  Boston, Brigham and Women’s Hospital

- **Michigan**
  Ann Arbor, University of Michigan

- **Minnesota**
  Rochester, Mayo Clinic- Rochester

- **Missouri**
  St. Louis, Washington University School of Medicine/Barnes Jewish

- **New York**
  New York, Presbyterian/Columbia
  Rochester, University of Rochester Medical Center

- **Ohio**
  Cincinnati, University of Cincinnati Medical Center
  Cleveland, Cleveland Clinic

- **Oregon**
  Portland, Oregon Health and Science University

- **Pennsylvania**
  Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania

- **South Carolina**
  Charleston, Medical University of South Carolina

- **Tennessee**
  Nashville, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

- **Texas**
  Dallas, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
  Houston, UTHealth Pulmonary Clinic

- **Washington**
  Seattle, Swedish Medical Center

For additional information about these clinics, please visit www.sjogrens.org.
to create awareness programs for Sjögren’s. One of these new partners includes Nicox, the makers of the “Sjo” test, which is a new diagnostic tool that is being used to help us speed up the diagnosis time for Sjögren’s. Nicox, partnered this past year on a large awareness initiative to eye care providers as well as worked with the SSF on a national awareness campaign for Sjögren’s. This is just one example of many companies that are starting to help the SSF increase awareness.

Increasing education and awareness among healthcare professionals

Increasing professional awareness is a vital aspect of the SSF’s mission and overall strategy to achieving our Breakthrough Goal. A comprehensive understanding of Sjögren’s by healthcare professionals is something that all patients know is urgently needed, which is why professional education is a top priority. The SSF continues to work on increasing our visibility at healthcare professional conferences, especially those specialties that see symptoms long before patients are diagnosed. You can read more about the most recently attended medical conference by the SSF in this issue’s “Breakthrough Bullet” on page 10.

Professional education will also help physicians understand the severity of the disease and how best to treat Sjögren’s patients. That is why the SSF’s recent work to develop Sjögren’s clinical practice guidelines is a critical facet in achieving our Breakthrough Goal. These guidelines will help standardize patient care by giving physicians a roadmap of how to treat, monitor and manage their Sjögren’s patients. Working documents of these guidelines are currently being reviewed and continue to get praise from the American College of Rheumatology, the American Dental Association and the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

In addition, the SSF Clinical Trials Consortium has built up tremendous strength this past year in encouraging the availability and development of more therapies for Sjögren’s. This group continues to engage in dialogue with government agencies that oversee therapy development and approval. Our goal is that by building relationships and learning the approval system, we can help speed the process for the development and approval of new therapies for Sjögren’s! The SSF is also thrilled to announce that there are currently 16 compounds or molecules under review for clinical trials for Sjögren’s. The SSF is working with each of these companies that have a molecule or compound and helping them understand Sjögren’s, our patient community are encouraging them to continue their fight to develop a treatment for our disease. We encourage you to watch future newsletters for more information about clinical trials and the progress that is being made.

Summary

As you can see, the momentum to reach our 5-Year Breakthrough Goal grows stronger every year. Thank you to everyone who has helped us along our way! From our patient volunteers to our professional educators and corporate partners- the SSF Board of Directors and the staff are humbled by your support.

We feel our dream of making Sjögren’s a household name is within our grasp but we still need your help. We need your support by volunteering, donating and continuing to spread the word about Sjögren’s. We encourage you to look for opportunities in this and future issues of The Moisture Seekers newsletter for ways to connect with the SSF!

Remember that one person at a time, one community at a time and one physician at a time is what it will take to reach our goal of conquering Sjögren’s!
Sjögren’s-Related Lung Disease
by Teng Moua, MD with the Mayo Clinic, Division of Pulmonary/Critical Care Medicine in Rochester, Minnesota

One feature defining Sjögren’s is the inappropriate infiltration of certain white blood cells into glandular tissues known as ‘exocrine’ glands. This infiltration contributes to reduced tear and saliva production, causing the classic symptoms of dry eyes and dry mouth associated with Sjögren’s. Because the airway and lungs are lined with exocrine glands, the lung is commonly involved in Sjögren’s, with respiratory symptoms occurring in up to two thirds or more of patients.

Some fast facts:
- Parts of the lung that may be involved in Sjögren’s include the upper and lower airways, the small or microscopic airways, and the lung tissue or air sacs and their supportive structures.
- The most common respiratory symptom is a dry cough or airway irritation referred to as “xerotrachea” or “dry airway.”
- Other symptoms include cough productive of spu-
tum, wheezing, and shortness of breath both at rest and with exertion.
- Doctors may perform breathing tests (pulmonary function tests (PFT)) to assess for abnormalities and order chest x-ray and special radiologic testing such as computed tomography (CT) to help characterize the extent of lung involvement.
- Findings on radiology may include patchy infiltrates or locally consolidated lung suggesting inflammation or infection. Cysts or small thin-walled air pockets in the lung and thickened or elongated airways are other findings seen in Sjögren’s.
- Other dryness symptoms and blood inflammatory markers for Sjögren’s often do not correlate with the likelihood or severity of respiratory symptoms.
- Occasionally, Sjögren’s may be associated with an-

continued page 11 ▼
It Takes an Army!

“We knew it would take an army to reach our 5-Year Breakthrough Goal and you have not let us down. More of you continue to join our Sjögren’s army and we thank you for your help in getting the new diagnosis time down to 3.9 years! In 2014:

- 403 patients attended our National Patient Conference with 18 conference exhibitors
- 2,000 walkers attended our Sjögren’s Walkabouts
- 51 runners/walkers participated in Team Sjögren’s Goes Turkey
- 520 individuals stepped up to become SSF Sjögren’s Awareness Ambassadors
- 51,285 minutes were spent by volunteers and SSF staff on conference calls to plan events, projects, conferences, advocacy and initiatives
- 64 healthcare providers contributed to The Moisture Seekers or Sjögren’s Quarterly
- Over 23,400 friends followed us on Facebook
- 18 companies went BOLD Blue for Sjögren’s Awareness
- 684.2 miles were run in races by Team Sjögren’s participants
- Over 150 healthcare professionals volunteered their time to create or review our Sjögren’s Clinical Practice Guidelines
- 968 fundraising web pages were established to raise funds for the SSF
- Almost one million people went to www.sjogrens.org during Sjögren’s awareness month in April
- Over 35 businesses in the United States partnered with us to host local awareness and fundraising events, including Ben & Jerry’s of Rockville, Brendanwood Financial & Union Brew House Golf Tournaments, Corvino Performance Thanksgiving Workout, and the Dodds brothers “Cycle for Sjögren’s”

“It will take an army to achieve our goal, but just imagine if we all band together – how we could change the face of Sjögren’s for all patients, present and future!”

– Steven Taylor, SSF CEO
Thank you for joining our Army and helping the 2.5 million patients who are still suffering without a diagnosis!
The American College of Rheumatology’s (ACR) annual meeting is the premier scientific meeting for practicing rheumatologists. As you read in this issue’s cover story, educating medical professionals about the complexity and severity of Sjögren’s is a strategic priority for achieving our 5-Year Breakthrough Goal. The Foundation’s presence at medical conferences, specifically ACR’s annual meeting, is one of the most direct ways that we accomplish this.

As the SSF’s relationship with ACR continues to grow, we increase our opportunities at ACR to educate rheumatologists and encourage research into Sjögren’s. At this year’s meeting, held in Boston, MA in November, the SSF saw many sessions on Sjögren’s. Including:

- ACR Review Course Session: Management of Salivary Gland Involvement in Sjögren’s
- Meet the Professor Course: Controversies in Sjögren’s by Fredrick Vivino, MD
- Clinical Challenges in Sjögren’s Syndrome: Neurological Complications and Lymphoma Risk
- Abstract Session: Sjögren’s - Pathophysiology, Presentation and Treatment

In addition to these sessions, the SSF had an exhibitor booth to educate physicians about the seriousness of Sjögren’s and resources available for both them and their patients. This year, 125 new rheumatologists signed up for the Sjögren’s Quarterly – the SSF’s newsletter for medical professionals.

While this meeting helps to increase education and awareness of the disease among rheumatologists, it also allows the Foundation to bring together key opinion leaders who specialize in Sjögren’s during our annual luncheon. This year, over 90 rheumatologists attended the SSF’s luncheon that was centered on the theme, “Treating Sjögren’s – The Future.”

Another highlight from this year’s meeting was the Research Study Group session, “Sjögren’s Around the World,” moderated by Hal Scofield, MD, with over 100 rheumatologists in attendance. In this session, researchers/clinicians from the United States, India, Columbia and England presented on the similarities and differences of Sjögren’s patient populations from their countries. While each country saw many similarities among each other, one interesting disparity was in the average age of onset in Sjögren’s. For example, the average age of Sjögren’s patients in India was 10 years younger than in the United States, which furthers the suspicion that
Saliva plays a major role in oral health. Dry mouth can impact the health of your teeth. If you have reduced salivary flow, it is critical to support the healthy pH on your tooth surfaces.

Now there is a delicious breakthrough oral care innovation that can help dry mouth sufferers keep teeth in a healthy pH zone.

New BasicBites™ sugar free chocolate soft chews

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In Memory of Mrs. Mary Letts  
Trea and Greg Marvin

In Memory of Albert Greenfield  
Joel and Terry Rosenberg

In Memory of Aldine Weingart  
Elaine Levin

In Memory of Alice Fieger  
James and Linda Warren

In Memory of Annette Nix  
Betty and Steven Nix

In Memory of Anthony Vierling Sr  
Robert and Connnie Evers  
The Olson Family

In Memory of Barbara Milligan  
Judy and Bill McConnell

In Memory of Betty Adams  
Laura Boycourt

In Memory of Bonnie Litton  
Michael and Christine Till  
Robert and Marla Sorenson  
Thomas Inglis  
Abigail Wesley  
Amy and Robert Brunner  
Beautiful Smiles, P.A.  
Brian and Kim Liebo  
Bruce Bartels  
Burton and Sharon Schwartz  
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Cathleen Taylor and James Osborne  
David Mayer  
Dawn and Daniel Jensen  
Denise Schouweller  
Dr. Douglas and Marcia Jolstad  
Dr. Martin and Carole Kaplan  
Dr. Meyer  
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Fred R. Fernandez and Irma R. Rodriguez

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Julia and Gene Wilson

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Shirley Davis  
Susan and Wayne Martin  
Walter and Diana Van Buren

In Memory of Marilyn Lesser  
Beverly and Larry Fielden

In Memory of Mary Louise Whitt  
Staff at Easter Seals Central Alabama

In Memory of Michael Price  
Donna Richard  
Jack Schluter

In Memory of Patricia Ausmus  
Mr. and Mrs. L Hunsberger

In Memory of Shirley Landes  
Mr. Landes

In Memory of Connie Rodriguez  
Fred R. Fernandez and Irma R. Rodriguez

In Honor of Ann Keith  
Susan Rawlston

In Honor of Bobette Morgan  
Teri Rumpf

In Honor of Christine Carosella  
Ace Prince

In Honor of Dennis & Jeanne Molloy  
Christine Molloy

In Honor of Dr. Robert Fox  
Linda Zarzeczny

In Honor of Ivan Knobler  
Hyman & Trudy Applebaum

In Honor of Kathy Ivory  
San Diego-Imperial Counties Chapter

In Honor of Lari Lopp  
Steve & Isabelle des Fontaines

In Honor of Mary Winning  
James Rae & Melinda Helman-Rae

In Honor of Maxine Simon  
Alan & Barbara Levin

In Honor of Sam Swindle  
Pam Shank

In Honor of the Staff at Elle Salon  
Debbie & Jill Herman

In Honor of Trudy Applebaum  
Laurie English
Robert, a retired physician, had been married to Jenny for over forty years when she died from Sjögren’s complications on May 13, 2014. Jenny was always a Sjögren’s advocate and even as she faced her final days, Robert promised her he would never stop telling people about Sjögren’s.

Robert contacted the SSF with his idea to help spread Sjögren’s awareness by cycling in Jenny’s memory. Robert worked with the SSF to create his own Team Sjögren’s cycling jersey with the wording, “Cycling in loving memory of Jennifer Garner 05/13/14 & the 4 million Americans suffering from Sjögren’s.” And as you can imagine, his jersey was a conversation starter wherever he rode!

Recently Robert passed the 1,000 mile mark riding in his Team Sjögren’s jersey, increasing awareness for Sjögren’s all while updating the SSF on his voyage. While cycling these past six months, numerous other cyclers and pedestrians asked him about Sjögren’s. In addition, cars stopped to ask him about his Sjögren’s jersey, including one newly diagnosed patient that wanted to know more about the SSF. Robert said that he and the patient had a 20 minute conversation about the disease and he advised her to find a specialist who knew about the disease because it seemed clear that her primary care physician was not well informed about the possible complications.

Of his completed 1,000 miles raising awareness of Sjögren’s, Robert was saddened by how many people hadn’t heard of the disease, and that ones who had thought it was only “manageable dry eyes and dry mouth.” Unfortunately, that is something the SSF and Sjögren’s patients often hear and the reason why the SSF works extremely hard to raise awareness of this complex and debilitating disease.

Thank you Robert for continuing to raise awareness by riding in memory of Jenny and in honor of all Sjögren’s patients. We know Jenny would be so proud that you have kept her Awareness Ambassador torch going!

If you’d like to learn more about purchasing Team Sjögren’s or Sjögren’s awareness merchandise, please contact Steph Hilton at shilton@sjogrens.org or (301) 530-4420 x227.

“It may seem crazy but riding in the jersey, it is as if she were riding with me.” — Robert
This April we invite you to join with fellow Sjögren’s patients, their families, medical experts, the SSF staff and industry/product exhibitors for our 2015 National Patient Conference, “Learning to Thrive with Sjögren’s,” at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay (Tampa, Florida).

Sjögren’s is not the same for every person diagnosed, which is why educating yourself on the most up-to-date information and treatment options is so important. Attending the SSF National Patient Conference is one way you can gain information from many different sources while also meeting fellow patients.

This year’s Conference will include opportunities to:
- Hear from national Sjögren’s experts, researchers and SSF staff
- Find new products and receive free samples at our exhibitor hall
- Learn from your fellow patients
- Browse Sjögren’s resources at the SSF Book Table
- Become inspired during the Conference’s Awards Banquet Dinner

We encourage you to take this opportunity and learn how to thrive with Sjögren’s. This educational journey will give you the tools to take control of your health and learn how to manage and understand your Sjögren’s symptoms and complications.

Watch for your Conference brochure coming in January or visit www.sjogrens.org to see updated Conference information.

Presentation topics will include:
- Overview of Sjögren’s
- Neurological Complications
- Dry Mouth & Sjögren’s
- Dry Eye & Sjögren’s
- Ear, Nose & Throat Involvement
- Gynecological Complications
- Major Organ System Involvement
- Financial Planning for Patients with Chronic Illness
Refund requests must be made in writing. Registrants whose written requests are received by March 27th will receive a 75% refund. After that time, we are sorry that no refunds can be made.

Dietary Requests: Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate all special dietary requirements. We can accommodate vegetarian or gluten-free dietary requests. If you require a vegetarian or gluten-free meal option, please contact Caroline Mullin at the SSF office (301) 530-4420, ext. 214 by April 3rd.

A limited number of rooms are available at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay, 2900 Bayport Drive, Tampa, FL 33607, at the SSF rate of $149 per night plus tax if reservations are made by March 24, 2015. Call the toll-free hotel Central Reservations number at (888) 421-1442 or call the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay directly at (813) 874-1234 and refer to the group name “Sjögren’s Syndrome Foundation” for the discounted rate.

The Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay is approximately one (1) mile from Tampa International Airport. The hotel offers a complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport. Alternate transportation suggestion: Taxi fare at a rate of $18 (one way).
2015 SSF Special Event Calendar

SSF events are organized in an effort to increase Sjögren’s awareness in local communities, while raising funds to support research & education. They are also an excellent opportunity to connect Sjögren’s patients and their families to others living with the disease.

February

21  Phoenix Walkabout & Health Fair
Paradise Valley Mall, Phoenix, Arizona

March

16  New York City Sip for Sjögren’s
NYU Rosenthal Pavilion, New York, New York

April

17-18  National Patient Conference
Grand Hyatt – Tampa, Florida

18  National Patient Conference Walkabout
Tampa, Florida

May

2  Philadelphia Walkabout & Health Fair
Philadelphia Zoo – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

16  Dallas/Fort Worth Walkabout & Health Fair
Vista Ridge Mall – Dallas, Texas

30  Northeast Ohio Walkabout
Brecksville Oak Grove Picnic Area – Brecksville, Ohio

31  Atlanta Sip for Sjögren’s
Nelson Mullins at Atlantic Station – Atlanta, Georgia

June

TBA  Columbus Walkabout
Columbus, Ohio

6  Denver Walkabout & Health Fair
Denver Zoo – Denver, Colorado

13  Greater Washington Region Walkabout & Health Fair
Bethesda, Maryland

TBA  Kansas City Walkabout & Run
Parkville, Missouri