APFED serves patients and families with eosinophil-associated diseases, providing education to the medical community and funding scientific research.
Thirteen years ago, very little information was available about eosinophil-associated diseases. A group of parents whose children were fortunate to finally have an accurate diagnosis for the mystifying symptoms they were experiencing banded together. Frustrated that very little information was available about these diseases, these pioneers set out to change that.

These pioneers had a vision—to create an organization dedicated to serving patients with eosinophil-associated diseases, making their voices heard, and raising awareness among the medical community so that patients could receive better care.

APFED was born so that all of those impacted by these diseases would have a place to turn for accurate, science-based information and for support—a safe haven, a “home” where others understood them because they faced similar challenges.

I have long-admired the dedication and heart of APFED and the amazing progress that the organization has spearheaded over the years with little resources and funding. The organization’s achievements in education, research, and advocacy are driven by passion! And when my sister’s daughter was diagnosed with eosinophilic esophagitis eight years ago, my family was grateful to have APFED to turn to for information, support, and resources.

Today, APFED has grown to become the largest nonprofit organization dedicated to advocating for patients and families who live each day with eosinophil-associated diseases.

The organization has made critical contributions to research that help us to better understand these diseases, and ways to better diagnose and treat them. We work tirelessly to share with the medical, legislative, and pharmaceutical communities the struggles and needs of patients who have these diseases. We advocate for increased federal funding to support research. We listen carefully to our supporters to guide the development of resources to make life with “eos” more manageable.

This is all made possible as the result of generous contributions that are made in support of our work, and for that, our community is extremely grateful.

I am pleased to present this report and the progress and impact that APFED has made in 2014. On behalf of the patients we serve, thank you for your ongoing support.

Mary Jo Strobel
Executive Director, APFED
What Are Eosinophil-Associated Diseases (EADs)?

Eosinophil-associated diseases, or EADs, occur when levels of eosinophils, a type of white blood cell, are elevated in certain areas of the body without a known cause. Eosinophils play an important role in the immune system, helping to fight off certain types of infections and parasites. These cells respond to triggers (e.g., food and airborne allergens) by releasing toxins into the affected area. The diagnosis depends on where the eosinophils appear in elevated amounts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EOSINOPHILIC Disorder</th>
<th>Affected Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cystitis</td>
<td>bladder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fasciitis</td>
<td>connective tissue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis, aka Churg-Strauss Syndrome (CSS)</td>
<td>blood vessels, various organ systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pneumonia</td>
<td>lungs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypereosinophilic Syndrome (HES)</td>
<td>blood and any organ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eosinophil Gastrointestinal Disorders

- **Colitis (EC)**: large intestine
- **Esophagitis (EoE)**: esophagus
- **Gastritis (EG)**: stomach
- **Gastroenteritis (EGE)**: stomach and small intestine

About APFED

The American Partnership for Eosinophilic Disorders (APFED) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of those with EADs. In 2001, a group of dedicated mothers of young children living with EADs founded APFED. These young mothers saw the need for support, reliable information, and awareness of then almost unheard of EADs. These pioneers had lived through similar experiences—years of misdiagnosis, struggling to find answers, and leaning on each other for support. APFED was created to form a place where families (adults and children) can come together to meet and support one another, share experiences, educate themselves, arm themselves with credible information, raise public awareness, and generate research dollars.

Our Vision

APFED’s vision is the development of a cure while improving the quality of life for those suffering with eosinophil-associated diseases (EADs).

Our Mission

To passionately embrace, support, and improve the lives of patients and families affected by eosinophil-associated diseases through education and awareness, research, support, and advocacy.
Our Core Values

APFED operates with the following core values:

- Passion for improving the lives of those with EADs
- Integrity in all operations
- Transparency in accordance with nonprofit guidelines
- Accuracy with continuous expert review of all educational materials

What We Do

- Make accurate medical information available to facilitate diagnosis, education, and awareness
- Advocate for membership to support payment for medically necessary treatment
- Provide an opportunity for patients/families to interact socially and obtain current information on the “state of the disease”
- Collaborate with other organizations, medical societies, and federal agencies on behalf of the EAD community
- Facilitate access to specialists with EAD experience
- Ensure collaborative research funding to support development of a cure

A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDER,
ELIZABETH MAYS

There is a founding principle within APFED: “We Get It!” And we do. My son has eosinophilic gastroenteritis (EGE). Back in 2000, we struggled with a sick 1 year old incapable of telling us what was wrong. Charlie saw doctor after doctor and underwent test after test with no apparent reason for his vomiting, pain, and screaming fits. He spiraled downhill until he wound up in the hospital on total parenteral nutrition (TPN, or intravenous nutrition) at 16 months old, still without a diagnosis. Six months later, the strange word eosinophilic was mentioned to us. Finally – a diagnosis to go on and a place to begin.

I was told not to look up EGE because I would get nothing but misinformation from the “unreliable” Internet. I found myself surrounded by a group of mothers just like me. Sadly, our stories were all the same. Sadder still, our numbers were increasing rapidly. I began to read medical journal articles and armed myself with a medical dictionary and no fear of asking my physicians questions to gain better understanding of this poorly understood disease. APFED was born out of necessity.
TIMELINE OF APFED’s KEY MILESTONES

2001 — APFED formed by Jackie Fanning, Sherri Herrick, and Beth Mays. Application for nonprofit status completed.

2002 — 1st annual patient conference
Website launched
1st APFED newsletter published

APFED was accepted as the first patient advocacy group to be an expansion of the AAAAI lay organizations committee, from the original five patient advocacy organizations

2003 — Expansion of formal education programs

2005 — APFED HOPE research grant program started
Sponsored the development of FIGERS, now known as TIGERS

2006 — APFED HOPE research grant program started
Sponsored the development of FIGERS, now known as TIGERS

2007 — National Eosinophil Awareness Week declared by Congress, driven by APFED advocacy efforts

2008 — National Eosinophil Awareness Week declared by Congress, driven by APFED advocacy efforts

2009 — DocFinder launched on APFED’s website

2010 — APFED advocated for Congressional report language to form NIH working group for EADs

2011 — NIH TREAD document published with APFED president as coauthor
APFED receives 5-star rating from GuideStar

2012 — NIH TREAD document published with APFED president as coauthor
First Hope APFED/ARTrust™ Pilot Grant Awarded
Eosinophil.Connect Patient Registry launches
Annual website visitors exceed 100,000

2013 — NIH TREAD document published with APFED president as coauthor

2014 — National Institutes of Health (NIH) releases two Funding Opportunity Announcements for research of eosinophil-associated diseases
APFED joins the Consortium of Eosinophil Gastrointestinal Disease Researchers (CEGIR), a federally funded research initiative made possible by a grant from the NIH to expand the Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network
Researchers calculated health-related EoE costs to be about $1 billion annually based on ICD-9 codes developed by APFED in 2008
APFED champions the formation of Coalition of Eosinophil Patient Advocacy Groups (C-EOS)

APFED given “Top Rated Nonprofit” seal from GREAT Nonprofits
GuideStar Exchange Seal


APFED was accepted as the first patient advocacy group to be an expansion of the AAAAI lay organizations committee, from the original five patient advocacy organizations

ICD9cm codes obtained for EGIDs, driven by APFED advocacy efforts
1st HOPE Junior Faculty Award research grant awarded to Dr. Seema Aceves
Federal Efforts

In 2014, APFED continued efforts to educate legislators in Washington, D.C. about the importance and need of federal funding to support the research of EADs.

APFED organized a trip to Capitol Hill during National Eosinophil Awareness Week in May, and again for a round of follow-up visits in June to ask legislators for support for increased NIH funding for research. We invited families struggling with EADs to join us and share their stories.

The families visited Senators Ben Cardin (D-MD), Saxby Chambliss (R-GA), Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Johnny Isakson (R-GA), Tim Kaine (D-VA), Barbara Mikulski (D-MD), Tim Scott (R-SC), and Mark Warner (D-VA), and Representatives Trey Gowdy (R-SC) and Steny Hoyer (D-MD).

APFED’s advocacy at the federal level over the years came to fruition in 2014 with the announcement of federal grant to support the work of the Consortium of Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Disease Researchers (CEGIR). More information about CEGIR appears on page 9.

State Efforts

Some patients with eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases (EGIDs) are prescribed specialized elemental formulas, which are considered “medical foods,” to manage their symptoms. Insurance companies do not always cover medical foods, which can in turn require families to pay a high cost out of pocket.

“APFED is a fantastic resource! It has helped me tremendously, from learning about eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE) to advocacy resources, such as information about 504s for school. I’d be lost without this resource!”

jlf3, via GreatNonprofits.com
In 2014, APFED continued to support volunteers around the country who were actively working to pass legislation and/or educate legislators on the need for improved access to medical foods as a treatment for eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases. Thanks to efforts of state-based advocates and grassroots support that APFED helped to facilitate, this year saw the passage of medical foods legislation in Nebraska (Amendment 2773 to LB799), and Pennsylvania (HB 1436), bringing the total number of states in the U.S. that have mandates for insurance coverage for medical foods to 16 states.

To help advocates spearhead initiatives to introduce similar legislation in other states, APFED disseminated an instructional video for volunteers that provides the nuts and bolts to organize local efforts.

APFED strongly supports legislation to mandate consistent coverage and reimbursement for Medical Foods when prescribed by a physician for specific chronic medical conditions in children and adults.

College Summit

In April 2014, APFED leadership attended the second College Summit hosted by the Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE) to develop pilot guidelines for managing food allergy in higher education.

Experts and stakeholders from across the nation convened for the Summit in Tucson, AZ to discuss best practices for the management of food allergy in the college setting, and to develop training resources for dining services and resident advisors, and educational materials for students and their families.

The pilot guidelines are expected to be released next year.

“APFED is an amazing resource! I don’t know how we would manage my son’s care without the information base, resources, and community APFED provides. My son looks forward to the annual conference all year—he makes ‘EoE friends’ and I learn about advancements in research that inform our treatment plan. I have raised $35,000 for APFED because they drive innovative research. We hope for a cure!”

Juliet R., New York

Tammy Zundel (left) pictured with APFED President Wendy Book, Director of the Division of Eosinophilic Support, Utah Food Allergy receives APFED’s 2014 Elizabeth Allen Award in recognition of outstanding volunteer service and dedication to APFED and its mission.
**Partnerships**
As part of APFED’s advocacy efforts, we represent the EAD community as a member of the National Organization of Rare Diseases (NORD) and the Global Genes Project. We also work in partnership with Children’s Magic and the Children’s Medical Nutrition Alliance to advance efforts pertaining to insurance coverage of medical foods (formula). APFED holds a seat on American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) Lay Organizations Committee; the American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology Lay Organizations Committee; and the AAAAI Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Disorders Task Force.

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**GROUPS UNITE TO FORM NEW PATIENT ADVOCACY COALITION**

One of the highlights of National Eosinophil Awareness Week this year was an announcement that united our patient community. Patient advocacy groups from around the world joined together to form the Coalition of Eosinophil Patient Advocacy Groups (C-EOS), an initiative spearheaded by APFED to support patients living with eosinophil-associated diseases and to advance key issues of importance to our community.

The mission of C-EOS is two-fold:

1. To encourage, promote, and support scientific research toward improved treatment, medical care, and cures of eosinophil-associated diseases and their complications.

2. To educate the public, patients, families, policymakers, healthcare professionals, and other stakeholders about eosinophil-associated diseases and resulting problems for these patients, including the need for better diagnostic testing, further research for treatments, and a cure.

As an organization dedicated to serving patients and families living with these diseases, APFED is thrilled to join C-EOS and be an active participant in carrying out the mission of the coalition. We are excited to see so many organizations work together in support of patients and researchers who are paving the way to a cure.

For more information about the coalition and to see other participating organizations, please visit www.c-eos.org.
Thanks to ICD-9 codes developed by APFED in 2008, researchers were able to calculate health-related EoE costs to be about $1 billion annually. This is a remarkable figure for a condition that was little known just 15-20 years ago. This data may be used at a policy level to help guide resource allocation for both research and patient care.


APFED Supports the Groundbreaking Launch of CEGIR

In October 2014, APFED was thrilled to announce our full support of a new federally funded research network that will focus on eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases (EGIDs).

The Consortium of Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Disease Researchers (CEGIR) was formed through a five-year, $6.25 million grant that was made possible through awards by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to expand the Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network. The driving purpose of CEGIR is to research eosinophilic and allergic disorders and to train investigators in how to conduct clinical research. CEGIR will focus on research projects involving patients with eosinophilic esophagitis, gastritis, and colitis.

There are eight pediatric and adult CEGIR centers in the following cities: Aurora (Colorado), Boston, Chapel Hill (North Carolina), Chicago, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Philadelphia, and San Diego.

Three major cores of CEGIR are clinical trials, education/training, and pilot studies. The education and training section is involved with Continuing Medical Education (CME) and Policy Advisory Group meetings, as well as developing/distributing educational materials.

Patient involvement is crucial to the success of the Consortium, and CEGIR’s collaboration with patient advocacy groups like APFED is a vital component to ensure the needs of patients are recognized and met. APFED is working closely with CEGIR to address the clinical problems of highest importance to patients and their families. We have been an active participant since the application stage and are working to ensure the patient perspective is included in all aspects of CEGIR’s work by participating in weekly meetings and serving on various committees.

APFED is committed to full participation in CEGIR, including financial support. To help ensure the success of this landmark project, and thanks to our generous donors, APFED has pledged $250,000 over a 5-year period to supplement CEGIR’s funding. Together with the researchers of CEGIR, we can find new pathways to better understand and treat these diseases.

CEGIR (U54AI117804) is a part of the NCATS Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network (RDCRN). RDCRN is an initiative of the Office of Rare Diseases Research (ORDR), NCATS, funded through a collaboration between NCATS, and NIAID and NIDDK.

APFED directed $248,000 in support of new research initiatives in 2014, as well as pledged an additional $250,000 over a 5-year period to support the Consortium of Eosinophilic Disease Researchers.

Dawn McCoy, leader of the Central Virginia EOS Support Group, hosted a press briefing for EADs at Children’s Hospital of Richmond at VCU, and shared the efforts she made to raise funds for APFED’s Hope on the Horizon Research Fund.
Eosinophil.Connect Patient Registry

The Eosinophil.Connect patient registry that APFED launched in 2013 continued to grow and expand in 2014. By the end of the year, enrollment reached approximately 1,600 participants.

The registry is designed to capture self-reported, de-identified demographic and medical information for patients who have eosinophil-associated diseases into a central database so that it could be shared among researchers.

The data provided by enrollees helps to provide insight into diagnostic delays and current treatment practices, and helps investigators to better understand EADs and identify eligible patients for clinical trials and surveys.

To learn more and to join the Eosinophil.Connect registry, visit http://connect.patientcrossroads.org/?org-apfed

2014 APFED HOPE PILOT RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENT

Joanne Masterson, PhD
Instructor of Pediatrics
University of Colorado, Denver
Children’s Hospital Colorado
Award: $50,000 for a 1-year period
Project: HIF Signaling and Mucosal Healing in EoE

Dr. Masterson’s research will provide a greater understanding of the signaling pathway of certain cells involved with EoE as they relate to inflammation caused by oxygen deficiency in cells and tissue. Her research will help determine whether or not this signaling mediates a critical link between conditions that cause inflammation and how the mucosal tissue heals after it is damaged by EoE.

Patient Impact: Understanding the molecular mechanisms of HIF signaling pathway in EoE may lead to new ways to treat the disease.

2014 HOPE APFED/ARTRUST™ PILOT GRANT AWARD RECIPIENT

Michiko Oyoshi, PhD
Scientific Research Associate
Boston Children’s Hospital
Award: $140,000 over a 2-year period, co-funded between APFED and ARTrust™
Project: Mechanisms of Eosinophil Recruitment to Esophagitis Driven By Cutaneous Sensitization

Dr. Oyoshi’s research project will focus on an innovative approach to defining the underlying mechanism of the development of EoE. Her research will help us to better understand the role of certain cells and their secretions, and how these play a part in EoE development.

Patient Impact: This research could ultimately lead to new treatments for EoE.
APFED 2014 OUTSTANDING ORAL ABSTRACT AWARDS

To recognize the highest-scoring research abstracts that focus on eosinophil-associated diseases, APFED offers awards at annual society meetings to help support travel costs for the researchers to present their work to their peers. In 2014, we were pleased to offer the following abstract awards.

**Presenter:** Paneez Khoury, MD  
**Meeting:** American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology  
**Abstract:** Predictors of Response to Glucocorticoids in Hypereosinophilic Syndromes  
**Summary:** This research showed a large majority of patients with hypereosinophilia responded to corticosteroids, but many required medium to high doses. Features more commonly associated with lack of response included a diagnosis of myeloproliferative Hypereosinophilic Syndrome. By contrast, patients who had only one area involved with eosinophilia, such as an EGID or eosinophilic fasciitis, generally responded to low-dose corticosteroids.

**Presenter:** Jessica Rajan, MD  
**Meeting:** American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology  
**Abstract:** Natural History of Esophageal Remodeling in Pediatric Eosinophilic Esophagitis Treated for Four Years  
**Summary:** Patients who respond favorably to initial therapy may experience less alternation of the structure of the esophagus, while those who do not respond favorably may experience persistent and/or progressive remodeling.

**Presenter:** Willem Lexmond, MD  
**Meeting:** North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition  
**Abstract:** Digital mRNA Profiling of Esophageal Tissue Biopsies as a Novel Diagnostic Approach to Eosinophilic Esophagitis (EoE)  
**Summary:** This research showed that mRNA profile is an auxiliary diagnostic strategy in detecting EoE can help doctors to identify true underlying EoE from other causes of eosinophilia in tissues, leading to faster treatment.
Annual Patient Conference

Each year, APFED organizes a conference for patients to learn more about eosinophil-associated gastrointestinal disorders (EGIDs). The 2-day conference format offers sessions for patients to learn from world-renowned experts in the field of EGIDs, as well network with other families who are managing these diseases.

This year, APFED hosted its 12th annual patient education conference in Denver, July 11-12, in partnership with Children’s Hospital of Colorado.

Approximately 200 patients, caregivers, health care providers, and members from the pharmaceutical industry joined us for a weekend of networking and sharing, and to learn the latest in disease management and cutting-edge research discoveries.

In conjunction with the conference, the Children’s Hospital of Colorado offered a CME course for health care providers, presenting the latest research and treatment options for EoE.

Conference Summary Sites

In effort to expand educational outreach, APFED worked with volunteers in Birmingham, AL; Charlotte, NC; Richmond, VA; and Seattle, WA to host half-day regional meetings to summarize key material presented at APFED’s annual patient conference in Denver.

Attendees welcomed the opportunity to learn from local area specialists and network with other families who also live with EADs.

Adult and Teen Conference

In September 2016, APFED hosted a conference in Atlanta for adults and adolescents living with eosinophil-associated diseases. Held in tandem with the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation’s Research Symposium, the 1-day conference offered sessions focused on disease management, advocacy, workplace accommodations, Child Protective Services, setting up a trust, and gaining independence and learning self-care.

“At the [APFED] conference, for once, I didn’t feel alone.”

Danielle A., via Facebook
EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Educational Webinar Series

This year, thanks to the support of EleCare®, we continued the expansion of APFED’s popular Educational Webinar Series, launching 230 new video segments to our online collection. This online education module features recorded interviews with experts who answer commonly asked questions about EGIDs and offer management and coping tips. Also included are recorded panel discussions from APFED’s national patient conference and a series of webchats focused on a range of topics geared toward our patient community.

In 2014, our Education Webinar Series had more than 30,000 unique views on YouTube.

Healthcare Provider Education

APFED continues to be an educational resource for the health care community. In addition to providing information packets to clinicians, we also attended professional society meetings to share guidelines and educational materials.

At the annual meeting of the North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition, APFED supported a “Meet the Professor” session to facilitate peer-to-peer learning on diagnosis and treatment of eosinophilic esophagitis.

Medical society meetings we participated in this year include:

- American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
- American College of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology
- North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition

Patients and families gather for an APFED Conference Summary in Richmond, VA.

Ikue Hirano, MD
Professor of Medicine
Director, Eosinophil Program
Northwestern University School of Medicine
National Eosinophil Awareness Week

Seven years ago, APFED worked to pass HB296 with the House of Representatives, forever designating the third week of May as National Eosinophil Awareness Week (NEAW).

The 7th Annual NEAW took place May 18-24, 2014. Families, healthcare providers, and others around the globe honored this special week by going above and beyond to raise awareness and teach others about eosinophil-associated diseases. Information was shared with news sources and via social media. Supporters also organized fundraisers to support research of eosinophil-associated diseases.

During NEAW, APFED increased its efforts to educate by contributing to online and print publications, mailing informational packets to health care providers around the nation, and organizing a visit to Capitol Hill to encourage federal funds to be directed to research. We also distributed free eosinophil awareness bracelets, thanks to the support of Nutricia, makers of Neocate®, who partnered with APFED for its celebration of this special week.

Online Support

APFED’s website, www.apfed.org, continues to welcome visitors from around the globe who have come to rely on the site as an accurate source of information and resources for EADs. In addition to educational materials, the site also offers a broad collection of resources designed to make daily management of EADs easier for patients and families. In 2014, website’s traffic increased by 25%, logging more than 130,000 worldwide users that were looking for information and resources for eosinophil-associated diseases.

Online Community

APFED’s EOS Connections Online Community joined the Inspire Network in 2013. It provides a safe and supportive environment for patients and their families to connect with others for support.

The EOS Connection community grew by 74% this year, demonstrating the popularity of this platform. By the end of the year, we welcomed more than 2,000 community members.
**Newsletter**

APFED’s membership newsletter, *EOSolutions*, is published quarterly and offers articles and features from guest contributors answering commonly-asked questions from readers, research updates, and practical advice for day-to-day disease management. Newsletters are disseminated to APFED members, and at health fairs, support group meetings, and to health care providers to share with their patients. We printed and disseminated more than 1,400 hard copy newsletters in 2014.

**Local Support Groups**

Individualized support is crucial in helping families to manage and cope with EADs. APFED continued to assist patients across the country who sought to establish local support groups to offer support to patients in their communities. Although APFED does not have affiliated support groups, we do maintain a list of groups on our website so that people can find the face-to-face support that they seek. To help those looking to offer a support group in their community, we provide materials to help them get started.

**Social Media**

APFED maintains four social media sites: Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Pinterest. We saw increased engagement and outreach on all platforms this year:

- **YouTube**: 26% increase
- **Facebook**: 35% increase
- **Twitter**: 16% increase
- **Pinterest**: 72% increase in followers

“...I continue to be awed by the breadth of effort put forth by its committed staff and volunteers. This is an organization that works diligently—and strategically—to serve its patient community at the national, state, and local level, serving as ‘voice of the patient’ in helping shape policy and promote rare disease research funding. The organization provides grants to foster new avenues of research, and offers guidance and support, education tools, and platforms to help patients and caregivers connect. We are very appreciative of the work APFED is doing to advance research and improve the lives of those living with an eosinophil-associated disease.”

Denise M., Illinois
Each member has a personal connection to EAD and voluntarily contributes time and talents to our cause.

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MEDICAL ADVISORY PANEL

Our Medical Advisory Panel helps shape our educational materials and ensure that the information APFED publishes is accurate. Constituting a multidisciplinary team of leading physicians and scientists who donate their time to the organization and its mission, these dedicated professionals are integral to APFED’s success.

MEDICAL ADVISORY PANEL MEMBERS

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Barry Wershil, MD
Michael Wechsler, MD
In 2014, APFED maintained a 5-star rating—the highest—from GuideStar, a charitable service that enables users to make informed decisions about philanthropy, by providing information about every IRS-registered nonprofit organization, such as the mission, legitimacy, impact, reputation, finances, programs, transparency, governance, and more.

APFED also maintained a “Top Rated” designation from GreatNonprofits, the leading developer of tools that allow people to find, review, and share information about charitable organizations.

APFED is an accredited charity with the BBB Wise Giving Alliance.
Supporters at APFED’s Hope on the Horizon Walk in Newport News, VA.

Volunteers organize a fundraising event at a Charlotte Checkers hockey game in North Carolina to benefit APFED’s research program.

Tee Off for EoE

Supporters at APFED’s Hope on the Horizon Walk in Seattle to benefit research.

APFED FUNdraisers

We are grateful to the dedicated volunteers who organized events to support APFED’s programs and services, all while raising disease awareness in their communities.