



It is estimated that
1 Million Americans
are impacted by TS
or a Tic Disorder. 50% are going undiagnosed.

Who We Are

The Tourette Association of America (TAA) is dedicated to making life better for all individuals affected by Tourette and Tic Disorders. As the **only** national organization serving this community, the TAA works to raise awareness, advance research, and provide ongoing support to patients and families. To this end, the TAA directs a network of 31 Chapters, 83 support groups and recognizes 20 Centers of Excellence across the country.

What We Do

We raise awareness and foster social acceptance through education and robust social media campaigns.

We invest in research that will advance scientific understanding, treatment options and care. Over \$22 million has been awarded to over 450 research projects across 16 countries.

We educate professionals to better serve the needs of children, adults and families challenged by Tourette and Tic Disorders. Over 450,000 health care providers, school personnel, families, individuals and members of the general public have been reached through in-person and online trainings.

We provide support, hope and help across the nation. Through our national network of 31 Chapters, 83 support groups and 20 Centers of Excellence, we provide local assistance to children, adults and families in need.

We empower the community to advocate for the most pressing issues facing the TS community. Over 1,000 Youth Ambassadors and their team members have been trained to educate their peers, adults and government officials about TS. In addition, 135 congressional meetings were held with local representatives on National Advocacy Day to lobby for continued funding and support for TS.

You Can Help Support Our Programs and Events Through Funding or Volunteer Opportunities. Some of These Include:

Adult Support Programs

Newer research suggests that symptoms can impact individuals across the life span. As once thought of as a childhood disorder, there is a gap in appropriate support for the adults impacted. This program will provide resources and information to help them manage issues such as workplace accommodations and disability rights; suicide prevention; managing depression & anxiety, etc.

Awareness and Education Programs

With your support we can provide accurate information to medical professionals so they can administer appropriate treatment, educators can acquire skills to work effectively with students, and the general public will have a better understanding of this complex disorder.

Diversity and Inclusion Program

Underserved communities disproportionately face barriers to high-quality, affordable health care. It is reasonable, therefore, to surmise that this population also does not receive information or available resources when it comes to Tourette Syndrome. Help us reach more of the underserved population and have a greater impact by supporting our efforts to educate medical professionals in these communities.

QUICK FACTS:

1 in 100 school-aged children have Tourette Syndrome or a Tic Disorder.
50% are going undiagnosed.

Uncontrollable swearing, known as coprolalia, is often portrayed by the media as a major feature, but in reality only impacts **10% of the TS population.**

86% of people living with Tourette Syndrome have a co-occurring condition, such as ADHD, OCD, or Anxiety.

Engagement and Support Opportunities

Team Tourette: Participation or volunteering at a Team Tourette event, such as our National Walk and other events around the nation, helps raise funds for research, educational programs, awareness activities and other services for people living with Tourette Syndrome and Tic Disorders. This is an opportunity for employees to share in team building activities and volunteer in local communities.

Golf Outings: We host two golf outings annually, in Chicago and Long Island. Participants can support the TAA through a variety of sponsorships or golfing opportunities. Teams or individuals can enjoy a fun-filled day of golf, raffles and giving back to the Tourette Syndrome and Tic Disorder community.

National Education & Advocacy Conference: This biennial event is the largest national research, practice, and public information conference dedicated to Tourette Syndrome and related Tic Disorders. Hundreds from across the country attend this event, including adults and teens with TS; parents; medical, science, and education professionals. Your support will ensure our ability to provide information regarding the latest developments in TS research and treatment from renowned experts, as well as provide a supportive atmosphere.

Job Readiness and Internship Program

Many people with TS need assistance navigating the workforce. Our Job Readiness Program will provide basic tools and strategies to successfully seek and ultimately secure employment. The Internship Program will provide opportunities for individuals to gain work experience while earning a modest salary. The goal for this program is to prepare them for employment.

Lunch & Learn Program

The TAA hosts Lunch & Learn sessions for employers to educate their employees about TS and how it may affect customers, co-workers and their families. Participants will gain a clear understanding about the condition, what people with TS struggle with on a daily basis, and tips to better work with the community.

National Backpack Program

A diagnosis of TS can create immeasurable stress, confusion and misunderstanding for both the child/young adult and family members. By supporting the National Backpack Program, it allows the TAA to provide families with the critical information they need immediately to help them navigate this new and unfamiliar terrain through backpacks filled with comprehensive resources.

Youth Ambassador Program

Help more teens to advocate for themselves and others. Training through this program prepares them to speak about Tourette Syndrome and Tic Disorders to their peers and others in a variety of settings.

About Tourette Syndrome and Tic Disorders:

Tourette Syndrome (TS) is a neurodevelopmental disorder and is part of the spectrum of Tic Disorders, characterized by uncontrollable motor and vocal tics. The onset and diagnosis of TS may take place in a child's early years, but the condition is lifelong. Some tics may be transient, but for 66% of individuals TS persists into adolescence and adulthood. In addition to tics, 86% of people with TS are affected by at least one co-occurring condition including Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), and learning disabilities. There is no cure for TS, but thanks to years of dedicated research, there are various treatment options available.

Interested in learning more? Contact Tracey Alexander at 718.224.2999 or tracey.alexander@tourette.org