

# PARTNERS IN MS CARE

**Partners in MS Care** is a National MS Society program that recognizes and supports quality MS care by encouraging strong partnerships between MS clinicians and the National MS Society

People with multiple sclerosis (MS) have access to knowledgeable and experienced healthcare professionals who are connected to their local MS community, and collaborate with the National MS Society to ensure people have the support, information and resources they need to live their best lives.

## **Partners in MS Care Goals:**

- Support enhanced relationships with health care providers
- Encourage connections of people affected by MS with others, and with needed information and resources
- Facilitate connections among health care providers to establish a network of Partners in MS Care
- Increase access to MS care through the network
- Encourage increased collaboration between health care providers and the Society to better serve people with MS with programs, services, and resources

## **Partners in MS Care Approach:**

Partners include health care professionals involved in the treatment of people with MS, as well as sites that provide coordinated multi-disciplinary health care. Partners demonstrate knowledge and experience in MS care and a focus on serving people living with multiple sclerosis.

Partners in MS Care recognizes the important relationship between health care professionals and the Society. This partnership, characterized by clearly defined responsibilities, is described in a written agreement between the Society and the clinical institution, practice or health care provider.

## **Value of Partners in MS Care**

Through increased collaboration between healthcare providers and the Society, health care providers receive streamlined access to programs, services and resources for their patients and their practice including:

### **For people affected by MS:**

- Access to professionals with a focus on MS care
- Improved and expedited access to Society information and referral
  - direct referrals to MS Navigators
  - service navigation
  - case management services
- Healthcare providers with a thorough understanding of available publications, resources, programs and services for patients

### **For medical professionals:**

- Increased awareness of Society services and resources
- Networking opportunities with other medical professionals
- Information and resources including print materials
- Recognition as an “expert” in the field of MS
- Referrals from MS Navigators and the Society’s website
- Continuing education opportunities including scholarships
- Speaking opportunities throughout the community