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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America (MGFA) Announces Annual Volunteer Awards at 2022 National Patient Conference

MGFA National Patient Conference is the largest online gathering of the myasthenia disease community: Prestigious volunteer awards recognize MG Community members for their impact and commitment.

BOSTON, MA – February 11, 2022 – The Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America ([MGFA](#)), the largest, leading patient advocacy organization solely dedicated to finding a cure for the rare neuromuscular disease myasthenia gravis (MG) while improving the lives of those living with MG, announced today the recipients of its annual MGFA Volunteer Awards at the [2022 National Patient Conference](#). These unique volunteers and organizations have been recognized for their deep commitment to the MGFA and the MG community through patient advocacy, unprecedented medical advancements, and positive impact for those living with MG and caregivers as well as everyone across the community.

The annual National Patient Conference on February 10th and 11th, 2022, is the largest and most complete gathering of members of the MG Community including patients, caregivers, MG experts, medical professionals, researchers, and industry partners. This two-day event is open to anyone worldwide and featured presentations by prestigious medical professions and MG experts, dedicated volunteers, and consultants that provided wellness and financial guidance to attendees.

The award winners are as follows:

Volunteer of the Year – Tom Larsen - Volunteer and MG Patient

Impact Award – Paul Strumph, Volunteer, MGFA Board Member, and MG Patient

Ellsworth Award – Nancy Law (posthumously), Former Volunteer, MGFA Board Chair, Former MGFA CEO

Medical Professional of the Year – Dr. Jefferey Guptill, currently the Associate Professor of Neurology at Duke University School of Medicine

Ambassador of the Year – Adrejia Swafford, Volunteer and MG Patient

Emerging Leader Award – Toni Gitles, Volunteer, MG Patient, and MG Caregiver

Outstanding Service Award – Michael Lifshitz, Dr. Jeffrey Guptill, and Annette Zampelli, Ending Board Member Terms.

Strategic Partner of the Year – argenx

"I am so excited and humbled to receive this award. MGFA has so many wonderful volunteers," stated Tom Larsen, MGFA Volunteer of the Year recipient. "What a great honor it is to be singled out for special recognition."

"Our annual national patient conference brings hundreds of people together from around the world and across the entire MG Community, and I can't think of a better forum to recognize these wonderful recipients and shine a spotlight on their commitment to anyone living with or fighting against myasthenia gravis," said Samantha Masterson, president & chief executive officer of the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America. "It is also with great sadness that we posthumously recognize Nancy Law for the Ellsworth Award to showcase her one-of-a-kind legacy and leadership as our past board chair, CEO, and an invaluable advocate for MG patients everywhere. Congratulations to all our award winners."

You can access 2022 MGFA National Conference presentations and materials by [registering online or by logging into the conference](#) if you have already registered.

About MGFA

The Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America (MGFA) is the largest, leading patient advocacy organization solely dedicated to finding a cure and improved treatments for the rare neuromuscular disease myasthenia gravis (MG) by funding critical research discoveries and providing patient-centric programs, guidance, events, and webinars to connect, educate, and assist members of the global MG Community. You can visit MGFA at myasthenia.org.