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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America Presents  
Annual Volunteer Awards at 2021 National Conference**

*Largest Patient Advocacy Organization Solely Committed to Myasthenia Selects MG Community Members for Prestigious Awards that Recognize Impact, Advocacy, and Dedication*

**BOSTON, MA – April 11, 2021** – 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 [2021 National Conference](#). These unique volunteers and organizations have been recognized for their deep commitment to the MGFA and the MG community through patient advocacy, medical advancements, and positive impact for those living with MG and their caregivers as well as everyone across the community.

The award winners are as follows:

**Volunteer of the Year** - Pierre Clement, Volunteer

**Ambassador of the Year** – Kim Eldridge, MGFA Board Director and Volunteer

**Emerging Leader Award** – Jessica Milanes, Volunteer

**Medical Professional of the Year** – Dr. James “Chip” Howard, MD - Distinguished Professor of Neuromuscular Disease, Professor of Neurology & Medicine, Former Chief, Neuromuscular Disorders Section at UNC School of Medicine

**Outstanding Service Award** – Denise Rossi, MGFA Board Director and Volunteer

**Corporate Partner of the Year** – [UCB Pharmaceuticals](#)

**Impact Award** – Brian Gladden, Vice Chair, MGFA Board of Directors and Volunteer

**Ellsworth Award** – Marc Kalish, MGFA Board Director and Volunteer

“We are so proud, and honored, to recognize these passionate and dedicated volunteers who have meant so much to the myasthenia community and of course, the MGFA. Their spirit of volunteerism is truly exceptional and they are extraordinary role models and ambassadors for everyone across the MG Community,” said Samantha Masterson, president & chief executive officer of the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America. “Our annual national 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 MG.”

The MGFA National Conference is held annually, and the three-day event is open to anyone worldwide. It is the largest and most complete gathering of the MG Community anywhere. This year, the event was held completely online on April 11 through April 13, 2021. The conference focused on Momentum Against MG and featured presentations by prestigious medical professions and MG experts, dedicated volunteers and MG Patients, and consultants that provided wellness and financial guidance to attendees.

You can access 2021 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](https://myasthenia.org).