

2006/2007 Report to Donors and Volunteers

Dear Donors and Volunteers,

Your support to Muscular Dystrophy Canada (MDC) allows us to continue to provide crucial help to people with neuromuscular disorders. These crucial supports fall into three categories: research, advocacy, and services. Our spending on total charitable programs last year increased by 8.2% to \$4.285 million in 2007 from \$3.959 million in 2006.

Here's what you made possible for us to do in the fiscal year 2006 – 07

Research

You helped us invest, together with our research partners, \$2,480,000 in the quiet, steady, leading-edge work of scientists who chip away at the mysteries that still surround neuromuscular disorders.

In 2006 – 07, we gave twelve (12) new Neuromuscular Research Partnership grants. Besides those new ones, we continued to support nineteen (19) ongoing research projects that received grants in earlier years.

Another area of research that we continue to fund is through our partnership with the Stem Cell Network. Two grants provided funding for two Ph.D. studentships: Mr. Michael Long (PhD studentship under Dr. Fabio Rossi) at the Biomedical Research Centre, University of British Columbia; and Mr. Feodor Price (PhD studentship under Dr. Michael Rudnicki) at the Ottawa Health Research Institute.

Research in the Works 2006 is available on our website and describes all of the research projects that we fund.

Advocacy

We continued to press our wheelchair funding strategy with the federal government and provincial governments across Canada. We think it will make a strategic difference. Right now there are sharp differences in what is provided by the way of mobility equipment, from one province to another. We think there should be generous minimum standards for the whole country. Governments, we believe, should take care of this need. But until they do so – adequately – we're glad you help us buy equipment for people. Please help us spread the message that such an essential task belongs to government.

Services

We spent \$1.878 million in 2007, on direct services to people living with one of more than 100 neuro-

muscular disorders. That means helping people get exactly the equipment they need. It means helping their families with the costs of transporting their son or daughter to clinic appointments far from home. It means getting precise, up-to-date treatment information into the hands of people with the disorder, or into the hands of their doctors and their local hospital. This is part of Muscular Dystrophy Canada's service because we want *everyone* registered with MDC to receive best practice treatment, no matter where in Canada they are being treated, no matter which of the neuromuscular disorders they are living with. Our improved web site does part of this job. Printed information sheets help a great many people. Our experienced staff members sometimes step in when more is needed, on a person-to-person basis.

During 2006 - 2007, we spent \$870,000 on mobility equipment for persons with neuromuscular disorders.

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How did you manage to help with all this?

First of all, you raised the money we needed to do the work. Our life-saving Fire Fighters led the way with a stunning total of \$2,446,000. That's about 30% of Muscular Dystrophy Canada's total revenue for 2007. To give you an idea of how far they went to achieve this, more than 20 Fire Fighters representing four Ottawa fire stations went to the streets and collected boot tolls for almost five hours. They raised \$22,595.59, including \$5,000 from Scotiabank through a fund-matching program.

As in every year, thousands of donors and volunteers were creative in thinking of special events, campaigns, and other new and old ways to raise money to support the work of MDC. Collectively, these special-event efforts garnered 21% of MDC's revenue for 2007. A single golf tournament – Shad's R & R – raised \$132,000. We were thrilled. Since 1974, Shad's R & R has accumulated over \$3,000,000 for Muscular Dystrophy Canada. But we also love the surprising small events that bring brand new people into our network through activities such as Buck for Luck or HOP.

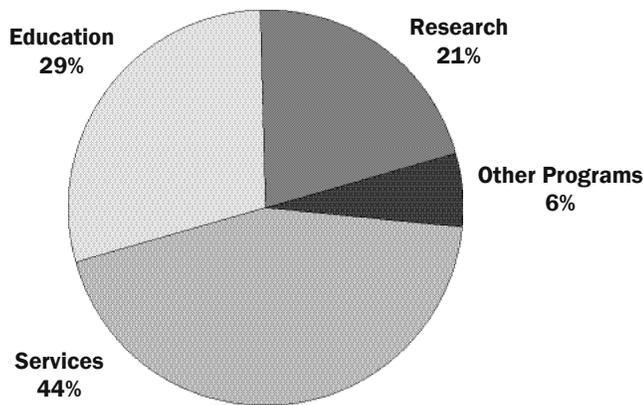
Last year we announced the creation The Rachel Fund, dedicated to research on myotonic muscular dystrophy. This year we are excited to award the first grant from this fund: Dr. Mani S. Mahadevan of the University of Virginia has received \$239,756 for a two-year study of what leads to congenital myotonic dystrophy type 1.

The pie chart, below, shows the numbers. However, it doesn't reflect the human generosity, the determination, the community, the joy and warmth that donors and volunteers bring through their support. And if we could show a graph of how grateful we feel for all of you, the line would go soaring right off the page.

Kenneth M. Kramer
President and Chair of the Board

How your investment helps “make muscles move.”

Distribution of Program and Service Funding



Complete audited financial statements are available upon request.