

Our vision is a world free of MSA

Dear Supporter,

During this very challenging time, I hope you and your family are keeping safe and healthy. The well-being of our community is the priority for us at Multiple System Atrophy Trust.

The Trust is the only charity in UK and Ireland solely focussed on supporting families affected by multiple system atrophy (MSA). Many of you have loved ones battling MSA right now and know that our support is vital for the 3,500 people affected by this devastating condition. This is even more true given the unprecedented circumstances that we are all facing with the Covid-19 crisis. We have tried to reach everybody we know living with MSA over the last days and weeks, especially as we know people are feeling particularly vulnerable in the face of this pandemic.

With our face-to-face Support Group meetings suspended, and other support structures like face to face clinic appointments cancelled, our MSA Nurse Specialists and the Trust's helpline and website are sometimes the only source of targeted information and support for families self-isolating at home. I am pleased to say these are still up and running and helping people as normal.

However, like many other organisations, we are concerned about our ability to manage during this turbulent time. Our fundraising from events and community activity is no longer possible. So, any personal support you can give is needed more than ever. This is a difficult ask for us as we understand the effects of the pandemic on both the wider economy and individual personal finances. You can however appreciate that we are facing worrying times with an ongoing situation which may sadly affect our long-term viability.

You can make a real difference to ensure the continuity of our vital services. Your one-off donations are always welcome, but please consider setting up a regular donation for the next 6 to 10 months to support us through these difficult days. All donations will be gratefully received and carefully used and below we outline two areas where your help would be most appreciated:

£15 per month to support our MSA Nurse Specialists who provide emotional support and practical advice over telephone and email. They are now needed more than ever to minimise the desperate isolation that people with MSA face having to stay at home while also battling a rare condition.

£10 per month to support our MSA Trust Helpline as we are still taking calls and emails, offering vital support in such difficult times for anybody affected by MSA. Our Helpline acts as the gateway to our other services such as our Social Welfare Specialist, our Grants Service and our newly up and running network of "virtual" Support Groups.

You can make a one-off donation or set up a regular one easily online by following this link:

www.msatrust.org.uk/get-involved/appeal/

Alternatively, you can call 0333 323 4591 to donate over the phone using your card details.

Please help us ensure the Trust remains a beacon of support and hope for the MSA community in years to come.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Kind regards,

Karen Walker, Chief Executive

We rely entirely on donations, of which legacies are a vital part. Please consider remembering the Trust in your Will.

The Multiple System Atrophy Trust is a charity registered in England as a limited company.
Company Registration No: 7302036. Registered Charity No: 1137652 (England & Wales) and SCO44535 (Scotland)