



Greenville Area Parkinson Society

We Walk With You.

HOW THE GROWTH OF GAPS IS IMPACTING THE UPSTATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Since the fall of 2016, the Greenville Area Parkinson's Society has grown in its membership, programming, and partnerships.

In September 2016, GAPS served approximately 325 people. As of June 1, 2020, we are reaching just under 1500 people. That is over a 300% increase in three and a half years! We are serving people with PD, their spouses, and adult children helping them to live the highest quality of life possible!

In September 2016, we offered two monthly peer support groups, an educational seminar, a pole walking group, and an annual newly diagnosed class. As of Fall 2020, we now offer weekly support groups at six locations around the Upstate, a quarterly expert lunch and learn seminar, a weekly GAPS in Motion movement class now offered at three different locations, a weekly Respite Care program called GAPS Recharge!, an all-day Newly Diagnosed GAPS 101 for members and their families offered every other month, a monthly coffee talk educational series, and a monthly Social Mixer for our members, volunteers, and community partners so that we can grow the conversation about living with PD throughout the region.

With the new challenges brought about due to COVID-19, all of our programming has moved to a virtual platform. We have added a bereavement support group, a mentoring one-on-one program, and our GAPS connection which is a way for us engage with all members through personal phone calls to every household.

We maintain partnerships with the YMCA, Rock Steady Boxing at CoreBalance and Summit Hills in Spartanburg, the Gerald Stroud Pole Walking group, and five other private exercise facilities specializing in Parkinson's wellness. We established 20 different partnerships with area therapy groups, assisted living facilities, and home care and hospice organizations that provide financial support and much needed volunteer hours.

All of GAPS programs are completely FREE to members of the organization. Through the generous donations of area businesses and individuals, GAPS can continue to support this community. The money that you contribute enables GAPS to provide our current members with critical programs to expand our reach to the more than 12,000 estimated people living with Parkinson's Disease in the Upstate.

GAPS is a completely independent, local 501(c)3, and 100% of the monies raised stays to serve people right here in the Upstate!