"I'll hold your hand so you won't fall"

Rasheda Ali 2005
"I'll hold your hand, so you won't fall"

Rasheda Ali 2005
Dr. Adewunmi Desalu was an exceptional engineer and mathematician renowned for developments in the fields of science, electronics and space. He is known for two patents & a long career with General Electrics.

Dr. Adewunmi Desalu’s power was compromised for nearly ten years by Parkinson’s Disease, yet he stood and fought the disease with all the strength he had. He showed courage in the face of challenges that he had no control over, choosing instead to exercise full control over how he accepted his fate and became a Parkinson’s Warrior.

The Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation (ADPF) will share this story of, and embody, the final ten percent of his life that defines his essence, the resilience, the power engineered by the discipline of yesteryears, which propelled him to fight to the final victory.

The Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation (ADPF) was founded to honour his memory and seeks to encourage somebody living with Parkinson’s disease, hold their hand so that they do not fall, encourage a caregiver and support a family caring for a loved one – as they journey along the same path that he and his family travelled.
Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation (ADPF) is a non-governmental, not-for-profit organisation registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission (IT166351) to support people living with Parkinson’s disease (PD) in Nigeria, their care partners and their families.

Parkinson’s disease is a degenerative condition of the brain associated with motor symptoms (slow movement, tremors, rigidity & walking imbalance) and a range of non-motor complications (cognitive impairment, mental health disorders, pain and other sensory disturbances).

Motor impairments, painful muscle contractions & involuntary movements contribute to limitations in speech, mobility and many areas of life. The cause of the disease remains unknown and, unfortunately, there is no cure yet.

Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation offers a seamless route to diagnosis, medication, rehabilitation and social support at no cost to people living with or impacted by Parkinson’s disease in Nigeria; and provides inspiration, tools and a positive environment to enable people with Parkinson’s disease live better every day. We intend to continue to lead in providing care and resources that improve quality of life of people living with Parkinson’s disease, first in Nigeria and then on the continent, until a cure is found.
OBJECTIVES

EDUCATION | CARE | SUPPORT

- Ensure all people impacted by Parkinson's disease are aware of, and can access, available resources.

- Create and implement a country-wide education, advocacy, and communication campaign to increase awareness on Parkinson's disease and simplify the path to diagnosis.

- Remove barriers and create multiple pathways to access Parkinson's disease care.

- Provide evidence-based interventions to promote diagnosis, treatment and care for Parkinson's Disease.

- Create a network of support groups of Parkinson's disease heroes, caregivers, and families across Africa.

- Build caregiver capacity to cope and facilitate access to health, social, financial & legal support for people impacted by Parkinson's disease.

VISION

"An Africa, in which all the people impacted by Parkinson's disease have a better quality of life through access to education, care and support."

MISSION

"The Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson's Foundation is committed to creating awareness, building a community and providing access to education, care and support to improve the physical and emotional wellbeing of people impacted by Parkinson's Disease."
PROBLEM STATEMENT: WHY THE FOCUS ON PARKINSON’S DISEASE?

GLOBAL ESTIMATES

- **2019:** Over 8.5 million individuals with Parkinson’s disease.
- **2019:** 5.8 million disability-adjusted life years: 81% increase since 2000.
- **2019:** 329,000 deaths - over 100% increase since 2000.

World Health Organization Parkinson’s Disease Fact Sheet: June 13, 2022.

NIGERIA

More than 5 million Nigerians are above the age of 65 and at risk of developing Parkinson’s disease. (Parkinson’s Disease in Nigeria. Oluwole, Helen 2018).

Parkinson’s disease has been a rare disorder for most of human history but according to the Global Burden of Disease study, neurological disorders are now the leading source of disability globally; and disability and death due to Parkinson’s disease are increasing faster than for any other neurological disorder.

In June 2022, the World Health Organization launched a Technical Brief on Parkinson’s disease, highlighting it as an urgent public health issue and stating crucial areas for action with a focus on low-and-middle-income countries (LMIC), including Nigeria. Research shows that cases of Parkinson’s disease across Africa will rise significantly in the coming years and this Parkinson’s disease pandemic will require heightened activism, focused planning and an innovative, deliberate approach.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG3) aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. With Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation’s focus on Parkinson’s disease, we target an often-overlooked demographic - the elderly - thereby actively advancing the goal’s objective for no one to be left out or overlooked.
YEAR 1
APRIL 2022 TO APRIL 2023

"I'll hold your hand, so you won't fall"
Rasheda Ali 2005
ONE YEAR AT A GLANCE
At May 2023

One fully equipped Parkinson's disease rehabilitative care facility commissioned; doubling as a social hub for people with Parkinson's disease (PWP), caregivers & family members - the Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson's Centre.

1. Diagnosis Referrals
   Referrals from Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson's Foundation to Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH) for Parkinson's disease diagnosis by a neurologist.

2. Assessments by Physiotherapist
   Comprehensive assessments of PWP by Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson's Foundation consulting Physiotherapist to design treatment plans and slow down the progression of the disease.

3. Members with Custom Treatment Plans
   Physiotherapy and other exercise regimens actively implemented by consulting physiotherapist and support staff. At least one session per member delivered every week.

4. Weeks of Physical Therapy
   Weeks during which the Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson's Centre has been open to PWP to come in to implement their custom Treatment Plans.

5. Individual Physical Therapy Sessions
   Individual physical therapy and exercise sessions undertaken by people living with Parkinson's disease at Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson's Centre.

"I'll hold your hand, so you won't fall" ——— Rasheda Ali 2005
ONE YEAR AT A GLANCE
At May 2023

12 Support Groups
12 Support Group sessions hosted in-person in Surulere, Lagos, Nigeria and online across eight (8) African countries.

44 Health Workers Educated: World Parkinson’s Day Webinar
44 Non-Specialist Healthcare Workers equipped to easily identify symptoms of Parkinson’s Disease and facilitate prompt diagnosis.

120 1st Parkinson’s Disease Symposium
Hosted the first Parkinson’s Disease Symposium in Nigeria, convening 120 stakeholders in-person and online to address challenges in providing care and support to people with Parkinson’s disease specific to the Nigerian context.

30 Press and Media Features
Achieved 30+ press and media features for Parkinson's disease awareness across television, radio, digital and print media.

10 Partnerships and Alliances
Secured seven (7) partnerships/alliances and affiliations with local and global Parkinson’s disease stakeholder organizations for collaboration, knowledge exchange, Parkinson’s disease research possibilities, improved credibility and influence.

“I'll hold your hand, so you won’t fall” —— Rasheda Ali 2005
Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson's Foundation has Revolving Programs which run all year round, providing rehabilitative care for people living with Parkinson's disease and support for them, their caregivers and family members.

Our Special Projects drive public awareness, build capacity within and beyond the healthcare sector, and provide medication and resources to enhance the lives of those impacted by Parkinson's disease.

The next page provides a bird's eye view of what we do and how you can join us on this impactful journey.
AWARENESS & ADVOCACY
To educate the public on Parkinson’s disease through trainings, sensitization outreaches, erase the stigma and influence public health policy.

HOSPITAL REFERRAL
For diagnosis by a Neurologist, to confirm or rule out Parkinson’s disease.

ASSESSMENT BY PHYSIOTHERAPIST
To measure the impact of Parkinson’s disease on movement, function and safety.

PHYSIOTHERAPY
To maintain or improve function, independence and quality of life.

ROCKSTEADY BOXING
To improve agility, coordination, and balance.

DANCE THERAPY
For improved balance and gait function.

SPEECH THERAPY
To help improve or maintain as many communication skills as possible.

HANDWRITING CLASSES
To combat Micrographia and improve handwriting legibility.

SOCIAL SUPPORT GROUPS
A safe space for connections, questions, emotional support and practical advice.

MEDICATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
To facilitate access to medication at no cost to PwPs.

REVOLVING PROGRAMS
ADEWUNMI DESALU PARKINSON’S FOUNDATION
2023 - 2025 PROJECTS
EDUCATION

#Move4PD
An annual awareness and fundraising event that features different forms of movement (walking, cycling, dancing etc) to educate the public and garner support for Parkinson's disease (PD) and the peculiar challenges of people impacted by the condition.

Research: Understanding Parkinson's Disease Awareness in Nigeria
In Nigeria, there is a lack of data on Parkinson's disease awareness. This research will identify:
- Current Parkinson's disease awareness;
- Knowledge gaps and barriers;
- Effective education strategies;
- The effect of Parkinson's disease education on diagnosis and management of the disease.

"Shakes and Freezes"
A Parkinson's disease awareness event and fundraiser in the form of an art exhibition.
Artworks created by people living with Parkinson's disease as part of their treatment regimen will also be on display.
2023 - 2025 PROJECTS

EDUCATION

**Parkinson's Disease Radio Drama Series**
A six-part radio drama series in English and translated into local languages, telling short, fictional stories about people living with Parkinson's disease; focusing on challenges and experiences, as well as the impact that the condition has on their loved ones and their communities.

**Digital Resource Bank**
The 'Resources' section of the Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson's Foundation website is dedicated to offering up-to-date educational resources and information about Parkinson's disease, treatment options, best practices, support groups, innovations and research.

**Punch Out Parkinson's Disease**
A boxing mini-Tournament to raise awareness on the importance of boxing as an exercise that helps to keep symptoms of Parkinson's disease in check, improve balance, muscle control and gait.
## 2023 - 2025 PROJECTS

### CARE

**Medication Assistance Program**

Our Medication Assistance Program provides free medication to individuals with Parkinson's disease who cannot afford it.

The Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation partners with medication manufacturers and suppliers to offer this support.

The program also collects data on medication usage and expenses related to Parkinson's disease.

Additionally, we educate program participants about the importance of adhering to their prescribed medication.

**Research: Alternative Parkinson's Disease Treatments**

The primary focus of this research is to explore alternative or indigenous treatments for Parkinson's disease in Nigeria to discover effective solutions and potentially find a cure.

By integrating scientific research with indigenous knowledge and fostering collaboration between medical professionals and traditional healers, we can enhance our understanding and treatment of the disease.

While the existing treatments for Parkinson's disease involve medications and surgery, a definitive cure has not yet been found.

**Teletherapy and Telemedicine Program**

Our Telemedicine & Teletherapy Program aims to provide remote care services to PWP's using electronic communication and technology.

We will offer rehabilitative therapies from our Centre to individuals facing distance or mobility challenges.

We will also connect them with specialist care, overcoming manpower limitations in Nigeria.

This Program will improve healthcare access, enhance medical records, improve coordinated care and reduce logistical expenses for PWP's.
2023 - 2025 PROJECTS
CARE

Parkinson's Disease Diagnosis Training for Healthcare Providers

Our Parkinson's Disease Diagnosis trainings offer essential diagnosis information to healthcare providers who are not experts in Parkinson's disease, enabling them to identify symptoms and promptly refer those who present possible symptoms to neurologists for proper diagnosis.

Parkinson's Disease Caregiver Training for Healthcare Providers

Our Parkinson's Disease Caregiver Trainings are designed to help healthcare providers understand how to care for people with Parkinson's disease, develop interprofessional care plans and cooperate for optimal service delivery.
2023 - 2025 PROJECTS
SUPPORT

In-Person Support Groups
Our in-person support group for individuals living with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers physically connects them with others who understand their experiences; providing a safe space to express feelings, ask questions and learn from one another. We plan to expand to several locations, allowing for community close by.
Segmentation ensures tailored support for everyone involved.

Virtual Support Groups
The convenience of our virtual support group for people impacted by Parkinson's disease enables them connect with others from the comfort of their own homes.
Regardless of location, our online platform provides a secure space to share feelings, ask questions, and gain valuable insights from a community that understands the journey.

Caregiver Support Program
This program is designed to provide support and resources for caregivers of Parkinson's patients, such as respite care, mental health counseling, and financial empowerment.
HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Given the magnitude of the public health problem that Parkinson's disease presents and the gaps we have identified, it is necessary to educate a wider audience and reach a larger number of people impacted by the disease with the help that they need.

“Help make a difference! Support a program today!”
ADEWUNMI DESALU PARKINSON'S CENTRE

- Cross-section of Boxing Room for improved balance
- Boxing balls
- Consulting room for Physiotherapy
- Library with Parkinson’s educational resources
- Fitness equipment
- Low impact treadmills and recumbent elliptical bikes
- Resource Centre for use by Parkinson’s Researchers at no cost
- Station gym
- Low impact gym equipment and elliptical bike
Cross-section of participants in Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation Awareness Walk -

Channels TV coverage of #Walk 4 Parkinson's disease - the Awareness Walk organised in honour of Col. Guy Deacon

Stop the stigma. Stop the shame. Talking about Parkinson's on Nigeria Info FM

Parkinson’s Awareness and sensitization visit to the Lagos State old people’s Home, Yaba Lagos.

Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation Awareness Campaign - Mrs. Morin Desalu, Mrs. Omotola Thomas and Col. Guy Deacon live on air with Yaw of Wazobia FM

Panel comprising people with Parkinson's disease and Caregivers sharing their journey and unique experience with Parkinson’s disease

Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation Stakeholder Engagement - Meeting to discuss collaboration with LUTH for Neurology Consultations and Referrals

An Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation member being guided through physiotherapy in our low-impact gym

Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation member undergoing her physiotherapy session, as exercise has been proven to slow down the progression of Parkinson’s disease

Parkinson’s Awareness - Panel comprising people with Parkinson’s disease and caregivers

Parkinson’s Awareness and sensitization visit to the Lagos State old people’s Home, Yaba Lagos.
PARKINSON'S AWARENESS & ADVOCACY: TELEVISION & RADIO

Oluymesi Adedayo, Executive Director, Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation on Arise TV discussing the global theme for World Parkinson's Day 2023, #Take6ForPD.

John Akinola, Senior Programs Manager, Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation on Channels TV discussing the global theme for World Parkinson's Day 2023, #Take6ForPD.

John Akinola, Senior Programs Manager, on Wazobia TV raising Parkinson's disease awareness in a local dialect for Parkinson's Awareness Month

Member, Mrs. Ifeanyi, demonstrating Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation’s rehabilitative intervention for the Channels TV Special Report on World Parkinson’s Day, 2023.

Executive Director, Oluymesi Adedayo, on Arise TV discussing the global theme for World Parkinson's Day 2023, #Take6ForPD.

Senior Programs Manager, John Akinola, discussing Parkinson's disease alongside Rachel Agwu of Parkinson's Africa on Lagos Traffic Radio during Parkinson's Awareness Week
Webinar to educate non-specialist Healthcare Workers on identifying Parkinson's disease symptoms for prompt diagnosis on World Parkinson's Day, April 11, 2023

Establishing the global burden of Parkinson's disease and sharing statistics from clinical studies.

Dr. Shaimaa El-Jaafary, Consultant Neurologist and Professor of Neurology, breaking down the methodology for identifying Parkinson's disease.

Consulting Physiotherapist, Adewummi Desalu Parkinson's Foundation, Abraham Adeogun describing the Adewummi Desalu Parkinson's Foundation's integrated approach to rehabilitation

Programs Officer, Adewummi Desalu Parkinson's Foundation, Tolu Oyenuga describing Member Management and Support

Dr. Adefemi Daniel, Medical Director, Evercare Hospital and Consultant Neurologist, educating healthcare professionals on multidisciplinary approach for Parkinson's disease management

Channels TV Special Report on World Parkinson's Day Webinar for Healthcare Professionals
Mrs. Morin Desalu, Trustee Chair, Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation welcoming attendees to its 1st Parkinson’s Disease Symposium, also the first Parkinson’s Disease Symposium in Nigeria.

Dr. Ikechukwu Aganweze, Consultant Neurologist and Keynote Speaker at the 1st Parkinson’s Disease Symposium, discussing the challenges of Parkinson’s Disease Care & Management in Nigeria and possible solutions.

Ms. Oluyemisi Adedayo, Executive Director, Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation highlighting the solutions the Foundation currently provides and calling for support and partnership on proposed projects and programs.

Panel Session during the 1st Parkinson’s Disease Symposium, featuring PWPs, a caregiver, neurologist, physiotherapist, Ministry of Health representative, and representative of private sector health funder.

Cross-section of attendees at the 1st Parkinson’s Disease Symposium of the Adewunmi Desalu Parkinson’s Foundation to address challenges in providing care and support to people with Parkinson’s disease.

Cross-section of in-person attendees during the 1st Parkinson’s Disease Symposium with a total of 120 attendees combined, in-person and online.
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If you are a person living with Parkinson’s disease (PwP), a member of a patient’s family, a caregiver, a friend of a PwP, an individual or corporate body wanting to support our work, please contact:

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