

***Please, won't you join the Fight against Lupus?
Help us to help others by becoming a member today.***

Basic Facts About Lupus

Lupus is an acute and chronic inflammatory disease that, for unknown reasons, causes the immune system to become hyperactive and attack the body's own healthy tissue and organs. **Lupus** is not contagious, but the exact cause is unknown. It is estimated that about 2 million or more people have the disease with 1.4 million having been diagnosed, ninety percent of whom are women.

Lupus can be difficult to diagnose because symptoms mimic other diseases. Symptoms are sometimes vague and may come and go. They include achy or swollen joints, low grade fevers, extreme fatigue and skin rashes. At present there is no cure for **Lupus**. However, with early diagnosis and current methods of therapy, 80-90% of patients can look forward to a normal life span.

Lupus can occur at any age, and in either sex, although it occurs 8 to 9 times more frequently among adult females than among adult males, but the symptoms of the disease are the same in men as in women. Hormonal factors may explain why **lupus** occurs more frequently in females than in males. African Americans, Native Americans, Asians and Latinos are believed to develop lupus more frequently than Caucasians.

For most people, **lupus** is a mild disease affecting only a few organs. For others, it may be serious and cause life threatening problems.

Lupus Support Network

The **Northwest Florida Lupus Foundation, Inc.** was incorporated in Pensacola, Florida as a nonprofit, charitable organization in July of 1982. In 2003 they changed their name to **Lupus Support Network**. The purpose of the Network is to educate the public about **lupus**, maintain an active liaison with the medical community in the treatment and treatment facilities of the disease, and to assist its Branches in providing the grassroots support services to **lupus** patients and their families.

Eighteen counties in the Panhandle of Florida and a few in Alabama make up the various Branches of the **Lupus Support Network**.

Regular Support Group meetings are organized in various cities and towns wherever and whenever they are needed, and are the basic activity for the membership. Occasional seminars and public awareness events are scheduled throughout the year.

Because there are so few that know about **lupus**, many people suffer and die needlessly from this devastating disease. **Lupus Support Network** is committed to bring about public awareness to those with **lupus** so they can be diagnosed early, receive good medical care and live a normal and productive life. If you, or someone you know, suffers from painful aches and swollen joints, has had a reddening in the shape of a butterfly over the nose and cheeks, feels sensitivity to the sun, experiences extreme fatigue and weakness for days, we suggest you, or they, call a doctor for an examination to determine if you, or they, have **lupus**.

Membership Information:

All memberships are good for **one** year from the month they are paid. To join, please fill out the form below and send to:

Lupus Support Network, Inc.
P.O. Box 17841 Pensacola, Florida 32522-7841

Membership Levels:

- Single - \$20** **Family - \$25**
 Supporting - \$30 **Sponsor - \$50**
 Corporate Sponsor **Patron - \$100**

**(Corporate Sponsors are welcome at \$100 or higher-thank you for your support)*

Do not Publish my name in the newsletter

New Member Renewal Gift Corporate

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **St.:** ____ **Zip:** _____

County: _____ **Phone:** _____

Fax: _____ **email:** _____

Date of Birth: _____

Lupus Patient: **Yes** **No** **Friend/Relative**

(Note: Complimentary memberships may be available to those who cannot afford the fees.)

If giving a membership as a gift, please fill in the recipients:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **St.:** ____ **Zip:** _____

County: _____ **Phone:** _____

Fax: _____ **email:** _____

Make checks payable to: **Lupus Support Network, Inc.**

Each member will receive **Caring and Sharing** publication; vehicle awareness magnet and educational printed materials on request.

(Lupus Support Network, Inc. is a tax deductible, non-profit, charitable organization.)

Donations & Memorials

*Giving a donation is a meaningful way of doing something special to reach out and help others. Please consider us as a special way of honoring or remembering a friend or a loved one.

*I wish to make a donation to the
Lupus Support Network, Inc:*

in honor of *in memory of*

(Name of Recipient)

*Please use my donation in the amount of
\$ _____ to be used for:*

- Patient Assistance *(prescriptions, medical treatment, etc.)*
- Research *(lupus/autoimmune related research)*
- General operation costs *(brochures, books, postage, etc.)*
- Please send acknowledgement including my information below to:*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ *St.:* _____

Zip: _____

- I wish to remain anonymous*

Donor:

Name: _____

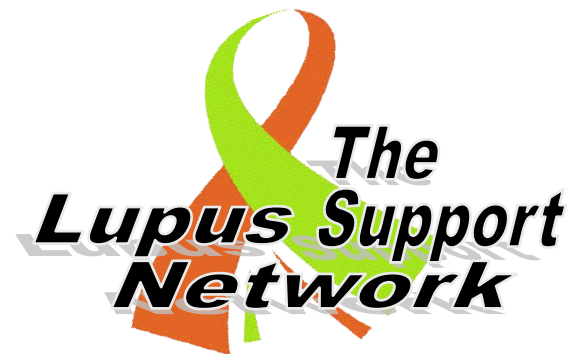
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P.O. Box 17841
Pensacola, FL 32522-7841**

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Pensacola, FL



*Working to find a cure in our
lifetime.*

*Every...Sex
Every...Age
Every...Race
Every...1 in 185 Americans*

Someone you know has Lupus!

Mail: Lupus Support Network, Inc.
P.O. Box 17841
Pensacola, FL 32522-7841

Street Address: 1108 Airport Blvd., Ste. C
Pensacola, FL 32504

(850) 478-8107
(850) 478-0451 (Fax)
(800) 458-8211 Toll Free (FL)

*www.lsnflorida.org
questions@thelupusupportnetwork.org*



CFC # for Donations:

46847

**Pensacola Okaloosa
Tallahassee Alabama**

**previously: NW FL Lupus Foundation
For more information on how to make
a donation please call our office*