



# WALKING WITH FAITH "Footnotes"

"BY WORKS FAITH WAS MADE PERFECT" (JAMES 2:22)

[www.walkingwithfaith.org](http://www.walkingwithfaith.org)  
42015 Ford Rd., Suite 402  
Canton, MI 48187

734-397-2041

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## *Introducing: Walking With Faith, Inc., a Journey for Life*

**Walking With Faith, Inc.**, a 501 (c) 3 organization, began with one woman determined not to let being diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) keep her down.

Alecia R. Harris, Founder, President & CEO of Walking With Faith, Inc., went to college, had a house and a family, worked at one of the nation's top ten hospitals, and was a university instructor. She was living the American dream when she was diagnosed with MS. In a matter of months her life had changed. She had a decision to make: live with the facts or with her Faith. She chose her Faith.

Knowing that everything was in divine order, Alecia began volunteering for the Michigan Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. In addition to working on the planning committee for the annual "MS Walks," she began asking others to join the team she was forming called "Walking With Faith." The team and fellowship grew.

Today, there are over one hundred volunteers. Walking With Faith, Inc., holds several benefit and educational events each year to raise funds and

awareness to find a cure for the devastating effects of MS.



Alecia R. Harris

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## **Our Team**

### **Mission:**

Believing in the value of increasing awareness, Walking With Faith, Inc. is committed to providing information and raising funds towards ending the devastating effects of Multiple Sclerosis.

### **Vision:**

Walking With Faith, Inc. will continue to increase the awareness about, provide information on, and raise funds for research on, Multiple Sclerosis. Through event planning, individual giving programs, and grants, Walking With Faith, Inc. will become an important funder of research. The activities will be widely reported in articles, books, and professional publications.

We see ourselves as an organization that through diversity, innovation, size, volunteer involvement, teamwork, flexibility, excellence, and commitment will be the biggest, most effective faith - based organization raising funds for a specific disease. Our faith base will allow us to provide Christ - centered support and information to patients and families, and will give us the commitment to doing our part to raise funds and awareness towards ending the devastating effects of this chronic, debilitating disease.

### **Legal Advisor:**

Michael A. Gehrls  
Attorney at Law  
Certified Financial Planner™ professional  
Southfield, MI



## **What is MS?**

Multiple sclerosis is a chronic disease of the central nervous system (brain, spinal cord). MS affects more than 400,000 people in the United States. The disease usually starts between the ages of 20 and 40 years with an average age of onset around 30. MS affects more women than men. Seventy-eight percent of people with MS are women.

Every hour, someone is diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS). Many of your friends, neighbors, or relatives may have heard those dreaded words, "You have multiple sclerosis".

## **Board of Directors:**

We are fortunate to have a "volunteer" board of directors who are professionals with a wealth of knowledge.

Mary Margaret Brandt, MD  
Trauma Director, Department of Surgery  
St. Joseph Mercy Hospital  
Ann Arbor, MI

Robert L. Funaro, Ed.D.  
Director, Academic Resource Center  
Thomas M. Cooley Law School  
Lansing, MI

David R. Nerenz, Ph. D.  
Director, Center for Health Services  
Research Director, Outcomes Research,  
Neuroscience Institute Henry Ford Health  
System  
Detroit, MI

participate in the Walk at various locations throughout Michigan.

## **“What We Do”**

Walking With Faith, Inc., is a team of volunteers who walk annually in the MS Walks. The annual walk is our humble beginning. We also raise funds towards ending the devastating affects of multiple sclerosis. Provided by the organization are:

- Educational seminars
- A quarterly newsletter
- Fund raising events
- Information
- Support

Walking With Faith, Inc., sponsors Kids FUN-RAISE for Multiple Sclerosis, Inc., which has fund raisers including:

- Kids Bowl for MS
- Kids Roller Skate for MS
- Kids Jump Rope for MS

All kids are welcome to join Kids FUN-RAISE as they reach outside themselves and help others. Contact us if you know any kids who would like to take part.

We would love to answer any questions you might have. Please do not hesitate to contact Alecia at (734) 397-2041. We hope you will join our team!

## **Events and Fundraisers**

### **Walk MS**

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society sponsors an annual Walk to raise funds to end the devastating effects of MS. The Walking With Faith Team members, a group of more than 100 volunteers and walkers,

### **Educational Seminars**

Seminars are held to bring awareness and provide information about this chronic disease to identified audiences. Guest speakers include local professionals with a wealth of knowledge on various topics relating to MS.

### **Kids FUN-RAISE for Multiple Sclerosis, Inc.**

Organized by the Harris children and others, these children wanted to reach outside of themselves to help someone else. Their fundraising events include Kids Roller Skate for MS, Kids Bowl for MS and Kids Jump Rope for MS.

### **Never Alone, Inc.**

In the life of a woman with multiple sclerosis, there will be major transitions. Supporting one another is what we do. This is a support group for Christian women with multiple sclerosis.

### **I Am Here, Inc.**

Men are affected, too, when they have a loved one who suffers from this disease. This is a support group for Christian men who have loved ones with MS.

### **Golf Outing**

A golf outing will be held bi-annually for golf enthusiasts and other supporters. The outings, sponsored by local organizations, will feature celebrities. A portion of the proceeds will go to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan Chapter for research.

### **Benefit Concert**

In order to raise additional funds for MS research, Walking With Faith, Inc., presents

a bi-annual benefit concert featuring well known artists at selected venues.

Southfield, MI

### **Benefit Luncheon**

Walking With Faith, Inc., hosts a bi-annual Benefit Luncheon to heighten awareness of this disease. Detroit Free Press Columnist, Rochelle Riley, was the inaugural keynote speaker and Carolyn Clifford, Channel 7 News Anchor and "Health Team" Reporter was the Mistress of Ceremonies.

### **Benefit Dinner**

Walking With Faith walkers and volunteers had a desire to create a local fund-raising arm to further support research being done by the MS Society. A benefit dinner was created. "Mom" and "Pop" Winans were the inaugural special musical guest and keynote speaker respectively. The dinner has become a bi-annual event.



Please join us at Carrabba's Italian Grill at 1900 N. Haggerty Rd. in Canton on **Saturday, November 17, 2012 11am-1pm** for our benefit luncheon! Tickets are \$25 per person. Price includes a full lunch and a chance to win a Gourmet Wine Dinner for six at Carrabba's (valued at \$400)!

**More details coming soon!**

If you have ideas for future fundraising events, please contact Alecia at (734) 397-2041.

### **Meet our newest Board Member!**



Please join us in welcoming Dr. Mary Margaret Brandt as the newest Board Member. Dr. Brandt is excited to be included in an organization whose goal is to help find a cure for this devastating disease.

The "Walking With Faith, Inc.," Team extends a heartfelt "thank you" to all of our supporters, sponsors, families, friends, and volunteers. With your dedication and contributions to our cause, we have raised thousands for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Michigan Chapter. A special "thank you" goes to Brent Embry, logo design & Lonnie Thomas, technical support.

### **Upcoming Fund Raising Events**

**Please plan to attend these exciting events**

### **A Celebrity Basketball Game**

A Benefit for Multiple Sclerosis  
Friday, November 17, 2012 - 6:00pm  
Southfield High School  
24675 Lahser Road

### **Sponsorships**

## Sponsorship levels for benefit events

### Platinum Sponsor - \$25,000

- Tickets for ten guests to the bi-annual luncheon and the bi-annual dinner
- Full page advertisement in program
- Acknowledgment in press materials, on Web site and media relations efforts
- Representative invited to speak from podium
- Acknowledgment & logo on signage
- Acknowledgment in newsletter

### Gold Sponsor - \$10,000

- Tickets for five guests to bi-annual luncheon or dinner
- Half page advertisement in program
- Acknowledgment in press materials and media relations efforts
- Representative invited to speak from podium
- Acknowledgment on signage
- Acknowledgment in newsletter

### Silver Sponsor - \$5,000

- Tickets for two guests to bi-annual luncheon or dinner
- Quarter page advertisement in program
- Acknowledgment in newsletter

### Bronze Sponsor - \$2,500

- Tickets for two guests to bi-annual luncheon or dinner

- Eighth of a page advertisement in program
- Acknowledgment in newsletter

### Patron - \$ 1,000

- Tickets for two guests to bi-annual luncheon or dinner
- Acknowledgment in program
- Acknowledgment in newsletter

### Friends and Family - \$ 500

- Tickets for two guests to bi-annual luncheon or dinner
- Acknowledgment in newsletter

### Past and Present Sponsors:

B & D Novelty  
Carrabba's Italian Grill  
Cathy Garrett, Wayne County Clerk  
FedEx Kinko's  
Henry Ford Health System  
K White & Associates  
Lindsey Hunter, Detroit Pistons  
Mia D. Creative Solutions  
Michigan Chronicle  
Monica Morgan Photography  
Office Max – Canton  
Rebecca J. Williams, MD  
Sibera Brannon, DDS  
The Michigan Front Page  
UAW Ford International Programs  
WGE Promotional Solutions

### How to Make Contributions

Corporate Sponsorship

Donate by "Pay Pal" on the Web site

Private Contribution Sponsors

Purchase Event Tickets

### Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are the lifeline of the nonprofit sector and the lifeline of Walking With Faith, Inc. One survey suggests that more than 100 million people performed some

volunteer work in the United States during 1999. That number continues to grow! I would like to ask you to join our team and volunteer with Walking With Faith, Inc.

Walking With Faith, Inc., is a team of volunteers who walk annually in the MS Walks. The annual walk is our humble beginnings. We also raise funds towards ending the devastating affects of multiple sclerosis. Enclosed is a list of benefit events for this year. If you have suggestions for others, please do not hesitate to let me know. These are just a few of the efforts we are involved in.

Walking With Faith, Inc., will also distribute a quarterly newsletter, host educational seminars, and distribute an annual report. Walking With Faith, Inc., supports women with multiple sclerosis through Never Alone, Inc., a support group for Christian women with multiple sclerosis.

Walking With Faith, Inc., sponsors Kids FUN-RAISE for Multiple Sclerosis, Inc., which allows kids who have parents and loved ones who have this disease raise funds and also gain a wealth of information through "kid friendly" educational seminars. Their FUN – RAISERS include Kids Roller Skate for MS, Kids Bowl for MS and Kids Jump Rope for MS. All kids are welcome to join other kids as they reach outside of themselves and help others. Do you have kids or know kids who have an interest in taking part?

To volunteer, please complete the volunteer intake form and return it by fax at (734) 397-3258 or by mailing to Walking With Faith, Inc., 42015 Ford Rd., Suite 402, Canton, MI 48187 or on the Web Site:

[www.walkingwithfaith.org](http://www.walkingwithfaith.org)

## Volunteer Intake Form

Please fill out the form\* below and mail to:

Walking With Faith, Inc.  
42015 Ford Road, Suite 402  
Canton, MI 48187

**Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Daytime Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Evening Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact Name & Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check all areas of interest below:**

- Data Entry or Clerical Work
- Developing / Maintaining Databases
- Fundraisers
- Preparing mailings for events
- Phone calls to volunteers / donors
- Research information (as needed)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Available Days: (circle all that apply)**

Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat Sun

**Available Times: (circle all that apply)**

Mornings Afternoons Evenings

How often would you like to help? (ex: 2 days per week, weekly, monthly, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Skills you have to contribute:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\* Walking With Faith, Inc. always keeps your information completely confidential!

**Thank you**

## **FDA approves new multiple sclerosis treatment Aubagio**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration today approved Aubagio (teriflunomide), a once-a-day tablet for the treatment of adults with relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis (MS).

“In a clinical trial, the relapse rate for patients using Aubagio was about 30 percent lower than the rate for those taking a placebo,” said Russell Katz, M.D., director of the Division of Neurology Products in the FDA’s Center for Drug Evaluation and Research. “Multiple sclerosis can impair movement, sensation, and thinking, so it is important to have a variety of treatment options available to patients.”

MS is a chronic, inflammatory, autoimmune disease of the central nervous system that disrupts communication between the brain and other parts of the body. It is among the most common causes of neurological disability in young adults and occurs at least twice as frequently in women as in men. For most people with MS, episodes of worsening function (relapses) are initially followed by recovery periods (remissions). Over time, recovery periods may be incomplete, leading to progressive decline.

The most common side effects of Aubagio experienced by patients in clinical trials include diarrhea, abnormal liver tests, nausea, and hair loss.

The drug contains a Boxed Warning to alert prescribers and patients to the risk of liver problems, including death, and a risk of birth defects. Physicians should do blood tests to check liver function before a patient starts taking Aubagio and periodically during treatment.

Also included in the Boxed Warning is an alert noting that, based on animal studies, the drug may cause fetal harm. For this reason, Aubagio is labeled as Pregnancy Category X, which means women of childbearing age must have a negative pregnancy test before starting the drug and use effective birth control during treatment.

Aubagio will be dispensed with a patient Medication Guide that provides important instructions on its use and drug safety information.

Aubagio is made by Bridgewater, N.J.-based Sanofi Aventis.

For more information:

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke: [Multiple Sclerosis Information Page](#)<sup>1</sup>

[FDA: Drug Innovation](#)<sup>2</sup>

The FDA, an agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, protects the public health by assuring the safety, effectiveness, and security of human and veterinary drugs, vaccines and other biological products for human use, and medical devices. The agency also is responsible for the safety and security of our nation’s food supply, cosmetics, dietary supplements, products that give off electronic radiation, and for regulating tobacco products.