



**Dear Friend,**

**Not to “diss” chimpanzees, but I was astounded** reading an interview with an executive director recently that her organization benefitting chimps had a budget of **“only” \$5 million**. Never in our 35 years have we reached even close to that!

**Yet, despite all odds, we’ve made amazing progress – we have literally put endometriosis on the map and changed the thinking about it – still we struggle...**

**...struggle to help the middle-aged woman who was in our office recently, for instance – crying – in severe and constant pain from endo, even though she had a hysterectomy a couple years ago. She also—**

- **has fibromyalgia** (such a part of endometriosis, especially as we get older)
- **lost her job** due to endo, and with that,
- **lost her health insurance**, and with no money,
- **lost her home**
- is living with her father, **who doesn’t understand**, and at times
- **is suicidal...**

*(Yes, she is on our state “health” insurance but all that means is she won’t be able to go to anyone with real endometriosis expertise.)*

**We must be here for women like her and the millions of others suffering.**

**Please consider a contribution to help us keep helping the many who need us as well as **educating about endometriosis** and push for **good research**.**

**You can easily donate** by clicking **[HERE](#)**

or **FAX** the form at the end of this letter to us at 414-355-6065  
or **CALL** us during office hours (Monday-Friday), 8:30-5:00 CST, 414-355-2200.

And here are just a few examples of what your past support has helped us do:

# The Endometriosis Association: A Legacy of Firsts

## RESEARCH & TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE

- First to establish an endometriosis research registry, largest in the world for 2 decades
- **First to show that endometriosis is a disease of all socioeconomic groups, pre-teen to post-menopausal women, and of all racial groups**
- First to establish ongoing multi-disciplinary research programs
- **First to lead the field of science and medicine in the big picture of endometriosis:**
  - documented **long delay between onset of symptoms and diagnosis**
  - demonstrated that **pain**, not infertility, **is the cardinal symptom of endo**
  - shifted focus from “just” a pelvic disease to a **systemic disease**
  - showed a link to **allergic diseases**—asthma, allergies, eczema
  - discovered higher rate of **autoimmune diseases**
  - showed link to certain **cancers**
  - showed link to **gut dysbiosis and promise of immunotherapy**
  - **discovered and proved a cause of endo and its link to epigenetics, 5 generations of disease**
  - **discovered dioxin link in endo pathophysiology, first proven agent** to be able to cause spontaneous, severe endo
  - **showed disease is chronic**, now accepted and promulgated in medical society guidelines
  - groundbreaking research on **non-invasive diagnostics**

## EDUCATION & FUNDRAISING

- First to address **prevention**
- First to develop **extensive lay literature** on endo, available in 31 languages
- First to publish **four books** on endo, one in Spanish
- Contributed numerous chapters to medical textbooks and journals
- **Reached out to doctors worldwide**--hundreds of conferences, speeches, mailings
- **Raised more than \$8 million direct dollars for endo research**
- Instrumental in helping raise more than \$21 million indirect dollars for research

## SUPPORT

- **First to organize support groups and develop national organizations worldwide;** reached members and groups in 66 countries and over 200 support groups in the U.S. and Canada alone
- First to create a **global network** of highly-motivated individuals touched by endo (women, families, physicians, medical researchers)

**We made this all happen with you and thousands of endo families. Thank you and let's keep up the fight!**

Trusting in you to keep our important work alive,



**Mary Lou Ballweg**

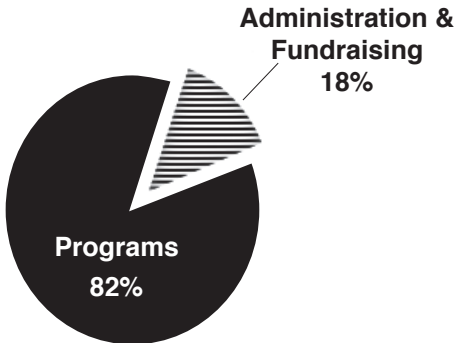
President/Executive Director

Endometriosis Association

**P.S. All these firsts were accomplished **because of support by people like you**. But we can't sit on our laurels when so many are suffering—**please donate today** to make sure our legacy continues!**

International Headquarters • 8585 N 76th Place • Milwaukee WI 53223 • USA

Dear Endo Survivor, If you've been supporting our important cause at the same level for some years, please consider notching up your gift a bit. Your donation will then help us even more!



Your donation supports important programs directly benefitting all affected by endometriosis and related diseases.

**\$35-\$135 Circle if you'd like one of the following:**

- Foods to Eat, Foods to Avoid When Pregnant
- Better to light a candle than to curse the [endo] darkness.”  
Light a 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary Virtual Candle with your name on our website.

**\$135 or more select:**

- EA 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary organic cotton T-shirt. (circle size S, M, L, XL)
- DVD from all day endo conference, 13 doctors, 11 patients

*While supplies last*

**RESPOND BY DECEMBER 31, 2015 FOR FREE ITEMS (see back) AMOUNT OF MY GIFT: \$\_\_\_\_\_**

- I am interested in joining the End Endo Now Club, a monthly giving club. You choose the amount to be automatically transferred from your checking account or charged to your credit card each month.
- Check or money order enclosed, payable to Endometriosis Association
- Charge my MasterCard or VISA (circle one) **Account#** \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Use your credit card to fax, call, mail, or make your donation online**

**Fax:** (414) 355-6065 **Phone:** (414) 355-2200 (M-F, 8:30-5:00 CST)

**Website: [www.EndometriosisAssn.org](http://www.EndometriosisAssn.org)**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TEL# \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL (for important alerts, clinical trials, events in my area, warnings or drug recalls):  
\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE/PROVINCE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP/POSTAL CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_

**Donations are tax deductible. Any amount is appreciated. Thank You!**