



2026 Parkinson's Policy Forum

- 300+ advocates from 49 states united on Capitol Hill
- 240 meetings with congress and congressional staffers
- 20 people representing Parkinson's from Colorado
- Met with both senators & 6 congressional representatives

2026 Forum: Key Policy Priorities

Increase Federal Research Funding

Goal: \$600M annually at NIH for Parkinson's and related diseases

0.0086% — less than one-hundredth of one percent.

Restrict Paraquat

Curb or ban the toxic herbicide linked to Parkinson's disease

About 2 in 3 voters support restricting or banning paraquat

National Parkinson's Project

HHS Passed in 2024, but implementation has stalled

Missed the January deadline for first report due to the council not being confirmed.

Parkinson's disease cost the U.S. \$82.2 billion in 2024 a decade ahead of projections.

NPP Advisory Council Members (Seated April 10, 2026)



Non-Federal Members (10)

Israel Robledo — Patient Advocate (young-onset PD)
Jessi Keavney, CMA, MBA — Patient/Caregiver Advocate
Sara Whittingham, MD — Healthcare Provider / Veteran
Alice Chen-Plotkin, MD — Biomedical Researcher
Bradley F. Boeve, MD — Dementia Specialist
David G. Standaert, MD, PhD — Movement Disorders Specialist
Cathi Ann Thomas, MS, RN — Nonprofit / Clinical Care
Michael S. Okun, MD — Nonprofit / Movement Disorders
Deborah W. Brooks — MJFF CEO & Co-Founder
Jessica Shurer, MSW, LCSW — CurePSP / Atypical Parkinsonisms

Federal Members (13)

Amy Bany Adams, PhD — NIH / NINDS
Nancy Beck, PhD — Environmental Protection Agency
Stephanie E. Haridopolos, MD — HHS / Office of Surgeon General
Roger Klein, MD, JD — Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality
Gayathri Kumar, MD — HHS / Office of Minority Health
Mary Lazare, MA, MS — Administration for Community Living
+ 7 additional federal agency representatives

Call to Action: Ban Paraquat in Colorado

Why Paraquat Must Be Banned

Banned in 70+ countries

Including China, Brazil, and the entire EU — yet still legal in the U.S.

2x increased Parkinson's risk

People living within 500m of paraquat spraying more than double their odds of developing PD

81% of voters support a ban

When informed of the Parkinson's link, 4 in 5 voters say ban it

States have the power to act now

On May 1, 2026 the House voted 280-142 to protect states' rights to restrict paraquat

How YOU Can Help

1. Contact your Colorado state legislators

Call or email your state rep and senator. Ask them to introduce or support a statewide paraquat ban. Senator Cathy Kipp – Agriculture Committee

2. Share your story

Personal stories move lawmakers. Share how Parkinson's has affected you or your family.

3. Join the Parkinson's Policy Network

Sign up at michaeljfox.org/advocacy to get alerts when your voice is needed most.

13 states already have bills in motion — Colorado should be next.

Virtual National Day of Action - Keep the Momentum Going!



Because of you, lawmakers heard directly from the Parkinson's community. Now, let's make sure they don't forget.

1. Send a message to Congress

Thank your lawmakers and reinforce the priorities you discussed. Keep building consistent champions!

Heads Up: President Trump's budget is a proposal — Congress makes the final decisions. Now is the time to urge strong, increased investment in Parkinson's research.

2. Request an in-district meeting

Schedule a local meeting during recess. One of the most effective ways to be heard — and bring other advocates who couldn't make D.C.!

3. Advocate in your state

Reach out to state lawmakers and urge them to prioritize Parkinson's policies this session and into 2027.

4. Get loud — share your story

Post about your experience using **#Act4PD** and remind lawmakers why this matters. Follow MJFF on Facebook, Instagram & LinkedIn.

— Amy Becker, Director of Advocacy, MJFF
michaeljfox.org/advocacy