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ALS Association of Georgia Awards Grants to
Emory ALS Center and Georgia Regents Augusta ALS Clinic

Atlanta, GA (March 31, 2014) – As part of its mission to make life better for patients and families impacted by ALS, the ALS Association of Georgia (ALSAGA) recently awarded grants to The Emory ALS Center and Georgia Regents University’s Augusta ALS Clinic.

The annual gifts will help fund multidisciplinary patient care for ALS patients in Georgia as well as groundbreaking research and experimental treatments. ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis), also known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord, leaving patients in the later stages of the disease paralyzed. There is no cure.

“Our primary focus at ALSAGA is improving the lives of ALS patients and their families by providing access to high-quality, consistent and compassionate support services,” says Sarah Embro, executive director of ALSAGA. “The doctors, nurses, therapists and staff at these ALS clinics are on the frontlines in the battle against ALS. It is truly an honor to support the research and services they provide.”

The Emory ALS Center, led by Dr. Jonathan Glass, is one of the largest clinical centers for ALS in the United States. Its team of neurologists, neurosurgeons, nurses, therapists and dieticians care for both the physical and emotional needs of patients and families, with a focus on independence and quality of life through state-of-the-art intervention. The Center’s physician-scientists also perform groundbreaking research.

“The Emory ALS Center is on the cutting edge of ALS research,” says Glass. “With ALSAGA’s partnership and support, we deliver the highest quality of care to patients and families, while providing hope through clinical basic research focused on the causes and potential treatments for ALS”.

The Augusta ALS Clinic, led by Dr. Michael Rivner, is a full-service, certified ALSA clinic that offers clinical research studies in the hopes of effectively treating patients with ALS. Treatments include state-of-the-art physical, occupational and speech therapy; social work; augmentive communications; and diagnostic and nursing services.
“ALSAGA’s ongoing support is vital to the success of the Augusta ALS Clinic,” Rivner says. “It helps to ensure that our staff continues to deliver the best possible care to those struggling with this horrible disease.”

**About the ALS Association**

The ALS Association Georgia Chapter is the only nationally affiliated not-for-profit health organization dedicated solely to the fight against Lou Gehrig’s Disease. The ALS Association of Georgia provides patient consultations, a medical equipment loan program, patient and caregiver support groups, and supports ALS clinics in Atlanta, Augusta and Macon. The local chapter also joins with chapters across the country to support research and participate in federal advocacy initiatives.

To learn more about Lou Gehrig’s Disease and the ALS Association of Georgia, visit [www.alsaga.org](http://www.alsaga.org).