

# Parkinson's Awareness Month 2025 Meet PAM



## **Overview**

Every April, the Parkinson's Foundation engages the Parkinson's community near and far to raise awareness about both Parkinson's and the Foundation during Parkinson's Awareness Month. This year, with a larger network than ever before, our hope is to engage as many people as possible to improve the lives of people affected by Parkinson's through increased awareness.

This guide provides simple instructions and tools to help you activate your community to support the campaign and how you can participate. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Seireg, Sr. Director of Marketing, at <a href="mailto:jseireg@parkinson.org">jseireg@parkinson.org</a>.

## 2025 Theme: Meet PAM

The theme for 2025 Parkinson's Awareness Month is Meet PAM.

This April, meet PAM, your guide to **P**arkinson's **A**wareness **M**onth. PAM is here to help raise awareness by addressing key Parkinson's disease (PD) topics.

This theme allows us to answer the frequently asked questions and top topics on Parkinson's disease as well as promote our available resources.



Each week of Parkinson's Awareness Month, PAM will share videos, tips and resources to coincide with a weekly theme.

- Week 1: What should everyone know about Parkinson's disease?
- Week 2: Could it be Parkinson's? What are the early signs?
- Week 3: How do you manage PD symptoms?
- Week 4: What can I expect as PD progresses?
- Week 5: What is happening with research?

# **Parkinson's Awareness Month Sponsor**

Our friends at Mitsubishi Tanabe Pharma America have graciously sponsored the Parkinson's Foundation's social media advertising for the Parkinson's Awareness Month campaign to help us reach new audiences with Parkinson's disease awareness and get resources into the hands of people who need it.



## Parkinson's Awareness Month Landing Page

The centerpiece of our Parkinson's Awareness Month promotion this year is the Parkinson's Awareness Month <u>landing page</u> on our website. Here we provide the weekly videos featuring PAM, as well as links to corresponding resources so people can learn more about each topic.

## **How to Get Involved!**

The sections below outline how you can activate your community to support the campaign and spread the word. These instructions include opportunities around the community so that everyone can participate at events, on our website and on social media. **Click on the links below to access instructions and sample materials.** 

- 1. Submit a <u>Proclamation Template</u>
- 2. Recruit at least one My PD Story
- 3. Email your networks
- 4. Schedule Social Media Posts
- 5. Communicate with the Communications Team

# **Submit a Proclamation Template**

Petition your mayor or governor to declare April Parkinson's Awareness Month. Insert your local information in the placeholders in the Sample Proclamation to customize it for your town or state. Go online to find out how to contact your mayor or governor's office, and/or call or email to inquire where to submit the proclamation. You can adjust the below template to fit any required word limits. After you've submitted the proclamation, follow up by email or phone to ensure it was received.

### 2025 CITY/STATE PROCLAMATION TEMPLATE

# 2025 CITY/STATE/TRIBAL PROCLAMATION Parkinson's Awareness Month

A proclamation is a public statement or announcement giving notice of a government act. Receiving a proclamation from a mayor, governor, or governing body of a city, county, tribal or state serves the purpose of increasing awareness about Parkinson's disease and the continued need for research, education, and community services. When submitting your request, provide your contact information so they can reach out with any questions, invite you to an event, or send you the final proclamation.

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive, neurological disease and is the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States;

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is estimated to affect approximately one million people in the United States and the prevalence will rise to 1.2 million by 2030;

WHEREAS, 90,000 new people are diagnosed each year in the United States with Parkinson's disease;

WHEREAS, Parkinson's disease is the 14th leading cause of death in the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the economic burden of Parkinson's disease is at least \$52 billion annually, including direct and indirect costs, including treatment, social security payments and lost income, to patients and family members;

WHEREAS, research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown;

WHEREAS, there is no objective test or biomarker for Parkinson's disease, and there is no cure or drug to slow or halt the progression of the disease;

WHEREAS, the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include tremors; slowness of movement and rigidity; difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking; cognitive impairment and dementia; mood disorders; and a variety of other non-motor symptoms;

WHEREAS, volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life of persons living with Parkinson's disease and their families;

WHEREAS, increased research, education, and community support services such as those provided by the Parkinson's Foundation and other organizations are needed to find more effective treatments and to provide access to quality care to those living with the disease today;

NOW, THEREFORE, I/WE,	, Mayor/Governor/Governing Body of the
City/County/State/Tribal of	, do hereby proclaim the month of April in twenty twenty
five as PARKINSON'S AWARENES	SS MONTH.
	United States in the City of, and to which I have /State/Tribal of to be affixed and have made this
Mayor/Governor/Governing Body	
Attest:	

# Recruit a My PD Story

"My PD Stories" powerfully illustrate what it's like to live with Parkinson's and how our programs and resources provide hope and support. We'd love stories that showcase the diversity of Parkinson's disease. Do you know someone with a unique story to tell? They can visit <a href="Parkinson.org/PDStory">Parkinson.org/PDStory</a> to submit their story.

## **Email Your Networks**

This is one of the easiest ways to spread awareness for Parkinson's Awareness Month. Just copy the approved blurb into a standalone email or add it to an email or newsletter you're already planning on sending. Whatever works for you — this gets the message out quickly.

#### SAMPLE EMAIL OR NEWSLETTER BLURB

## This Parkinson's Awareness Month, meet PAM – your guide to Parkinson's

This April, the Parkinson's Foundation wants you to meet PAM, your guide to **P**arkinson's **A**wareness **M**onth. PAM is here to help raise awareness by addressing key Parkinson's disease (PD) topics. Each week, PAM will share essential tips and resources to give people helpful information on PD.

The Parkinson's Foundation is highlighting different topics every week, so make sure you keep checking back for new resources and information from PAM. Watch for videos on social media or follow along on our website.

We could use your help! Help us spread the word about PAM so we can reach as many people as possible with important Parkinson's disease information. Visit <a href="Parkinson.org/Awareness">Parkinson.org/Awareness</a> for ways to get involved with Parkinson's Awareness Month.

## **Social Media Guide**

All Graphics can be downloaded <a href="here">here</a>. Password: MeetPAM2025

Make sure to <a href="tag-the-Parkinson's Foundation">tag-the-Parkinson's Foundation</a> when posting! This makes it easier for us to see and interact with your posts. The following are sized for Facebook, LinkedIn, and X.

Week 1 (4/1 – 4/5)	It's officially April, which means it's time to meet PAM: Your Guide to Parkinson's Awareness Month! Stay tuned with @ParkinsonDotOrg throughout April and beyond as PAM acts as your go-to-guide for Parkinson's questions, resources and more. Start learning about the disease affecting more than 10 million people worldwide by visiting: Parkinson.org/Awareness	Hi! I'm PAM: Your Guide To: Parkinson's Awareness Month  Parkinson's Foundation
Week 1 4/1 – 4/5)	Did you know that someone new is diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in the U.S. every six minutes?   Today for Parkinson's Awareness Month, learn 5 things everyone should know about PD from @ParkinsonDotOrg. Find more information from the Parkinson's	Hit I'm PAM: You Golde to: Porkinson's Awareness Month Here are 5 things everyone should know about Parkinson's.  Parkinson's  Parkinson's  Parkinson's  Scientiats believe Parkinson's is caused by a combination of genetic and environment foctors.  Parkinson's  Parkinson's  Parkinson's  Parkinson's  Parkinson's disease includes both movement and pon-movement symptoms.

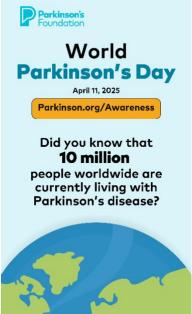
	Farm detter et	T	
	Foundation at Parkinson.org/Awareness!		
Week 2	Which of these early signs of	Tremor Soft or Low Voice	
(4/6 – 4/12)	Parkinson's disease surprises you the most?	Hil I'm PAM: Yest Gold Te. Por itersent's Association Month. Do you Know these	
	For Parkinson's Awareness Month, learn more from @ParkinsonDotOrg by visiting Parkinson.org/Awareness.	10 early signs of Parkinson's?  Parkinson's Steeping Masked Face  Trouble Steeping Steeping  Steeping Dizzness or Fainting Dizzness or Fainting	
Friday, April 11	Today is World Parkinson's Day! More than 10 million people worldwide are living with Parkinson's disease.	<b>World</b>	
	@ParkinsonDotOrg is dedicated to making life better for people with Parkinson's disease by improving care and advancing research toward a cure.	Parkinson's Day April 11, 2025 Parkinson.org/Awareness Parkinson.org/Awareness Parkinson's Gleeker Pulkinson's Gleeker Pulkinson's Gleeker	
	Join the Parkinson's community today in spreading PD awareness by sharing this post and visiting <a href="Parkinson.org/Awareness">Parkinson.org/Awareness</a> !		
Week 3 (4/13 – 4/19)	While often overlooked, non-motor symptoms in Parkinson's disease are common and can even be more troublesome and disabling than motor symptoms.	Parkinson's disease is more than a movement disorder.  Common Non-Motor Parkinson's Symptoms include:  April 1 Today, I'm highlighting	
	For Parkinson's Awareness Month, learn from @ParkinsonDotOrg about managing symptoms like sleeping troubles, mental health challenges and hallucinations:  Parkinson.org/Awareness	> Anxiety > Trouble Swellowing   Topothe Swellowing   Apathy   Soft Voice   Soft Vo	
Week 3	Have you heard of this valuable		
(4/13 – 4/19)	Parkinson's disease resource? The Parkinson's Foundation Helpline is ready to answer your Parkinson's questions, connect you to local resources, offer current disease information and more. (All at no cost to you!)	Parkinson's Foundation Helpline  1-800-4PD-INFO Helpline@Parkinson.org  Answers to your PO evertions, connections to resource, local referruls, and more.  Assistance evaluable in English and Spanish. Open Monday through Priday, 9am to 7gm ET.	
	For Parkinson's Awareness Month, save the @ParkinsonDotOrg Helpline to your contacts: 1-800-4PD-INFO (1-		

Week 3 (4/13 – 4/19)	B00-473-4636)   Helpline@Parkinson.org  Learn more: Parkinson.org/Awareness  Studies have found that exercise and physical activity can not only maintain and improve mobility, flexibility and balance but also ease non-motor Parkinson's symptoms such as depression or constipation.  B Today for Parkinson's Awareness Month, learn more from @ParkinsonDotOrg about how exercise benefits people with Parkinson's disease: Parkinson.org/Awareness	Hill I'm PAM: Year Guide Tee Positrianen's Awareness. Month Did you know? Research shows exercise both movement and no-movement Parkinson's symptoms.
Week 4 (4/20 – 4/26)	While Parkinson's disease symptoms and progression are unique to each person, knowing the typical stages of PD can help you cope with changes as they occur.  Today for Parkinson's Awareness Month, learn about the stages of Parkinson's from @ParkinsonDotOrg: Parkinson.org/Awareness	Parkinsen's Poundation  Hi! I'm PAM!  You'r Gode Te Pork nson's Avorances Month Do you know the S stages of Parkinson's?  Advanced Stage Symptoms are rulid and de not with daily activities.  3  Mid-Stage PD Symptoms are rulid and de not with daily activities.  3  Mid-Stage PD Symptoms are rulid and de not with daily activities.  4  Tully developed and constant curve is typically needed.  5
Week 4 (4/20 – 4/26)	As Parkinson's disease progresses, making adjustments throughout the home can help with fall prevention and mobility.  Today for Parkinson's Awareness Month, check out these tips from @ParkinsonDotOrg on home safety.  Learn more: Parkinson.org/Awareness	Hil I'm PAM: Your Guide To: Parkinson's Avarancess Month Today, I'm sharing tips for keeping people with PD safe at home.  Parkinson's Par
Week 5 (4/27 – 4/30)	Individuals with a confirmed diagnosis of Parkinson's disease are invited to join @ParkinsonDotOrg's groundbreaking genetics study, PD GENEration: Mapping the Future of Parkinson's Disease. PD GENEration offers genetic testing & counseling for people with PD at no cost.	Parkinson's Foundation  Daywi have a conferred Parkinson's diagnosis'  Join POENErction to:  Province for greater issue;  I can take a run fundy's lask for Parkinson's  According to the foundation of the conferred parkinson's  According to the foundation of the conferred parkinson's  According to the conferred parkinson's disease.

Today for Parkinson's Awareness Month, learn more and register: Parkinson.org/PDGENEration

We've also put together six graphics that are sized for Instagram and Facebook Stories:













# **Communicate with the Communications Team**

We're looking for stories to feature in our e-newsletter, social media channels and blog. If you've come across a great tip, know of a member in your network with advice/a story to share or are hosting a great fundraiser to spread general PD awareness — we want to hear about it! Contact Julie Seireg, Senior Director of Marketing, at <a href="mailto:jseireg@parkinson.org">jseireg@parkinson.org</a>.