



Winter is upon us and it is difficult to believe we have arrived at the end of 2019! It's been another amazing year for the Georgia Chapter—and we have our wonderful members to thank for our success. Read on to see how we have continued to meet our goals of support, education, and research through our chapter activities this year. Happy Holidays to all our members!



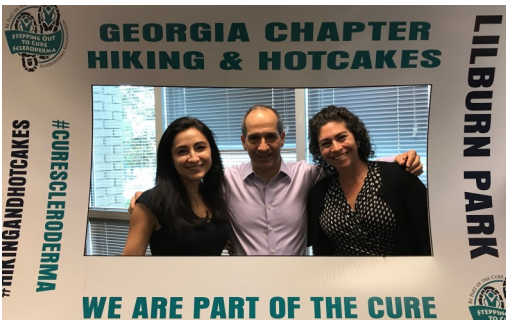
SUPPORT

Support groups are so important! They are a way to connect with others, share stories, and ideas, and receive helpful information. Two of our outstanding support group leaders—Vernita White and Demetra Newton were honored at our appreciation lunch in June. Vernita and Demetra lead the Peachtree City Support Group and also serve on the Georgia Chapter Board of Directors. For support group meeting schedules check out our website at www.scleroderma.org/georgia.



EDUCATION

Our summer patient seminar was held at the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce in June and featured very informative presentations from Dr. Susan Wallis, Dr. Katina Tsagaris, and Dr. Alvero Velasquez, all from the Emory Health Network. They also had time for questions from our attendees and posed for a photobooth picture with our Hiking and Hotcakes sign. The presentation was well attended by both patients and caregivers. Stay tuned for information about our next seminar in the Spring of 2020.



RESEARCH

Once again, the Georgia Chapter raised money for scleroderma research with our signature fundraiser Hiking and Hotcakes in Lilburn Park. Despite an incredibly rainy morning, we had a tremendous turnout of runners, walkers, bingo players, and of course, pancake eaters! We did not let a little (actually A LOT) of rain deter the FUN and the FUNdraising! We raised over \$30,000 and look forward to hosting this event again next year!

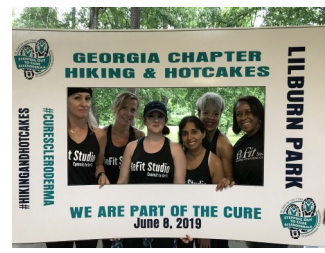


#CURESCLEDERMA
#HIKINGANDHOTCAKES



2019 Chapter Highlights

Once again the Georgia Chapter turned out IN FORCE to run, walk, and eat pancakes at our Hiking and Hotcakes 2019 event in Lilburn Park. For the first time ever, it rained on our event—and oh how it rained! Despite the terrible weather, we raced and ate but the highlight of the day was celebrating our tremendous fundraising success. This year we had a record number of teams come out and Race for Research. We could not have this event without the tremendous help of our sponsors and the incredible community volunteers including the Knights of Columbus who cook the breakfast, the Parkview Cross Country Team helping us on the race course, and many Lilburn friends who show up rain or shine to help us with registration, check in, and prize drawings. Our photo booth was a huge hit too!



Race participants were great sports about the weather!
Our volunteers are the best—Parkview High School XC team, Lilburn friends, BeFit Zumba

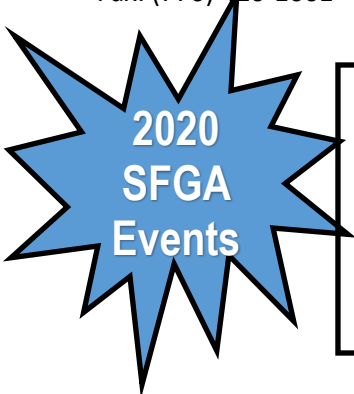
The National Patient Conference was held in Chicago in July and the Georgia Chapter had a large contingent of attendees. In addition to enjoying the beautiful sites of downtown Chicago we were able to meet folks from around the world who share our passion to find a cure for scleroderma. We attended many informative sessions and were able to bring home news and knowledge about the happenings in the Scleroderma Community. In 2020 the National Patient Education Conference will be held in Bellevue, WA (near Seattle) July 17-19, 2020.



LOOKING FOR A PHYSICIAN?

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SPRING 2020 DATE TBD—**Patient Seminar and Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon**
Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce 6500 Sugarloaf Parkway Duluth, GA 30097
JUNE 13, 2020 8:30 am—**Hiking and Hotcakes 2020**— Lilburn City Park
JULY 17-19, 2020—**National Patient Education Conference**—Bellevue, WA
For more information go to www.scleroderma.org/georgia

