

What is Huntington's Disease?

Huntington's disease (HD) is a hereditary neurodegenerative brain disease. Every child of an individual with HD has a 50/50 chance of inheriting the same fate. HD is a trinucleotide repeat disorder where the mutated gene causes unstable CAG (cytosine-adenine-guanine) expansion.

Every individual has a CAG repeat, but the normal range is 10-26. An individual with a CAG repeat >38 will have Huntington's disease at some time in his/her lifetime. The gene was discovered in 1993, and a diagnostic genetic blood test was developed.

The juvenile form of Huntington's disease (JHD) is more progressive and virulent. Children with JHD represent about 5% of all HD cases and are diagnosed with family history, a CAG of >60 repeats and diagnosed before the age of 20. Symptoms include: uncontrolled movements called chorea, decline in scholastics, memory loss, psychiatric behaviors, seizures, dystonia, loss of balance, and tremors to name a few.

Individuals with HD and JHD eventually lose their ability to take care of their own needs and become completely dependent on caregivers for everything. Care of HD individuals is extremely challenging and requires coordination of many disciplines. Mortality typically ranges between 10-20 years for HD and less for JHD, about 5-10 years after diagnosis.

For more information...

Contact us or donate to:

Help 4 HD International
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Visit us on the web:
www.Help4HD.org



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WHO IS

Help 4 HD?

HELP 4 HD International

Help4HD.org

Help 4 JHD

HD Family Relief Fund

Help 4 HD Live!

Research4HD

The Huntington's Post

Law Enforcement Education

Support Groups



Who is Help 4 HD International?



Help 4 HD is a grassroots patient advocacy organization which utilizes multimedia communications and social media to propel its education and advocacy mission. Help 4 HD events, conferences,

publications, and support groups inform and inspire the Huntington's disease community.

Help 4 HD Live! features live interviews every Wednesday at 4 p.m. ET/1 p.m. PT. Look for episodes on Help 4 HD International's Facebook page each week, or go to BlogTalkRadio.com/Help4HD to hear live and archived programs. More than 270 episodes are also available on iTunes.com/Help4HD.

Help 4 HD Support Groups are in California and Florida. For more information, please visit www.help4hd.org and proceed to the support group tab for contact information and locations. Contact Katie Jackson if you are interested in starting a new support group.

Help 4 HD Family Relief Fund:

This program helps Huntington's disease and Juvenile Huntington's disease families with immediate emergency assistance and special holiday programs. We have dedicated thousands of dollars to this program and have helped many families in need.

Law Enforcement Education Program (LEEP):

Help 4 HD International's LEEP program has helped educate thousands of law enforcement agents and first responders about Huntington's disease. We have attended national and international law enforcement conferences, sent out flash drives full of information to local law enforcement departments, and done training courses at law enforcement departments' advanced officer training days.

Mission

Help 4 HD's mission is to educate the world about Huntington's disease through its multimedia communications platform, and to find the underserved HD families who are seeking information, education, and resources. All HD families need help with the challenges that are thrown in their paths; many find themselves in crisis situations. Our goal is to discover the underserved areas and bring support and resources to those who need help.

COMMITMENT TO SERVE

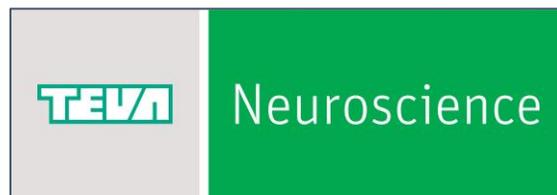
All of Help 4 HD's amazing staff and volunteers have the same desire to help and serve. Each has a strong connection to HD and JHD and understands the burdens that all HD families face.

Help 4 HD is committed to its caregiver support and education initiatives. Providing information about research and clinical trials and connecting credible care professionals with the community is top priority. Now with several Help 4 HD support groups chapters, what started out as a California Central Coast Association has become a global community outreach and effort.

Help 4 HD's 100+ Ambassadors are working every day to bring advocacy and awareness about HD and JHD to the world.

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President, Katie Jackson, husband Michael and their amazing children. Mike was diagnosed in 2007. Their children have a 50/50 chance of inheriting the same fate.

Family First!

Help 4 HD is focused on helping HD families by bridging communications and partnering with institutions, industry, and professionals from every discipline. Help 4 HD's philosophy is "Family First." Nothing is more important than facilitating safe and healthy families, and the way we do that is through education and support services. Here is what one medical professional says about Help 4 HD:

"Help 4 HD International has been able to reach a portion of the Huntington's community that no one else has." --Dr. LaVonne Goodman, Seattle, WA

HELP 4 HD's SUPER SIX

1. Communications
2. Education
3. Events & Conferences
4. Fundraising Initiatives
5. Patient Advocacy
6. Support Services