



May is National PKU Awareness Month

Make a Difference in A PKU Life

GEORGIA PKU
C O N N E C T

What is PKU?

Though PKU is rare, affecting approximately 16,500 people in the US, the effects of untreated PKU are devastating. People with the inherited metabolic disorder called phenylketonuria (PKU) cannot utilize the amino acid phenylalanine, meaning that they may only be able to tolerate about 5-7 grams of protein per day. Without specialized medical foods they would starve. **If left untreated, or inadequately treated, PKU causes severe adverse health consequences, including debilitating intellectual impairment, behavioral dysfunction and other physical problems.** In addition, a PKU women who is pregnant must be on a highly restricted diet during the entire pregnancy or the child may suffer severe physical and intellectual disability. PKU treatment must begin within a couple of weeks of birth and continue for a lifetime. The average cost of medically necessary food for PKU (which doesn't include clinic visits and blood work) is approximately \$7,300 per person per year, leaving many families with a large financial burden. The majority of teens and adults struggle to maintain treatment due to the complexity and expense of maintaining this strict medical food diet.



What is Georgia PKU Connect?

Georgia PKU Connect exists to connect PKU families and individuals in Georgia with the support and resources they need to manage PKU and live healthy, productive lives. Since its founding in 2008, Georgia PKU Connect has also grown to become instrumental (in conjunction with the National PKU Alliance and other organizations) in advocating for research, for better treatment options and for legislation to provide funding for medical foods to benefit those affected by PKU.

You can help to make a difference: Your contribution during National PKU Awareness Month will help Georgia PKU Connect to:

- Engage in PKU advocacy
- Support research for a cure
- Host PKU networking and education events
- Collaborate with clinics and other organizations
- Communicate news and events though Facebook, the web and email
- Provide camp scholarships
- ... and more.

Visit georgiapku.org for more information

Would you like to help? There are two ways to contribute.

(You may donate in honor of an individual, organization or event by clicking "memo" in the on-line donation form or putting the name in the memo section of your check.)

Online Donations

Visit the URL below to securely donate online using your credit card

<http://georgiapku.org/donate-2/>

To Give by Mail

Make donations payable to "Georgia PKU Connect" and mail to:

Georgia PKU Connect
P.O. Box 942492
Atlanta, GA 31141

HELP US
REACH
\$10K
in May!

Georgia PKU Connect is a 501(c)(3) non-profit. All donations are tax deductible.

We thank you for your support!