Group Leadership Call: August 19, 2021  3PM EST

Hosted By:
Mollie Burns
Manager, Community Engagement
Philadelphia, PA
Group Leadership Call: August 19, 2021  7PM EST

Hosted By:
Sue Pandya
Manager, Community Engagement
Phoenix, AZ
Zoom Tips: Microphone and Camera

Click the microphone icon to unmute yourself and click the video icon to share your video
Zoom Tips: Viewing Options

Choose what works best for you using the button in the top right corner of your screen

Speaker View

Gallery View
Today’s Call

• Program Reminder: Black MS Experience programs

• Presentation: Group Meetings with Sarah MacIsaac and special guests Veronica Daniels – Lewis, Support Group Leader from Houston, Texas.

• Society and Leader Resources

• Questions, Feedback, and Discussion
The National Multiple Sclerosis Society is a movement by and for all people affected by MS.

Our voices and actions reflect diversity, equity, and inclusion.

We welcome and value diverse perspectives.

We actively seek out and embrace differences.

We want everyone to feel respected and be empowered to bring their whole selves to ensure we make the best decisions to achieve our mission.
Black MS Experience Programs

Black MS Community Group Discussions:
- August 21: New York City & Detroit
- August 24: Philadelphia
- August 25: Atlanta
- August 28: North & South Carolina

Black MS Experience Summit
- September 22-23
- Registration is now open!

www.nationalmssociety.org/BlackMSExperience
Group Meetings:
Agendas, Speakers & Education
How Groups Help

- Listening
- Share Information
- Share Resources
- Emotional Support
- Personal Experience
Group Leader Toolkit Resources

www.nationalMSsociety.org/PeerConnectionsVolunteers
Building & Using Agendas

Example 1:
• Welcome to our group!
  • Disclaimer
  • Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
• Round robin check in & member updates
• Conversation topic:
  • Heat- how’s everyone doing?
• Next month: reminder of guest speaker, conversation topic, schedule updates, etc.

Example 2:
• Welcome!
  • Disclaimer
  • Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
• Guest Speaker: (include name & bio)
  • Include time for Q&A with speaker
• Open discussion
• Wrap Up and News to Know for Next Month
Guest Speakers

Identifying potential speakers:
• Group members as community resource- who do THEY know?
• Connect with other group leaders in your area- who do THEY know?
• Connect with your staff partner to **brainstorm** appropriate types of speakers on topics and to potentially identify community providers/agencies that might be a good fit
• Not all speakers are appropriate for groups

Once a speaker is identified:
• Reach out and ask!
• Be flexible on dates offered
• If virtual or hybrid- speakers don’t need to be local
• Confirm with speaker a few days prior to scheduled visit
Educational Resources

Educational Resources & Toolkits

For Peer Connections
Volunteers

- Resources for Peer Connections
- Volunteers

For Group/Leadership Calls
Recordings

Educational
Resources & Toolkits

- Resources for Meeting in Person

Resources
- National MS Society Brochures - The Society's online library of free downloadable resources & brochures.
- Ask an MS Expert program series - Weekly webinar to learn more about multiple sclerosis from top MS experts.
- Webinar Series with Can Do MS - Upcoming live webinars to share with group members or watch as a group.
- On-demand educational videos - Share with group members or watch as a group.
- RealTalk MS - Get the latest news about MS through a weekly podcast.
- Facebook National MS Society Community Page
- National MS Society YouTube channel

MS 201 Webinars
- Progress & MS
- Cognitive issues
- Pain Management
- Risk Factors and Prevention of MS
- MS in the African American Population
- Exercise and MS

https://www.youtube.com/nationalmssociety
Guest Leaders

• Special guest(s) Veronica Daniels – Lewis from the Sugar Land SW, Houston, Texas SHG
Society & Leader Resources
Peer to Peer Connection Opportunities

A place for National MS Society volunteers to interact with other Self-Help Group leaders, MS Friends, and Peer-to-Peer volunteers. This group provides access to valuable resources and offers a safe environment for collaboration and idea-sharing so you can best support your group members and fellow MS community.
Research Opportunity

• CONNECT e-trial information
  • Society funded trial to share with your group members!
  • 12-week professionally-led online support group focused on Black & Latinx individuals living with MS
  • If you, or your group members, are interested in finding out more information on this trial, additional details will be in next week’s Group Leader Newsletter
Ask an MS Expert Program Series

• Weekly on Fridays from 1-2pm ET in English
• The 3rd Wednesday of each month from 7-8pm ET in Spanish
• Quarterly for Veterans

Vaccine Use in MS and COVID-19 Update
Friday, August 20 | 1:00 PM EDT – 2:00 PM EDT

Many people living with MS have concerns about the safety of routine vaccinations and currently more so about the COVID-19 vaccines. Join us and Dr. Nancy Sicotte, Chair of the Society’s National Medical Advisory Committee, as we talk about vaccine-preventable infections and vaccine recommendations for people living with MS. We will discuss COVID-19 updates and share the most accurate and reliable guidance possible to help everyone with MS make informed decisions and feel connected and supported. Also, Victoria Holmes, nurse practitioner who lives with MS, will share her story and personal experience with the COVID-19 vaccine.
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youtube.com/nationalMSsociety

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2021 Monthly Leadership Call Dates

Third Thursday of the month

September 16
October 21
November 18
December 16

3 pm EST and 7 pm EST