



Celebrating 35 Years

EMPOWERING VOICES, TRANSFORMING LIVES

As we commemorate our 35th anniversary, we share some of the milestones that have shaped our organization's journey. Our Mission has been clear and unwavering from the start – to improve the lives of people affected by spasmodic dysphonia and related voice conditions through research, education and awareness, and support.

From humble beginnings, our organization continues to expand, committed to advancing knowledge and support for those facing voice-related challenges and striving to fund research to find answers.

The evolution of our identity reflects our continuous adaptation to better serve the global community and ensure everyone's voice is heard.

Together, we stride into the future, united in our mission to make a meaningful difference and improve the lives of those affected by spasmodic dysphonia and related voice conditions.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

HIGHLIGHTS | 1989–2024

- 1989**
 - Incorporated the National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association in Michigan
- 1990**
 - Published first NSDA Quarterly Report
- 1991**
 - Article on SD published in *Prevention Magazine*
- 1993**
 - Hosted the first Symposium in Irvine, CA
- 1994**
 - Opened in first office Birmingham, MI
- 1995**
 - Exhibited at first professional medical conference
- 1996**
 - Appointed first Medical Advisors
- 1997**
 - Dystonia Online Support Group established
 - Partnered with the DMRF for management
- 1998**
 - Created the AOL SD Chat Group
 - Released the award-winning video, *What is SD?*
- 1999**
 - Established the Midge Kovacs Award
 - Established the SD Bulletin Board
- 2001**
 - Published *Speechless No More*
- 2005**
 - Launched the first NSDA website at dysphonia.org
- 2006**
 - Established new management in Itasca, IL
 - Hosted the inaugural Leadership Day and Symposium on World Voice Day
 - Published the first issue of *Voices of Support*
 - Coordinated first NIH SD-Focused Research Planning Workshop
- 2007**
 - Established the Research Grant Program
 - Appointed the first Scientific Advisory Board
 - Established the Medical Advisory Board
- 2008**
 - Published *Easier Done than Said: Living with a Voice Disorder*
- 2009**
 - Awarded first international SD research grant
 - Dystonia Coalition funded by NIH
- 2011**
 - Global Dystonia Registry established
 - Dystonia Brain Collectives established
 - Relaunched website
- 2012**
 - Published first issue of *e-Voice*
- 2013**
 - Published *Share Your Story*
- 2014**
 - Funded first professional medical association Research Travel Awards
- 2015**
 - Established the Dot Sowerby Pioneer Award and Larry Kolasa Founding President's Award
- 2016**
 - Hosted Research Workshop
- 2018**
 - Launched a redesigned and expanded website
- 2019**
 - Expanded mission to include related voice conditions
 - Hosted a Research Workshop
 - Published *Celebrating Our Voice*
- 2020**
 - Hosted first virtual Symposium
 - Launched first virtual support meetings
 - Created Walk for Talk
- 2021**
 - Published *Speechless No More: A Life Transformed by a Voice Disorder*
- 2023**
 - Incorporated Dysphonia International in Illinois
 - Officially launched Dysphonia International
 - Surpassed \$800,000 in research funding
 - Provided augmentive funding for smaller grants
- 2024**
 - Celebrating the 35th Anniversary
 - Hosted virtual Research Workshop
 - Expanded Scientific Advisory Board
 - Hosting the 5th Annual Walk for Talk