



AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ALS SOCIETY OF BC PATIENT SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Equipment Loan Program

With 2,900 pieces of medical equipment, our Equipment Loan Program is designed to help people cope with the daily challenges of decreasing mobility and independence through obtaining basic and essential assistive equipment. This includes mobility equipment, lift equipment, beds and accessories, communication devices and bathroom aids. All equipment loaned is available at no charge to registered ALS patients.

Transportation Support Program

For people living with ALS who are unable to fund transportation themselves, the Transportation Support Program provides transportation to attend appointments at the ALS Centre in Vancouver and other ALS-related medical appointments, support groups and Society events. The program was initiated to ensure that all people living with ALS in BC and Yukon are given an equal opportunity to see an ALS specialist in order to improve their quality of life.

Support Groups

Support groups provide an open, friendly and safe environment for ALS patients, family members, caregivers and friends to discuss issues related to living with ALS. Groups are facilitated by trained volunteers and staff.

Psychological Support Program

Psychological services are available free of charge at locations across BC. Registered psychologists and clinical counsellors provide therapy and counselling to ALS patients, their families and caregivers at any stage of the illness. Services will be provided throughout the disease and up to one year following.

Caregivers' Days

Held in communities around BC, Caregivers' Day is a chance for caregivers and former caregivers of ALS patients to have a day of respite. This event allows ALS caregivers to come together and share experiences. It also provides opportunities for caregivers to learn how to take better care of themselves and how to cope with grief.



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Camp Alohi Lani

Camp Alohi Lani, which means 'Bright Sky' in Hawaiian, is a camp for youth who have a parent (or grandparent in a significant role) living with ALS. Through funding received from sponsors, the Society is able to offer a youth weekend retreat at no cost to families affected by ALS. The camp is a safe setting in which youth aged 8 to 17 can come together and receive support on their ALS journey.

Care Connections

The primary purpose of forming a Care Connection is to reduce caregiver responsibilities and lessen the worry the person with ALS has about their caregiver. By caring for the caregiver, the person with ALS is helped as well. The ALS Society of BC's Care Connection is a program to aid your own group of caring family and friends to help their loved ones with ALS and their caregivers.

MOBILE CLINICS

In partnership with Vancouver Coastal Health and the ALS Centre @ GF Strong Rehab Centre, the ALS Society of BC provides Mobile Clinics to outlying communities. ALS Centre healthcare professionals and an ALS Society of BC representative travel to clinic locations to provide follow-up appointments for people challenged to travel.

All that is required to access these programs is the patient's registration with ALS Society of BC. No fees are charged. Services available to people living with ALS in British Columbia and the Yukon.



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Partners Who Can Help

- ALS Centre at GF Strong Rehab: (604) 737-6320
- Respiratory Equipment Support
Provincial Respiratory Outreach Program * 1-866-326-1245
- Communication Equipment Support
Communication Assistance for Youth & Adults *604-326-3500

Support Networks

- ALS Society of BC Support Groups (www.alsbc.ca/supportgroups)
- On-Line Support, Patients Like Me (www.patientslikeme.com)
- 24 Hour Support Line - BC Caregiver Support Line
*1-877-520-3267