



## What if...

***we could improve learning, memory, and speech for people with Down syndrome?*** What new possibilities would open up at school, on the job, and in their ability to lead a more active, independent life?

***we could prevent or delay the development of the pathology similar to Alzheimer's disease, that most people with Ds experience by age 40 and the progression of further associated cognition decline?*** What would those additional years of clarity and capability mean for them and their families?

The LuMind Foundation (formerly the Down Syndrome Research and Treatment Foundation) supports groundbreaking scientific research to make this vision of greater independence a reality. We believe that all people with Ds deserve the opportunity to achieve their full potential and we fund research to deliver it.

## Who we are

The LuMind Foundation was established in 2004 by parents who were tired of hearing that Down syndrome was “too complex to understand,” “not worthy of state-of-the-art research,” and “impossible to treat.” The decoding of the human genome had recently revolutionized our understanding of the 21<sup>st</sup> chromosome – and proved that drug therapy to improve cognition for people with Down syndrome might be within our reach.

Since then LuMind has played a critical role in advancing DS cognition science. Researchers say our involvement has been essential to progress in the field, calling our organization a “game-changer.”

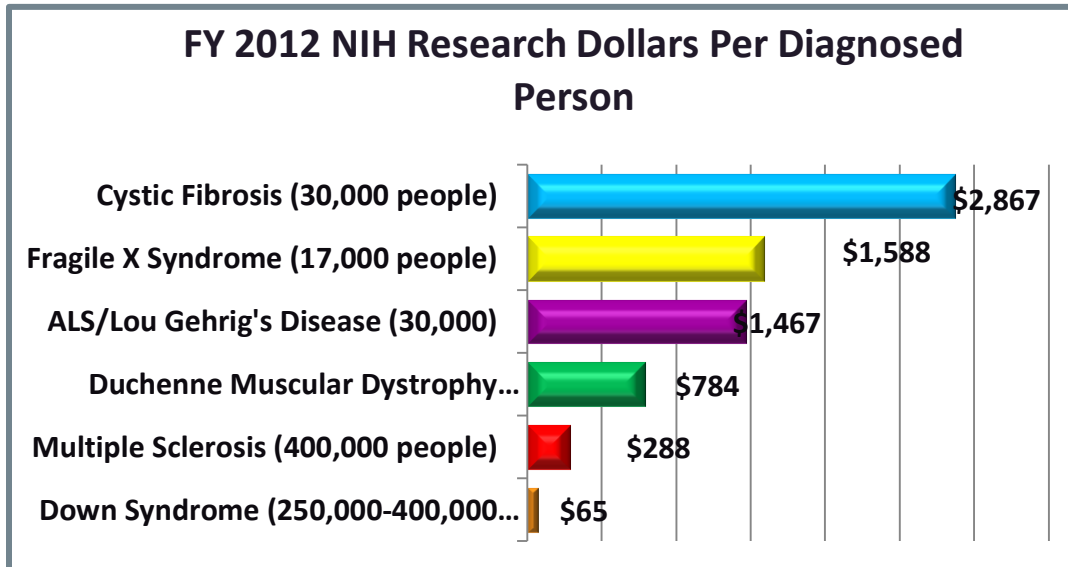
With a lean staff, LuMind has had an impact well beyond its size: Thanks in large part to our focused support. Research has advanced to the point that **clinical trials are now underway** for a therapeutic drug for the DS population.

## What we do

We believe that medical research is most effective and expedient when it maintains a narrow focus; draws from a wide range of disciplines; and involves active collaboration among scientists and clinicians. In order to increase the likelihood of a breakthrough, we support multidisciplinary, cooperative research among researchers in different fields and at different institutions. Our current grant recipients include:

- Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
- Emory University
- University of California, San Diego School of Medicine
- University of Arizona
- Stanford University School of Medicine
- VA Palo Alto Health Care System

LuMind’s approach has led directly to the identification of specific mechanisms responsible for cognitive impairment, new drug targets, several potential new drug candidates, and clinical trials – **all in less than 10 years. The work we fund gets results, giving LuMind a track record one researcher calls “truly unprecedented.”**



### Why it matters

There are approximately 350,000 people living with Down syndrome in the United States — that's as many people as live in Miami. Add parents, siblings and relatives of those with Down syndrome and we become a population as large as Chicago or Houston. Yet federal funding for Down syndrome research is only \$65 per person — as much as 95% less than funding for comparable conditions.

This makes private funding critical — and LuMind's work essential. We are the leading private source of funding in the U.S. focused exclusively on Down syndrome cognition research. Since LuMind's inception, we have generated more than \$10.4 million to support results-driven cognition research.

### What if...

***we miss significant opportunities in cognition research due to lack of funding?*** Please join with us in our efforts to significantly improve cognition, learning and memory for millions of people with Down syndrome worldwide. The importance of your support cannot be overestimated.

### How you can help

Help us raise funds by donating to LuMind Foundation – [www.LuMindFoundation.org](http://www.LuMindFoundation.org) – or by hosting an event in your area to benefit LuMind.

Get involved and help spread the word! Visit the website or engage with us through social media. Find us at [facebook.com/LuMindFDN](https://facebook.com/LuMindFDN) and Twitter @LuMindFDN.

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