# 10 Reasons to Support LE&RN

## Advocacy

1. **LE&RN’s National Lobby Days** bring advocates from around the country to Washington, DC, where lawmakers are asked to support increased National Institutes of Health (NIH) lymphatic research funding and insurance coverage for available treatments.

## Building Community

9. **LE&RN Chapters** now reach across the United States and around the world, bringing the international lymphatic and lymphedema communities together. Chapters sponsor events such as LE&RN’s Walks, educational symposiums, and patient support groups, bringing the community together and making us stronger.

## Setting Standards

8. **LE&RN’s Centers of Excellence in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Lymphatic Diseases**, as well as our Continuing Medical Education (CME) Seminars are raising the bar in assuring patients receive optimal, comprehensive care.

## The Next Generation

7. To entice the best and brightest researchers, each year LE&RN sponsors up to 25 Travel Scholarships and Poster Awards to young investigators worldwide.

## Expanding Access to Care

6. Addressing the lack of certified lymphedema therapists (CLTs) in underserved areas, LE&RN awards ten or more scholarships each year to therapists who enroll in an accredited CLT school.

## Legislative Action

5. **LE&RN created World Lymphedema Day** in 2016, which was officially established by the United States Senate that same year. In 2018, New York State passed a first-in-nation bill, written by LE&RN, that mandates all hospital institutions in the state to provide lymphedema (LE) information packets to all patients at risk for the disease. LE&RN Chapters will now take this bill to statehouses across the country.

## Cutting-Edge Answers

4. **LE&RN hosts monthly Virtual Symposiums** bringing experts in lymphatics to the medical community, those with LE, and caregivers. Through our partnership with Harvard Medical Schools, LE&RN’s website hosts the presentations delivered at the annual Lymphedema Symposium. LE&RN’s “Ask the Experts” program provides a direct link to a panel of international authorities.

## Spreading the Word

3. As LE&RN’s Spokesperson since 2015, Academy Award winner **Kathy Bates** has been a tireless advocate for the lymphedema and lymphatic disease community. From national televised broadcasts, to meeting with politicians and officials at NIH, CDC, and AMA, her partnership with LE&RN has advanced awareness of lymphatic diseases worldwide.

## Creating a Movement

2. LE&RN is committed to bringing the millions of people who live with lymphedema (LE) and lymphatic disease (LD) together to make our fight a global priority. LE&RN’s website, social media channels, and e-newsletter keep our community informed about the issues as well as inspire activism.

## Research for New Treatments and a Cure

1. **LE&RN knows new treatments and cures are waiting to be discovered with research.** We remain committed to funding research fellowships and we actively promote LD/LE research as a top priority at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the Department of Defense (DoD), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).