



SUSAN & CHARLES
BERGHOFF foundation

we envision a dementia-free world™

WHO WE ARE

The Susan and Charles Berghoff Foundation supports and advocates for families living with Lewy Body Dementia (LBD) through increased awareness, research and caregiving resources. Our work is inspired by our co-founder Sue Berghoff who has LBD.

OUR KEY PARTNERS

Stanford Medicine
Kaiser Permanente
San Jose State University
Santa Clara County

OUR STANFORD FELLOWSHIP

In 2019 we established the Sue Berghoff LBD Research Fellowship at Stanford. Through this post-doc fellowship we fund research to identify novel markers of LBD, supporting improved diagnosis and treatment until a cure is found.

WHAT WE DO

HEALTHCARE PROGRAMS



Supporting Continuing Medical Education (CME/CE) for physicians and nurses in hospitals, clinics and residential facilities.

UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS



Presenting dementia education to college and university students pursuing degrees in nursing, allied health, science and the humanities.

CAREGIVER PROGRAMS



Educating professional and family caregivers who care for people living with LBD at home and in memory care settings.

UNDERSTANDING DEMENTIA

Dementia is a syndrome characterized by symptoms that negatively affect thinking, perception, behavior, mood and movement severely enough to interfere with activities of everyday living. There are many types of dementia, including mixed dementia, and some share common symptoms.

LEWY BODY DEMENTIA (LBD)

LBD is the second or third most common dementia. Scientists don't fully understand its cause, and doctors have difficulty diagnosing it. People with LBD may develop Dementia with Lewy Bodies or Parkinson's Disease Dementia. LBD is associated with the protein alpha-synuclein, which is essential to brain function. When this protein forms abnormal clumps, or "Lewy bodies," it disrupts the brain's ability to process information and causes brain cells to die. As the disease progresses, it causes dementia. LBD is fatal. The prognosis is 5-8 years from time of diagnosis. Currently there is no cure.

COMMON SYMPTOMS OF LBD

- Problems with thinking, decision making, memory
- Fluctuating cognition and confusion
- Sleep disorder (REM sleep behavior disorder)
- Visual hallucinations
- Language (problems recognizing/finding the right words)
- Sundowning, anxiety, depression
- Problems with visual and spatial perception
- Parkinsonism (tremor, shuffling walk, balance issues)
- Sensitivity to certain medications
- Incontinence

The Susan and Charles Berghoff Foundation is a registered 501c3 public charity, EIN 86-2416258.
16600 Monterey #1669, Morgan Hill, California 95037 | www.berghoff-foundation.org

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