

# UNITE 2 FIGHT PARALYSIS



## **HIGHLIGHTS IN 2018**



Not too long ago, while describing the challenges of our work to a community-organizing friend, he said: sometimes the journey is as important as the destination. I quickly and maybe a bit emphatically said: not in this case.

Paralysis is a arduous journey and I'm not as interested in the lives we may touch along the way as I am in getting to the destination sooner than later. Resting in the journey is a luxury not afforded to those living with paralysis. Of course there are moments of grace and gratitude for certain, but our work is wholly driven by the vision of a world in which all people living with paralysis from SCI are restored to health and independence.

Having said that, my friend's response does have one practical bit of wisdom to it: if we don't have the means to make the journey we can't reach our destination. These pages detail where we've been this past year. And where we hope to go in 2019.





## **SPOTLIGHT ON 2019**

#### **OUR GOALS**

for 2019 include making progress on the following initiatives:

### Cure Advocacy Network (CAN) OHIO

- Introduce and pass a Bill this session
- Continue to work with the House Majority Leader, Randy Gardner
- Build a coalition of community, institutional and legislative supporters

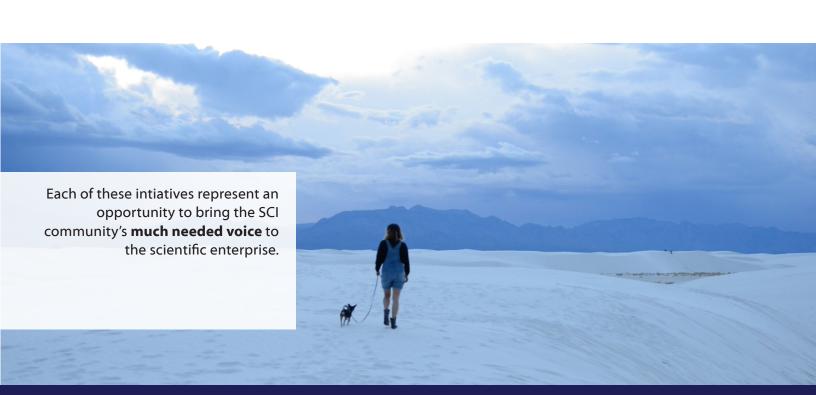
#### **WISCONSIN**

- Find an author to draft and introduce a Bill
- Continue to build a coalition of community advocates

**The Cure Map - Film Release.** Now that post-production work is fully underway, Kelsey and Madeline are targeting completion for late summer of 2019 - just in time for film festival season.

**Elevating the SCI Community's Influence.** U2FP has been invited to facilitate or present at the following events in 2019:

- Facilitate a panel session at the American Spinal Injury Association (ASIA) annual meeting
- Be part of the NASCIC team that will present a community centric session at NIH's SCI 2020 meeting
- Present at the National Neurotrauma Symposium
- Continue to reach out to, talk and partner with scientists and SCI organizations to raise the community's voice



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