

## OUR MISSION

To improve and extend the lives of the millions born with heart defects through education, advocacy, and the promotion of research.

**Adult  
Congenital  
Heart   
Association**

### WE ARE A TRUSTED PARTNER

The Adult Congenital Heart Association (ACHA) is the trusted partner of those living in the United States with congenital heart disease (CHD), bringing together patients, family members and medical professionals to create a community and support network.


### WE ADVOCATE LIFELONG CARE

CHD is a chronic illness that needs to be monitored over the course of a patient's life, and ACHA helps to facilitate and educate this lifelong care continuum from childhood to adulthood.

### WE BRING TOGETHER THE CHD MEDICAL COMMUNITY

ACHA brings together top physicians and healthcare providers in the CHD medical community as part of our Medical Advisory Board (MAB) to provide expert input and oversight of all ACHA activities involving medical and scientific content. In collaboration with ACHA, the MAB offers their expert opinions on research, medical developments in CHD and advance the standards of care for CHD patients.

**NEARLY 1  
OUT OF  
100  
BABIES  
ARE BORN WITH  
HEART DEFECTS  
EACH YEAR**




**THERE ARE NOW AN ESTIMATED  
1.4 MILLION  
ADULTS IN THE U.S.  
LIVING WITH CHD**



**WHICH MEANS THERE ARE  
MORE ADULTS THAN CHILDREN  
LIVING WITH CHD**

**HAVING CHD REQUIRES  
LIFELONG SPECIALIZED CARE  
AND MANY MAY REQUIRE  
SURGICAL INTERVENTION**



**IN CHILDHOOD AND ADULTHOOD**

### WE SUPPORT THE CHD COMMUNITY YEAR-ROUND

ACHA implements year-round initiatives to support both the patient and professional CHD community.

- **Heart to Heart Ambassadors** – ACHA connects CHD patients and family members with trained peers who give critical support, guidance and resources needed.
- **ACHA ACHD Accreditation Program** – Together with ACHD providers, ACHA is able to identify critical needs for consistency and standardization of care through the development of accredited ACHD Centers nationwide. There are more than 25 accredited centers.
- **Regional Conferences** – ACHA organizes four patient education events each year in different cities and participates in various conferences reaching hundreds of people in communities across the country.
- **ACHD Fellowship Program** – ACHA's Actelion Fellowship Awards provide two years of training for cardiologists specializing in adults with CHD.
- **Advocacy** – ACHA puts forth critical advocacy efforts, mobilizing our volunteers on both local and federal levels to educate legislators on the crucial issues affecting people with CHD. In addition, ACHA activists gather annually in Washington, D.C., around Heart Month for this purpose.
- **Ongoing Patient Education** – Through our website, discussion forums, webinars and social media channels, ACHA provides 24-hour access to relevant, up-to-date information and resources.
- **Community Development** – Collaborating with local pediatric and adult congenital heart cardiologists, ACHA provides regional CHD education and social programs for patients and their families, fosters outreach and awareness, and fundraises within communities across the country.
- **Research** – ACHA funds research to improve the lives of CHD patients and future generations in partnership with medical professionals. These grants are awarded to proposals most likely to advance ACHA's goal of achieving best possible outcomes for people with CHD.



ACHA hosts walks in communities to raise money for outreach, education, research and more. Our events were created to empower all of those who were born with a heart defect, their loved ones, and the medical community that cares for them.

For more information about the Adult Congenital Heart Association, call 888-921-ACHA or visit [www.achaheart.org](http://www.achaheart.org).