**3000 PARTICIPANTS MOVE FOR MS IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY**

* **Participants in the month-long initiative achieve almost 300,000 Kilometers in steps to support MS Awareness; this equates to walking the circumference of the Earth seven times.**

**Abu Dhabi, 15 April 2024** – The National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS) concluded its Move for MS initiative, which ran throughout the holy month of Ramadan, coinciding with MS Awareness Month. This initiative aimed to support people living with MS by encouraging participation in inclusive sports and physical activities. 2900 individuals in the UAE participated in the community challenge, including those employed by Move for MS’ corporate partners. Participants collectively contributed 426,526,815 steps, which is equivalent to 296,693 kilometers. This equates to walking the circumference of the Earth seven times.

**H.E. Dr. Fatima Al Kaabi, Vice Chair of the NMSS, Director General of Emirates Drug Establishment, and Executive Director of the Abu Dhabi Bone Marrow Transplant program at Abu Dhabi Stem Cells Center (ADSCC) said:** "As the 'Move for MS' initiative draws to a close, I am immensely grateful to the UAE community’s response and strong show of solidarity. Together, we have made significant strides in raising awareness and garnering much-needed support for people living with MS. The success of this initiative underscores the power of community and the importance of standing united in our mission to make a meaningful difference in the lives of those affected by MS."

Several high-profile government and corporate organizations participated in the Move for MS initiative, including Mubadala, Abu Dhabi Stem Cells Center (ADSCC), ADQ, Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, Ma’an, and Lulu Group. These partners played a pivotal role in encouraging their employees to participate, resulting in the involvement of nearly 1000 employees from all participating entities.

The Move for MS campaign was supported by fitness partners Inspire Sports, YogaOne Studio, Motion Cycling, Chapter Studio, The Bridge Wellness Hub, Seven Wellness Club, Breathes Wellness, Pilatiq Fitness Studio, and CRANK Fitness. The studios and gyms generously donated proceeds from designated classes to support NMSS initiatives.

At the heart of the Move for MS initiative is the overarching goal of empowerment through movement and community solidarity for people with MS. This objective aligns with NMSS' mission of raising awareness, promoting understanding, and dispelling misconceptions surrounding MS while also securing essential funds for ongoing support and research efforts.

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a chronic, unpredictable condition of the central nervous system that disrupts the flow of information between the brain and spinal cord. The cause of MS is unknown. Around 19 in every 100,000 people are affected by MS in the UAE. Females are twice as likely to have MS. 67% of women vs 33% of men.

Every contribution to NMSS makes a meaningful difference in the lives of people with MS in the UAE. To support NMSS or to learn more about MS, visit the [**NMSS Ma'an contribution page**](https://fundraise.maan.gov.ae/en/campaigns/multiple-sclerosis-program?campaignid=f86dcc41-8083-ee11-8179-6045bd6972de)**.**

**For more information on the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, visit** [**www.nationalmssociety.ae**](https://www.nationalmssociety.ae)**.**

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**About the National Multiple Sclerosis Society**

Established in 2022 under the Ministry of Community Development, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS) is a UAE-based NGO created to better the lives of people living with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and their communities in the UAE through education, advocacy, and advancing global efforts to finding a cure for MS.

NMSS is governed by a board of trustees, advised by a local and international Strategic Advisory Committee and Medical Advisory Committee, and supported by MS ambassadors and volunteers. Together, they ensure that people living with MS have access to high-quality care and get the guidance they need through reliable resources.

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society works with leading national medical institutions and renowned global partners to build a trusted network of healthcare providers and support organizations. The society aims to raise awareness of MS, create a holistic ecosystem for the MS community in the UAE, and provide support and resources for individuals affected by MS.