

Energy Transfer donation reaches \$200,000 to support ALS research at Houston Methodist

HOUSTON (August 21, 2024) – Houston Methodist recently received a \$100,000 philanthropic gift from Dallas-based Energy Transfer to fund clinical research for ALS patients. This is the most recent contribution made as part of Energy Transfer’s continued partnership with Houston Methodist, amounting to \$200,000 in support of ALS research in the past two years. ALS, or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. Houston Methodist has numerous clinical trials underway to slow or halt the progression of this degenerative disease.

Energy Transfer has a long-standing history of supporting causes in the communities they serve. “Every dollar donated to ALS research is a beacon of hope for those battling the disease,” said Chris Curia, executive vice president and chief human resources officer at Energy Transfer. “Those affected by ALS deserve a chance at a better life. We are hopeful this donation brings us one step closer to a world without this disease.”

Energy Transfer’s contribution has provided essential support to one of Houston Methodist’s most promising ALS clinical trials. In a recent Phase 1 trial, a combination therapy was found to safely slow disease progression in four ALS patients over a six-month period. These patients experienced stabilization in their abilities with no significant disease progression observed during the trial. This is a significant milestone, as all participants had reported declining abilities to perform daily tasks prior to receiving the therapy. The study is now moving into Phase 2, with continued support from Energy Transfer.

“We appreciate Energy Transfer’s generosity in our efforts to improve the quality of life and to provide hope for ALS patients and their families. Their continued commitment to Houston Methodist’s ongoing ALS research is truly transformational,” said Stanley H. Appel, M.D., a neurologist at Houston Methodist.

According to the [ALS Association](#), approximately 90% of ALS cases occur without any known family history or genetic cause, and currently, there is no cure. Houston Methodist is home to the first multidisciplinary care clinic for ALS patients in the region and is actively engaged in both clinical and basic science research to support those living with ALS.

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