Carol Head Receives Prestigious Honor from Oprah Magazine, Is Named 2017 Health Hero

Carol Head named one of fourteen visionaries who are healing bodies, minds, and communities.

The Tireless Advocate

Chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) is the Rodney Dangerfield of diseases: It gets next to no respect. “We’re all fatigued” is the response Carol Head sometimes hears when she tells people she’s fundraising on behalf of CFS. “They don’t realize it’s a debilitating condition affecting up to two and a half million Americans,” she says.

Since becoming the president of the nonprofit Solve ME/CFS Initiative in 2013, Head has fought attempts to ax federal funding for research, called for a more legitimate-sounding name for the disorder, and orchestrated a public awareness campaign with a video in Times Square—where up to one and a half million people a day learned about a disease that makes people sick, not just sleepy.

– C.P.

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