



# SPONSOR IMPACT

Feb. 19, 2026 | Cascade Hills Country Club

Through groundbreaking research and international collaborations, Van Andel Institute is working to translate scientific discoveries into new therapies that impede Parkinson's progression and improve quality of life.

1

## UNRAVELING THE ROOTS OF THE DISEASE

Parkinson's occurs when the brain cells that control movement are damaged or lost. VAI scientists are investigating what goes wrong in these cells and why it happens, with the goal of finding new strategies to protect them.

2

## PURSUING TREATMENTS THAT SLOW OR STOP PROGRESSION

Currently approved Parkinson's therapies treat symptoms but not the underlying causes of the disease. VAI scientists investigate how Parkinson's develops and affects the body in search of ways to slow or stop disease progression.

3

## LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY TO MAKE BREAKTHROUGHS

Advances in technology help scientists make life-changing discoveries. At VAI, our researchers are developing and leveraging new techniques to gain powerful insights into how and why Parkinson's begins and progresses.

### EVENT CHAIRS

George & Missy Sharpe

### EVENT COMMITTEE

Rob & Dawn Arnoys  
Sally Murdock  
Ashley Owen Whyte  
Ron Rutkowski  
Kyle Van Andel

### QUESTIONS

For more information, please contact Annie Pond at [annie.pond@vai.org](mailto:annie.pond@vai.org).

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Thank you – together, we can make a difference.