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## **National Psoriasis Foundation Elects New Leaders to Board of Directors**

**PORTLAND, Ore. (March 28, 2019)** — To recognize their dedication in helping people with psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis as volunteers, members and donors, the [National Psoriasis Foundation](http://NationalPsoriasisFoundation.org), NPF, elected Jerry Bagel M.D., M.S. of East Windsor, New Jersey, Mike Refermat of San Diego, California, and Jodi Wood of San Antonio, Texas to its [Board of Directors](#).

Dr. Jerry Bagel is Director of the Psoriasis Treatment Center of Central New Jersey and is affiliated with Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center. He received his medical degree from Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and has been in practice for more than 30 years. Dr. Bagel has worked with NPF for over 15 years and is a four-term member of the Foundation's medical advisory board. Dr. Bagel will join NPF's research and outreach committees.

Mike Refermat is a retired executive with thirty-nine years' experience in various financial, accounting and business leadership capacities. Living with both psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis, Refermat became involved with the NPF in 1986. He has served as the San Diego Community Division chair since 2010 and has supported numerous NPF events. In 2018, Refermat was a Team NPF Cycle captain in San Diego and most recently served on the NPF Strategic Planning Task Force.

Jodi Wood's son, Michael, was diagnosed with Psoriatic Arthritis at age 12; in 2018 Wood was diagnosed with the disease as well. Through Michael's involvement with NPF as a Junior Ambassador, Jodi became an advocate to help those living with psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis gain better access to medications and provide doctors more say in how they treat their patients. Jodi is now the chair of NPF's advocacy committee.

As members of the NPF Board of Directors, Bagel, Refermat and Wood will help direct the organization by determining goals, evaluating and approving long-term plans, and by working closely with NPF President and CEO, Randy Beranek to accomplish the organization's overall goals.

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**About the National Psoriasis Foundation**

Serving its community through more than 50 years of patient support, advocacy, research funding, and education, the [National Psoriasis Foundation](#) (NPF) is the world's leading nonprofit fighting for individuals with psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis. The NPF mission is to drive efforts to cure psoriatic disease and dramatically improve the lives of more than 8 million Americans affected by this chronic immune-mediated disease. As part of that effort, NPF created its [Patient Navigation Center](#) to offer personalized assistance to everyone with psoriasis or psoriatic arthritis. To date, NPF has funded more than \$19 million in research grants and fellowships that help drive discoveries that may lead to more and better treatments and ultimately a cure. Learn more at [www.psoriasis.org](http://www.psoriasis.org).