Make A Difference In May And Everyday

Throughout the world, and in states and localities across the United States, May is recognized as Celiac Disease Awareness Month, events and activities are held to raise awareness about the world's most common genetic disorder.

In the United States, it can take up to 7 years for an adult to be properly diagnosed. Why? The symptoms mirror many other conditions and physicians are not trained to look for the disease. Delays in diagnosis can place the individual at increased risk for chronic long-term health problems, including other autoimmune disorders.

Celiac Disease in Perspective

3 million	Estimated number of Americans with celiac disease (1 in 133).
500,000	Number of Americans with either Crohn's disease or Parkinson's disease.
95%	Percentage of Americans which remain undiagnosed.
7 years	Average time for an individual in the U.S. to be diagnosed with celiac disease.
6 months	Average time it takes an individual in Italy to be diagnosed.
50%	Men diagnosed with celiac disease whose primary symptom was iron deficiency anemia.
$6.00	The average cost of a loaf of gluten-free bread.
1 minute	The time it takes to ASK Congress to: • Increase funding for celiac research; • Increase funding for students with medically prescribed diets; • Require prescription drugs to be labeled for known food allergens; and • ***HELP INCREASE AWARENESS ABOUT CELIAC DISEASE.*** Go to *www.americanceliac.org/advocacy.htm*