

Alice Bast's personal experience with celiac disease ignited her passion to help the estimated three million Americans suffering from the disease receive a prompt and accurate diagnosis.

Alice reflects that much has changed in the past 10 years. "We began with a simple goal: to raise awareness of celiac disease so people would stop suffering needlessly. Since then, we have evolved to meet new challenges and unmet needs, and expanded our mission not only to help people get diagnosed, but also make it possible to live a full and healthy life after that diagnosis." This means living life to the fullest—to eat without fear, travel without fear, live without fear.

Alice is widely regarded as a celiac disease expert and has been a keynote speaker at major medical and allied health industry events, plus culinary and foodservice industry conferences. She has presented at the American Pharmacists Association (APhA) Annual Meeting, (2010) Healthy Foods Conference (2008), International Pizza Expo (2011), Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) Wellness Conference (2011, 2013), the School Nutrition Association (2013) and the Natural Products Expo East (2008, 2009) and Expo West (2011) shows. She was a featured presenter at medical conferences hosted by St. Barnabas Health Care System (2009), The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (2009, 2011, 2012, 2013), and Paoli Hospital (2011), along with speaking regularly to healthcare professionals at The Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and Jefferson University Hospital.

Alice chaired a panel presentation at the 14th International Coeliac Disease Symposium held in Oslo, Norway. An abstract from the Beyond Celiac study, "The Use of Disease Symptoms Checklist in Self-Initiated Diagnoses of Celiac Disease and Non-Celiac Gluten Sensitivity," was accepted to the 2012 International Meeting on Coeliac Disease, Mastering the Coeliac Condition: From Medicine to Social Sciences and Food Technology, where Alice presented the abstract in a poster session. In 2013, Beyond Celiac presented two research posters at the International Celiac Disease Symposium held at the University of Chicago.



Alice also led the autoimmune roundtable at Partnering for Cures of FasterCures, a center of the Milken Institute that is bringing together the best and brightest to find a cure. Alice was invited by the American Gastroenterological Association to participate in a meeting aimed at providing recommendations to the Patient Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), an entity authorized by Congress via the Affordable Care Act.

Alice and Beyond Celiac have supported research throughout the organization's 10-year history. In 2011, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) awarded Beyond Celiac the first-ever grant to conduct research in the field of gluten in medications, an area that Beyond Celiac has long championed.

Alice's story has been featured in Good Housekeeping Magazine, Newsweek, USA Today, US News & World Report, and on nationally televised programs such as ABC's "The View" and CNN. Among her accomplishments, Alice co-authored an article titled "Celiac Disease and Reproductive Health Issues," which was published in the Journal of Practical Gastroenterology. She was the Principal Investigator on an NIH funded grant titled, "Novel Educational Aids for Celiac Disease." Alice was also awarded the 90th Annual Philadelphia Award in May 2011, one of the city's most prestigious honors given each year to a citizen who has acted and served on behalf of the best interests of the community. And, she has been awarded the SmartCEO Brava Award recognizing exceptional women leaders in the Greater Philadelphia community.

In May 2011, Alice was awarded the 90th annual Philadelphia Award, one of the city's most prestigious honors given each year to a citizen who has acted and served on behalf of the best interests of the community. Alice works out of the Ambler, PA office.