**ACROSS**

1. a family member or paid helper who regularly looks after a child or a sick, elderly, or disabled person

4. a public or official announcement, especially one dealing with a matter of great importance.

5. approximate number of Americans living with a rare disease

9. opportunities to meet face-to-face with your elected officials and advocate for legislation that directly affects the rare disease (3 words)

11. not diagnosed or having been subject to diagnosis

12. most ______ are rare

13. knowledge or perception of a situation or fact

14. National Institute of Health

17. systematic investigation into and study of materials and sources in order to establish facts and reach new conclusions.

19. official hash tag for RDD (3 words: same as 6 down)

21. Genetic and Rare Diseases Information Center

24. a group of symptoms that consistently occur together or a condition characterized by a set of associated symptoms

25. medical care given to a patient for an illness or injury

26. sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others

27. passed in 1983, created financial incentives for

28. bear all or part of the weight of; hold up

**DOWN**

2. organization that began Rare Disease Day

3. persisting for a long time or constantly recurring

6. celebrated on the last day of February each year (3 words; same as 19 across)

7. 80% of rare diseases

8. a pharmaceutical that remains commercially undeveloped owing to limited potential for profitability

10. affects less than 200,000 of the US population

15. official US sponsor of Rare Disease Day

18. a systematic collection of a clearly defined set of health and demographic data for patients with specific health characteristics, held in a central database for a predefined purpose

20. one in ten ______ have a rare disease

22. public support for or recommendation of a particular cause or policy

23. Food and Drug Administration