Dear Research Investigator,

The National CFIDS Foundation Inc. (NCF) appreciates your interest in the NCF Research Grant Program. Founded in 1997, the NCF's goal is to help provide research funding to expedite a treatment and eventual cure for CFS/ME. As one of the largest and growing national CFS/ME groups in the United States, the NCF Research Grant Program began out of a need to fund research aimed towards patient diagnosis, treatments, and therapies for CFS/ME. The NCF recognizes the fact that answers to complex diseases have never come about through the political process but only through unbiased scientific medical research. It is only through committed research efforts that we will make substantial strides in uncovering the scientific truths about CFS/ME thereby allowing us to conquer this devastating illness. Since its inception, the NCF has funded thousands of dollars in research. With our growing membership and our many fundraising efforts, we expect to substantially increase this amount. We hope that our continued research initiatives provide both hope and new knowledge for the patient community and the physicians who treat them.

Please find the following NCF documents enclosed:

* **Information about the NCF Research Grant Program:** General information about NCF research grants, grant categories, research application information, and projects that have received funding

* **NCF Research Grant Program:** Letter of intent

Currently, the NCF is maintaining an open posture with regards to research grant applications and as such grants have no formal application deadline. Consideration for grants are on a rotational basis.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to receiving your research proposal.

Towards a cure,

Gail Kansky, President
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Needham, Ma 02492
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The National CFIDS Foundation Inc. (NCF) is committed to finding cures for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) / Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) and recognizes that scientific medical research is the truest path to success. In the fifteen plus years since the Lake Tahoe epidemic, there is neither definitive diagnostic testing nor proven patient therapies available for CFS/ME. We realize that aggressive research efforts are often not underwritten by federal grants. As such, the NCF seeks to fund innovative research that will forward our understanding and provide appropriate therapeutic intervention for CFS/ME patients.

Funded projects must fall under at least one of the following research grant categories:

* **Clinical and Applied Research:**
  - Diagnostic and detection studies
  - Therapeutic trials

* **Theoretical Research with Therapeutic Implications:**
  - To increase our understanding of CFS/ME with potential impact on patient care by providing new knowledge in the field

* **Original Research Investigation:**
  - To provide seed money for new researchers
  - To research new concepts in the field

The NCF will disburse the total award of the grant over the life of the grant and according to the terms of the grant. The Letter of Intent, the Principal Investigator's (PI) research proposal, and the PI's biographical information will be reviewed by members of and consultants to the NCF. Investigators whose research proposal and Letter of Intent are of the greatest interest and scientific value may be asked to submit additional information based on their grant application. Such requests will be made for those projects which the NCF would consider funding.

Funded research proposals will take into account the investigator's:

* **Impact** - significance and contribution to CFS/ME research, diagnostics, or treatment

* **Project approach** - design, methods, analysis, integration, and objectives

* **Feasibility** - completion and objectives met by the project

The NCF intends, at this time, to maintain an open posture with regards to application deadlines. We ask that all Letters of Intent, with accompanying research proposals, be sent to the NCF directly. We will not accept fax transmittals for this purpose.

Projects that have received funding from the NCF include:

* **In-Vitro Human Herpesvirus-6A/B (HHV-6A/B) Antiviral Testing** by Dr. Donald Carrigan and Dr. Konstance Knox; Institute for Viral Pathogenesis

* **Coagulation Studies in Patients with CFS/ME** by David Berg; HEMEX Laboratories

* **Hypercoagulability in Gulf War Syndrome (GWS/CFS) Patients** by Dr. Kathleen Hannon
National CFIDS Foundation Inc.
NCF Research Grant Program - Letter of Intent

Instructions: Complete the form in its entirety. Type must be legible. The Principal Investigator (PI) should include biographical information as an attachment to this form. Furthermore, the research grant proposal should also be attached to this form. Consideration will be given only to those applicants who have completed this form and provided the above required attachments.

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (PI):

Name (Last, First, Middle) .................................................. Title ..................................................

Telephone ........................................................ Fax ........................................................ Email Address ..................................................

Department .................................................. Institution ..................................................

Street Address ................................................................

City ........................................ State/Province ........ Postal Code ........ Country ..................................................

PROJECT CATEGORY: (Select one)

_____ Clinical and Applied Research  _____ Original Research Investigation

_____ Theoretical Research with Therapeutic Implications

PROJECT TITLE: ..................................................

TOTAL REQUEST AND PROJECT DURATION:

Total funds requested: $ ____________ Duration: ______________________

SIGNATURE:

I confirm all information contained in the Letter of Intent is accurate and not misleading. My institution has approved this project. I acknowledge that I am aware that applications to the NCF Research Grant Program are by invitation only and that all decisions by the NCF are final and without appeal.

______________________________  _______________________________  ____________
Name of Applicant  Signature of Applicant             Date