Dear Cure JM Families and Friends,

I am truly honored to serve in my role as Executive Director of Cure JM Foundation. It is a privilege to partner with our Cure JM families, dedicated supporters, and research community, as together we work to improve treatments and find a cure for Juvenile Myositis.

As we look to the future, our investment goals are to:

1. accelerate scientific discovery
2. expedite the development of therapies
3. provide access to high-quality care

Scientific discovery is essential as it allows scientists to uncover pathways that can be targeted to treat JM. Cure JM’s significant progress in this area allows us to also focus on the next step, developing new, more effective therapies that have less toxic side effects. This is an emerging priority for Cure JM—and one that will require ever greater amounts of funding than are currently available.

Another priority is providing access to high-quality care, and one of the ways we accomplish this is through the expansion of Cure JM Centers of Excellence (COEs). COEs provide world-class healthcare and treatment to JM patients, while also advancing research to improve patient outcomes. With your support, Cure JM recently invested in its third COE at Seattle Children’s Hospital.

We could not accomplish any of this without our vital supporters, heroic JM families, and dedicated researchers across the globe. So, whether you are involved in one of our chapters, provide leadership to a local walk or other fundraising event, raise funds through the CrowdRise Holiday Challenge, or volunteer your time and expertise in other ways, please accept my heartfelt thanks and appreciation.

Accomplishing our mission is no easy task. Your partnership in this journey inspires us all to do more.

With appreciation,

James Minow
Executive Director

Cure JM Foundation

which includes Juvenile Dermatomyositis (JDM) and Juvenile Polymyositis (JPM), is a group of rare and life-threatening autoimmune diseases. The primary symptoms of JM are weak and painful muscles, skin rash, and fatigue. Other symptoms include heart, lung, and digestive complications, calcinosis, vasculitic ulcers, contractures, and lipodystrophy. The majority of children fight JM their entire lives, while some will go into remission. Some will lose the ability to walk. Complications from the disease can result in ongoing pain, disfigurement and even death.
Cure JM is focused on finding a cure and better treatments for Juvenile Myositis and improving the lives of families affected by JM.

Your support made the following projects possible in 2017:

• **Partnered with ReveraGen BioPharma** to pursue a new steroidal drug treatment with minimal side effects
• Invested in **3-year drug development program** at National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences at the National Institutes of Health
• Funded **3 Centers of Excellence** to advance JM research and deliver world-class care to JM patients
  • Cure JM Center of Excellence in JM Care and Research, Stanley Manne Children's Research Institute, Ann & Robert Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago
  • George Washington University Myositis Center, Washington, D.C.
  • Cure JM Center of Excellence at Seattle Children's Hospital
• **Partnered with Center for Applied Genomics at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia** to identify genes that play a role in JM, with ultimate goal of finding drug interventions to modify genetic mutations
• Provided **13 new research and educational program grants**. Currently funding research at **20 prestigious research institutions** in **3 countries**

Cure JM has also pursued collaborations to accelerate and advance JM research. Your support has led to the following successful endeavors:

• Partnered with CARRA* to collect clinical data of newly-diagnosed patients at **18 medical centers**. This clinical data will be available to researchers around the world to expedite JM research.
• Collaborated with the Arthritis Foundation and the Lupus Foundation of America to **support more patient-centered research**
• Supported the **2nd Global Conference on Myositis for Medical Professionals** in May 2017, where over 300 leading Myositis physicians and researchers from around the world came together to advance the field of Myositis research through international collaboration

*Childhood Arthritis and Rheumatology Research Alliance, a North American organization composed of over 400 physicians, researchers, and healthcare professionals involved in pediatric rheumatology research.

Since Cure JM was founded, you have helped...

• Raise over **$12 million** for research and educational programs
• Provide vital resources and connections for over **3,000 patients** and families in **45 countries**
• Fund over **160 critical research studies** moving us closer to a cure
• Make a world of difference for JM patients and families!

“Because of Cure JM, research is happening, support is there, and most importantly HOPE is there. CURE JM is Family. I know we’d be lost without them.”

Sue, Mother of daughter with JM

A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Since Cure JM was founded, you have helped...

• Raise over $12 million for research and educational programs
• Provide vital resources and connections for over 3,000 patients and families in 45 countries
• Fund over 160 critical research studies moving us closer to a cure
• Make a world of difference for JM patients and families!

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Over 500 participants walked in the Walk Strong to Cure JM event in Austin, TX in 2017
Cure JM has developed Regional Chapters to provide our 3,000 JM families support on a local basis.

- We now have 15 regional chapters that have connected over 900 families and held over 25 events.
- Five Chapters held **Walk Strong to Cure JM™** family fun events where over 200 Cure JM families and 2,700 attendees participated and raised $550,000.
- At least 13 Walk Strong™ events are slated for 2018.

“We were afraid as JM parents that getting too involved with Cure JM would bring us down, but we found the complete opposite. The more involved we have been with Cure JM the more hope we see for JM families...”

Julie, Mother of child with JM
OUR WORLD: IMPROVING LIVES
11th Annual Conference

Cure JM's 11th Annual Conference was our largest ever with over 400 attendees representing 36 states and 3 countries.

Families enjoyed time to connect with other families, as well as educational sessions on a wide variety of topics related to Juvenile Myositis research and care.

For the first time ever, the conference was live streamed and recorded, and the videos can be viewed at www.curejm.org/austin

This year's conference will be in Washington, D.C. from June 29th – July 1st. For more information and to register visit www.curejm.org/dc

"My twelve-year-old daughter attended sessions just for teens, met other teens, and learned from physicians how to take care of her own medical needs. The teen sessions were invaluable."

Chris B., Father of JM child
WORLD-CLASS RESEARCH

Thanks to your generosity, Cure JM Foundation has invested in over 160 research studies and three research and treatment centers since inception.

Here are a few of the latest Cure JM research studies:

Cure JM, ReveraGen Collaboration to Test Feasibility of Vamorolone as a Steroid Replacement in Juvenile Myositis Treatment
Kanneboyina Nagaraju, D.V.M., M.V.Sc., Ph.D.
Eric Hoffman Ph.D., Founder and CEO of ReveraGen

Cure JM is working closely with ReveraGen BioPharma to lay groundwork for clinical trials of Vamorolone in JM. Vamorolone is a dissociative steroid that retains anti-inflammatory activities while reducing or eliminating common side effects. ReveraGen has completed Phase I studies in adult volunteers, where Vamorolone was shown to be safe up to 30-times the typical prednisone dose. Phase II studies in 48 Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy children have been completed, and biomarker studies have suggested efficacy and improved safety relative to prednisone.

Cure JM and members of our Medical Advisory Board are assisting in the design of biomarker-focused “de-risking” trials to prepare for eventual clinical trials for Juvenile Myositis.

Validate Commercial Labs to better enable these labs to conduct myositis-specific autoantibody testing
Zoe Betteridge, Ph.D.
University of Bath, United Kingdom

Currently, there are no commercial labs in the U.S. or Europe whose autoantibody testing meets a “gold standard” for accuracy of a handful of overburdened and costly research labs. Dr. Betteridge’s project will test and validate commercially available kits for myositis autoantibodies, potentially increasing the number of lab sites, lowering costs, and speeding up lab results.

Genetic Discovery Program
Hakon Hakonarson, Ph.D., M.D. and Charly Kao, Ph.D.
Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia

Cure JM has invested in a genetic discovery program at the Center for Applied Genomics (CAG) at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (CHoP). With its state-of-the-art facility and biobank, the Center for Applied Genomics aims to identify the genetics that play a part in Juvenile Dermatomyositis. The goal is as we find specific genes that regulate autoimmunity in JM and better understand what genetic mutations are at work in those genes, we can find drug interventions to modify genetic behavior.

Ultrasound as a Diagnostic Tool
Laura Tasan, M.D.
University of Pittsburgh

Dr. Tasan will study the feasibility of using ultrasound to monitor disease activity in JM. If successful, ultrasound could supplement or replace the use of MRI scans, which are more costly and often require anesthesia in young patients.

Understand the Etiology of Fatigue and Fatigability in JDM using Cardiorespiratory Measures
Josh Woolstenhulme, D.P.T., Ph.D.
George Washington University

The project will measure oxidative stress and mitochondrial function as possible causes of fatigue. This is an important study for patients and families of those with JDM, as it is a common question as to why a patient with JDM continues to feel significant fatigue despite disease control.

For more information on Cure JM-funded research studies, visit www.curejm.org/research
Cure JM Foundation’s Medical Advisory Board (MAB) is comprised of internationally renowned researchers and clinicians in the field of Juvenile Myositis. The MAB provides insight, scientific direction, and expertise to Cure JM’s Board of Directors and Staff. The MAB also consults with clinicians who request guidance in the treatment of a patient.

Lisa G. Rider, M.D.
Chairman, Cure JM Foundation MAB
Deputy Chief of the Environmental Autoimmunity Group, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, National Institutes of Health

Lauren M. Pachman, M.D.
Professor of Pediatrics, Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine
Head, Cure JM Center of Excellence in JM Care and Research, Stanley Manne Children’s Research Institute

Ann M. Reed, M.D.
William Cleland Professor of Pediatrics, Chair, Department of Pediatrics
Physician-in-Chief, Duke Children’s
Duke University Medical Center

Adam Huber, M.D.
Pediatric Rheumatologist and Professor of Pediatrics at the IWK Health Centre and Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Susan Kim, M.D., MMSc
Associate Professor
UCSF School of Medicine
Department of Pediatrics

Brian Feldman, M.D., MSc, FRCPC
Professor of Pediatrics & Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, and the DLSPH
University of Toronto
Head, Division of Rheumatology, SickKids

Lucy Wedderburn, Ph.D, MRCP
Professor in Pediatric Rheumatology at University College London (UCL)
Institute of Child Health
Consultant at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH)

Kanneboyina Nagaraju, DVM, MVSc, Ph.D.
Founding Chair and Professor, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Binghamton University, State University of New York
“When my son was diagnosed with JM, we were scared and felt alone. My son’s doctor told us about Cure JM. We joined hoping to learn something about the disease, but we gained so much more than we thought we would – we gained knowledge, support, and hope. I can’t imagine fighting this disease without Cure JM and their support.”

Susan, mother of child with JM

A WORLD OF HOPE

Reducing Diagnosis Times.

When Cure JM Foundation was founded, it could take years for a patient afflicted by Juvenile Myositis to obtain a correct diagnosis. By working with the medical community to raise awareness of JM and developing online resources dedicated to this disease, Cure JM Foundation has helped to reduce the diagnosis time to three months.*

With research indicating that prompt treatment is essential to a successful outcome, reducing diagnosis time has been one of our critical goals.

*Based on calculating the median diagnosis times in Cure JM Patient Registry

“Mommy, I thought I was the only one with JDM. Now I know that I am not and that makes me so happy.”

JM patient Boris pictured at diagnosis (left) and at Cure JM Foundation National Family Conference after dramatic improvement
YOU MEAN THE WORLD TO US

Thanks to you, Cure JM has invested $12 million in research and educational programs since inception, leading to faster diagnosis, better treatments, critical educational resources, and progress towards a cure. None of this would be possible without you. In addition to demonstrating progress and results, we are committed to financial transparency. To that end, Cure JM received the “Platinum” award, the highest ranking possible from Guidestar. Cure JM was also awarded the Independent Charities “Best in America” seal for meeting the highest standards of public accountability, program effectiveness, and cost efficiency.

The most meaningful award for Cure JM comes directly from you... our volunteers, patients, families, and donors. It's the “Top-Rated Nonprofit” award from Great Nonprofits. This is the 7th year in a row for this great honor which is based on 5-star reviews from the Cure JM community.

Full financials are available on Cure JM Foundation’s website

CURE JM FOUNDATION
CIRCLE OF TRUSTEES

Cure JM Foundation is grateful to the more than 8,000 individual, foundation, and corporate donors in 2017. Our accelerated progress would not be possible without you.

Cure JM is honored to recognize the founding members of our Circle of Trustees, a distinguished group of patrons whose generous giving exceeded $100,000 in 2016-17. Our deep appreciation goes out to the following individuals:

Marge Coffey  David and Stacia Glancy
Bruce and Judy Leetz  Merrianne Van Ness
YOU ARE CHANGING THE WORLD

Cure JM is grateful to our powerful and passionate community of supporters who have made a profound impact in this world. Your investment in a cure gives patients the courage to hope, dream, and never give up... because they know people like you really do care and a better future is possible.

Cure JM Foundation is the only organization in the world that is fully dedicated to JM research and the JM community. Because of you, Cure JM is also the leading global nonprofit funder of JM research.

We have an aggressive research plan for 2018 that will only be possible with your support. Please give as generously as you can to give these children a fighting chance.

Easy Ways to Give and Save Lives:

Donate by check
Simply use the reply form and envelope included with this report.

Donate by credit card
Visit www.curejm.org/donate or call 760-487-1079
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“Cure JM provides answers, compassion, togetherness and friendship so I can get through my day and stay strong for my child. Cure JM has found a way to ignite the fire of hope in the newcomers, while stoking the fires of the experienced all in the interest of one thing, finding a cure!”

Chris, Father of JM child