PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: December 1, 2015 Contact: Kristen Spytek 203-507-8709 kristen.spytek@nationalcmv.org

Cytomegalovirus (CMV) Non-Profit Organizations Join Forces

Vision to Eliminate Congenital CMV in the United States by 2045

DENVER, CO (December 1, 2015)-- Stop CMV, Utah CMV Council, Maddie's Mission and National CMV Foundation have announced that the four 501(c)3 non-profit organizations, which focus on congenital cytomegalovirus, will join forces under the umbrella of National CMV Foundation. "The co-founders from each organization will still maintain an active role in the National CMV Foundation," said National CMV's President Kristen Spytek, "but by combining resources, we will be more effective in facilitating communication and ultimately, driving change at the national level".

Spytek explains that this decision is the culmination of leadership discussions held during the second half of 2015 that focused on ways the organizations could combine strengths and accomplish more each year to work toward their shared vision to eliminate congenital CMV in the United States by 2045.

National CMV Foundation will aim to empower women, parents, families and local community networks through grassroots engagement to facilitate conversations about CMV and to champion the cause against congenital CMV. Through delivery of consistent, clear messaging that aids in prevention, National CMV will educate the public and increase their understanding of congenital CMV, while effectively reducing the occurrence of CMV impacted births. The organization will also seek to influence CMV research priorities and advocate for a CMV vaccine.

In addition, National CMV Foundation is announcing its newly selected members to the board of directors: NFL scout/CMV parent, John Spytek – Investment research analyst, Grant Bowman – Attorney, Danielle Kinkel – CMV expert, Dr. Suresh Boppana – CMV expert, Dr. Albert Park – Human resources recruiter/CMV parent, Katie Igoe – Public health administrator, Alyson Ward – Technology entrepreneur, Wade Chambers – and Marketing executive/CMV parent, Kristen Spytek.

ABOUT NATIONAL CMV FOUNDATION:

National CMV Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to connect women of childbearing age with accurate CMV research and information.

To make a contribution, or to learn more about the National CMV Foundation, visit: <u>http://www.nationalcmv.org/</u>

According to the Center for Disease Control (<u>CDC</u>), **1 in 150 children are born with CMV in the United States**. It is more common than well-known disability-causing conditions such as Down Syndrome, spina bifida and fetal alcohol syndrome, but women are largely unaware of the virus and the measures that can be taken to prevent harmful effects in unborn children.

RELEASE NOTES:



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