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*Invest in
Hope*

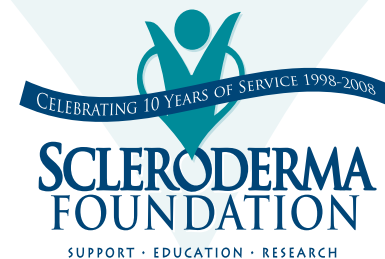
THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN FOR RESEARCH

THE SCLERODERMA FOUNDATION
IS LAUNCHING
THE MOST IMPORTANT
AND LARGEST
FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN
IN THE
ORGANIZATION'S
HISTORY...



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It is through research that the hope of a cure will become a reality.

Invest in Hope



2008 marks the 10th anniversary of the Scleroderma Foundation. As we commemorate this milestone and look to the future, we imagine a world free of scleroderma. This is the greatest **hope** of those whose lives have been touched by this disease.

Inherent in each Scleroderma Foundation research grant is the **hope** that our funds will make a significant difference to a researcher whose investigations may lead to the cure.

The leadership of the Foundation is launching the largest and most important fundraising campaign in the organization's history. The goal of the *Invest in Hope* campaign is to raise an **additional \$1,000,000** during our 10th Anniversary year to fund innovative and cutting-edge research.

This is an ambitious undertaking through which the Scleroderma Foundation will build on its historical strengths in identifying and supporting top-level research.

We are asking 1000 supporters to invest \$1,000 above and beyond their usual level of giving – or to raise an additional \$1,000 – to meet the \$1 million goal of the campaign.

AN INVESTMENT WORTH MAKING

Although a cure remains elusive, research funded by the Foundation continues to play a vital role in increasing the understanding of scleroderma.

Our \$1 million goal is ambitious, but attainable with your generous investment. The impact that this campaign will have on scleroderma research will be felt far into the future.



You can contribute with confidence in knowing that 100 percent of each dollar raised through the **Invest in Hope** campaign will be used exclusively to fund the best research being done by the brightest minds working to solve the mystery of scleroderma. Contributions to **Invest in Hope** will be research-restricted funds and used only for that purpose.



“This disease is hugely under funded. There is a dire need for more funding if substantial progress is to occur in the near future.”

*John Varga, M.D., Chair,
Scleroderma Foundation
Medical Advisory Board,
Northwestern University,
Feinberg School of
Medicine*



*Invest in Hope
by making a gift to
medical research today!*

About the Scleroderma Foundation

Invest in Hope – the hope of a cure for those living with scleroderma.



“We have a rich history from which much can be learned but our goal is to continuously grow and improve until our ultimate goal of a cure becomes reality.”

JOSEPH P. CAMERINO,
PH.D., CHAIR,
SCLERODERMA
FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THE SCLERODERMA FOUNDATION’S THREE-FOLD MISSION:

- **Support:** To help patients and their families cope with scleroderma through mutual support programs, peer counseling, physician referrals, and educational information.
- **Education:** To promote public awareness and education through patient and health professional seminars, literature, and publicity campaigns.
- **Research:** To stimulate and support research to improve treatment and ultimately find the cause of and cure for scleroderma and related diseases.

The Scleroderma Foundation is a 501(c)(3) national nonprofit organization serving the interests of persons with scleroderma. The Foundation’s 21 chapters and 165 support groups nationwide help to carry out its three-fold mission. The Scleroderma Foundation is the leading nonprofit supporter of scleroderma research.



The Scleroderma Foundation and its predecessor organizations have funded nearly \$14 million in research grants since 1989, making it the largest nonprofit supporter of scleroderma research in the United States, and second only to the federal government. Many past recipients who started their work with “seed money” from the Foundation have gone on to receive major funding from the National Institutes of Health.

A successful campaign will allow the Scleroderma Foundation to provide over **\$2 million in research grants in 2009**. These grants will enable new investigators to embark on a career in scleroderma research while enticing established investigators to undertake innovative avenues of research.

The Research Grant Program has earned a unique place in the field of scleroderma research. It is respected by government health agencies and it has served as a model for other patient advocacy organizations.

The program is administered by the Scleroderma Foundation’s Board of Directors and staff. Its success has been immensely aided by the fair, unbiased and critical review of grant applications by a panel of experts comprising the Research Peer Review Committee. This process assures that only the best and most promising science is funded by our donors’ dollars.



“Each grant is an opportunity to better understand the disease, develop effective treatments, and bring us closer to finding a cure.”

Carol Feghali-Bostwick,
PH.D., Chair,
Research Committee,
Scleroderma Foundation
Board of Directors,
University of Pittsburgh

Research Grant Program



“Scleroderma research awards have helped immeasurably in attracting new Ph.D. and physician scientists to the area of scleroderma research and in providing critical financial support for high-risk pilot projects. Results from these pilot studies have contributed to solving the riddle of scleroderma.”

Arnold Postlethwaite, M.D., University of Tennessee Health Science Center

THE RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM HAS FOUR HALLMARKS:

- 1. The program casts a wide net by soliciting proposals from a large pool of scientific talent.
2. It provides seed grants for researchers to establish preliminary data in the hope that a meritorious project may lead to much larger and longer-term grants from the National Institutes of Health.
3. It uses the National Institutes of Health Peer Review model, funding only proposals that have the highest scientific merit.
4. Grant recipients publish their results in leading medical journals and in papers at major medical conferences.

In recent years the Foundation’s Research Grant Program has attracted more new investigators seeking funding. This trend suggests that the Foundation is playing a leading role in developing a rich breeding ground for the next generation of established scleroderma researchers.



Please contribute to the Scleroderma Foundation’s 10th Anniversary Campaign for Research today.

THE CAMPAIGN ACCEPTS:

- Gifts of cash
• Pledges made now and payable in 2009
• Securities
• Real Estate
• Gift annuities, bequests, and other planned gifts

The Foundation’s professional development staff can advise you in confidence on a full range of planned giving and estate planning vehicles.

Your commitment to Invest in Hope by supporting the 10th Anniversary Campaign for Research is in addition to the generous support you already provide. Both gifts are essential to the work of the Foundation – one to continue the Foundation’s ability to move forward with its three-fold mission; the other to specifically increase the number of the Foundation’s research grants given annually. These two commitments are completely separate and will be directed to two separate accounts.



“I currently have research grants from the National Institutes of Health, but it was the grant from the Scleroderma Foundation that provided the initial funding that permitted me to develop a research program of high quality that could then could attract NIH grants.”

Maureen Mayes, M.D., M.P.H., University of Texas Health Science Center, Houston