

"FRIENDS FOR FRAGILE X" DONATES \$20,000 TO SUPPORT GENETIC DISEASE RESEARCH

Driven by the goal and passion to obtain a cure for the genetic condition of Fragile X Syndrome, Friends For Fragile X donates \$10,000 to both the National Fragile X Foundation (NFXF) and U.C. Davis Medical Center MIND Institute (UCD MI) Fragile X Research and Treatment Center to advance research and promote public awareness of the genetic disease. Friends for Fragile X raised funds through its first annual Red, White & Blue Fundraiser in Coto de Caza, Calif.

National Fragile X Foundation

The proceeds received from the event will help NFXF establish Fragile X clinics nationwide and provide support and education programs for families with children diagnosed with Fragile X.

"One of our goals is to improve the availability of and access to Fragile X clinics for families throughout the U.S.," said Robert Miller, executive director of the National Fragile X Foundation. "Organizations like Friends for Fragile X also allow us to advance our support of research efforts designed to improve treatments and ultimately cure Fragile X."

NFXF is organizing the 13th In-

ternational Fragile X Conference in July for more than 1,000 parents and professionals from around the world. Those attending will have the opportunity to learn about the latest research, teaching and therapy techniques and behavioral interventions from the world's leading experts on Fragile X-associated disorders.

U.C. Davis Medical Center MIND Institute (UCD MI) Fragile X Research and Treatment Center

UCD MI will use the funds to purchase biofeedback equipment to assist on-going research and clinical trials toward finding a treatment and/or cure for Fragile X Syndrome in children. The biofeedback equipment will allow researchers at UCD MI to monitor changes in patients on different trial medications. UCD MI has 11 medications on trial at the institute.

"The biofeedback machine will help us obtain measures to determine the efficacy of new medications in our treatment trials" said Dr. Randi



Hagerman, Medical Director at the UC Davis MIND Institute. "This is an innovative approach we have not been able to utilize before receiving funding from Friends for Fragile X. We are very grateful and honored to receive this funding. Their support allows us to make a difference in the lives of those with Fragile X."

Fragile X syndrome (FXS) is a family of genetic conditions caused by a change in the Fragile X (FMR1) gene. It is the most common cause of inherited intellectual disability,

affecting 1 in 3600 males and 1 in 6000 females. It is the leading single gene cause of autism. David and Joy Justus founded Friends for Fragile X when their son Tyler was diagnosed with the disease to create a network of "friends" to support him and help fund Fragile X research.

For more information on Friends for Fragile X, visit www.friendsforfragilex.org. Friends for Fragile X is a 501(c)(3) non-profit California corporation and donations are tax deductible.