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Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance to Fund Record \$650,000 for Research Projects
Organization Now Accepting Proposals for Ovarian Cancer Research Projects

(MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., January 21, 2015) The Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance (MOCA) is announcing a research funding milestone for 2015, as the organization will be awarding a record \$650,000 to ovarian cancer research projects this year.

This is the most awarded by the organization at a single time and puts the total amount of research funding awarded by MOCA to more than \$5 million. MOCA is one of the largest private, non-profit funders of ovarian cancer research in the nation.

On the heels of this announcement, MOCA is issuing a request for proposals for the organization's 2015 ovarian cancer research awards. MOCA will be awarding \$625,000 this May to provide opportunities for Minnesota researchers to initiate new studies or continue current research on ovarian cancer.

The additional \$25,000 in research funding available will be directed towards the Stand Up To Cancer (SU2C) Ovarian Cancer Dream Team effort, which MOCA joined in 2014 with several organizations. MOCA made a four-year, \$100,000 commitment through SU2C's collaborative, cutting-edge ovarian cancer research Dream Team that will help patients and save lives.

Eligible projects for the \$625,000 in Minnesota research funding must be conducted in the state by Minnesota based researchers. Applicants may be pursuing individual research or be part of a team research project pertaining to ovarian, primary peritoneal or fallopian tube cancer. Grant proposals may not exceed \$100,000.

All proposals will be considered. However, special consideration will be given to:

- Proposals which may lead to early detection, better treatment, or a cure for ovarian cancer;
- Projects that may benefit women living with ovarian cancer today;
- Projects that might not otherwise be funded;
- Projects that will result in the development of preliminary data which will enable the researcher to compete for larger national grants.

“To put the milestone award into context: what will be awarded this year is two times the amount that MOCA was able to offer to researchers in 2011. The fact that we’re able to continue to increase our funding is thanks to our generous supporters who know that research is vital to making an impact against this disease,” said MOCA Executive Director Kathleen Gavin, “As the deadliest of all gynecologic cancers, MOCA’s research funding makes a difference by stimulating innovation, supporting excellent researchers and institutions and attracting researchers to focus on ovarian cancer.”

Evaluations of proposed projects are made by national experts in ovarian cancer research and at-large MOCA members. Recommendations are then voted on by the MOCA Board of Directors.

All applications must be received in the MOCA office by 3:00 p.m. CST on Friday, February 27, 2015. Applicants will be notified by Friday, April 24. Grantees are required to attend the MOCA annual meeting in mid-May and will be asked to deliver a short presentation.

A complete description of the application requirements can be found at:
<http://mnovarian.org/promoting-research/>.

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About the Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance: The Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance (MOCA) is a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness, providing education and support to women and families impacted by the disease and funding the research needed to detect ovarian cancer early and treat it properly. MOCA was founded in 1999 by a group of ovarian cancer survivors. Since then, MOCA has grown to an organization of more than 1,000 survivors and 40,000 donors and active members with a full range of programs encompassing education, support and research. MOCA has awarded more than \$4.5 million to research projects for ovarian cancer research in Minnesota. For additional information, go to www.mnovarian.org or call (612) 822-0500.