



CONTACT: Becky Lechner
MOCA Communications Manager
(612) 822-0500
rlechner@mnovarian.org

Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance to Provide \$725,000 for Minnesota Research Projects in 2017

Organization Now Accepting Proposals for Ovarian Cancer Research Projects

(MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., January 24, 2017) The Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance (MOCA) has issued a request for proposals from Minnesota based researchers for ovarian cancer research projects. MOCA will be awarding \$725,000 this May to Minnesota researchers focused on accelerating research about the disease.

The 2017 amount will put MOCA's total contribution to research funding at nearly \$7 million. MOCA is among the top funders of ovarian cancer research in the nation.

This year, MOCA instituted some changes to the grant-making process to increase its impact on the research community and streamline the process for researchers. New this year, special consideration will be given to proposals that are focused on innovative approaches to detection or treatment. Also new in 2017, project funding will be available for one to three years of research activity and the total amount requested can be up to \$300,000.

In addition, a one-year grant of \$75,000 funded by MOCA's Spin it Teal event will be awarded to one project focused on preventing the recurrence of ovarian cancer.

Eligible projects must be conducted in Minnesota 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.

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

- Innovative approaches to detection or treatment, not previously explored before;
- 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;
- Translational projects that include a plan for a clinical trial;
- Projects that might not otherwise be funded; and
- Projects that will result in the development of preliminary data which will enable the researcher to compete for larger national grants.

“We’re excited to again provide a significant amount of research funding to spur on ovarian cancer research here in the state of Minnesota. This is possible because our generous supporters 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 our state’s 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 4:00 p.m. CST on Wednesday, March 1. Applicants will be notified by Friday, April 21. Grantees are required to attend the MOCA Annual Meeting in Bloomington, Minn. on Monday, May 15 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/>.

###

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 nearly \$7 million to research projects for ovarian cancer research in Minnesota. For additional information, go to www.mnovarian.org or call (612) 822-0500.