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Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance to Provide \$775,000 for Ovarian Cancer Research Projects

2018 amount brings total MOCA research funding to \$8 million

(MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., January 19, 2018) The Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance (MOCA) has announced that the organization is providing a total of \$775,000 to ovarian cancer research projects in 2018. The 2018 amount puts MOCA's total contribution to research funding at more than \$8 million. MOCA is among the top funders of ovarian cancer research in the nation.

This announcement coincides with a request for proposals from both national and Minnesota-based researchers for ovarian cancer research projects. This is the second year that MOCA is also providing funding to two national researchers focused on an early detection test for ovarian cancer.

The breakdown of funding is as follows:

- \$600,000 available for Minnesota-based researchers focused on ovarian cancer research in general;
- \$75,000 available for a Minnesota-based researcher focused on preventing recurrence of the disease;
- \$100,000 available for two national researchers focused on early detection research.

For the funding centered in Minnesota, 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.
- Projects focused on the prevention of recurrence of ovarian cancer.

For the National Early Detection Research Awards, two, one-year grants of \$50,000 will be awarded to two researchers from outside Minnesota. This is the second year that MOCA has made NEDRA funds available.

“As we start 2018, we’re excited to again provide a major amount of funding to continue ovarian cancer research here in the state of Minnesota and throughout the country. 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 encouraging 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 4:00 p.m. CST on Thursday, March 1. Applicants will be notified by Friday, April 27. Minnesota grantees are required to attend the MOCA Annual Meeting in May 2018 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 \$7 million to research projects for ovarian cancer research in Minnesota. For additional information, go to www.mnovarian.org or call (612) 822-0500.