CdLS Foundation
Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation, Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation Awards Research Grants

Two researchers will share $27,750 funding awarded by national nonprofit

Avon, CT – (October 2, 2018) As part of its 2018 Research Grants Program, the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS) Foundation awarded $27,570 to researchers studying various aspects of CdLS.

Michelle Pherson, Ph.D., Saint Louis University School of Medicine: *Functional Interactions Between BRD4 and NIPBL in Drosophila*. This study will analyze the effects of Fs(1)h (BRD4) Nipped-B (NIPBL) and cohesin on each other's chromosome occupancy and comparing their effects on gene expression in Drosophila will provide new insights into the potential mechanisms by which BRD4 and NIPBL mutations can give rise to similar developmental deficits in CdLS.

Patti J. Bailey-Caudill, M.S. CCC-SLP, The Milton J. Dance Head & Neck Center, Greater Baltimore Medical Center: *Use of Augmentative and Alternative Communication Devices (AAC) in Children with Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS)*. The purpose of this study is to survey parents/caregivers of children with CdLS age 2-18 years and to understand the use of high tech AAC devices in children with the CdLS.

Researchers will present their findings at the next CdLS Scientific Symposia. For more information about the CdLS Foundation or to make a donation, call 800.753.2357 or visit www.cdlsusa.org.

About Cornelia de Lange Syndrome

An estimated 20,000 people in the U.S. have CdLS but remain undiagnosed and/or without support services. Individuals with CdLS range from mildly to severely affected, though most have similar physical characteristics including small size, hands and feet; thin eyebrows that meet in the middle; long eyelashes; upturned nose; and thin, downturned lips. Some individuals have limb differences, including missing fingers or arms. Common medical problems include GERD, bowel obstruction, and congenital heart defects.

About the Foundation

Founded in 1981, the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation is a family support organization that exists to ensure early and accurate diagnosis of CdLS, promote research into the causes and manifestations of the syndrome, and help people with a diagnosis of CdLS and their families make informed decisions throughout their lifetime.

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