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For Immediate Release

ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION SEEKS HEROES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON
Register for clinical trials and give the gift of hope to future generations.

ST. LOUIS (Dec. 20, 2012) – As you are celebrating the holiday season by generously gifting to loved ones, consider giving the gift of hope to future generations. The Alzheimer’s Association is encouraging everyone to become a hero, by not only hoping for a cure, but helping find one. Heroes can help find the path to tomorrow’s treatments today by registering for Alzheimer’s Association TrialMatch®, a user-friendly and individualized guide to Alzheimer’s clinical trials.

Alzheimer’s is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States, and the only cause of death among the top ten with no way to prevent, cure or slow its progression. According to the 2012 Alzheimer’s Disease Facts and Figures report, there are 5.4 million Americans living with Alzheimer’s disease today, and that number is expected to triple by mid-century.

“One of the greatest obstacles to developing the next generation of Alzheimer’s treatments is recruiting and retaining trial participants,” said Alzheimer’s Association St. Louis Chapter President, Stacy Tew-Lovasz. “If we can fill the trials faster, we will get answers faster and get closer to finding better treatments and a cure for Alzheimer’s.”

The Alzheimer's Association St. Louis Chapter is excited to recognize four heroes, from Washington University in St. Louis, who have been awarded research grants through the Alzheimer’s Association 2012 New Investigators Research Program. Alzheimer’s Association research grants are made to advance the understanding of Alzheimer's disease, help identify new treatment strategies, provide information to improve care for people with dementia and further knowledge of brain health and disease prevention.

Grant Recipients

Beau Ances, M.D., Ph.D.
Awarded: $95,991
Study: Resting State Network Signature of Alzheimer’s Disease

Abhinav Diwan, M.D.
Awarded: $100,000
Study: Enhancing Lysosome Biogenesis to Prevent Amyloid Plaque Pathogenesis

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Jungsu Kim, Ph.D
Awarded: $100,000
Study: Regulation of LDLR as Alzheimer’s Disease Therapeutics

Mirica Liviu, Ph.D.
Awarded: $100,000
Study: Bifunctional Chemical Agents as Theranostic Tools for Abeta Aggregation

“Alzheimer’s researchers and research trial participants are some of the greatest heroes in the fight against this devastating disease,” Tew-Lovasz said. “The Alzheimer’s Association is thrilled that these researchers will continue their innovative research in St. Louis, and we look forward to learning about their advances in Alzheimer’s disease.”

Since awarding its first grants in 1982, the Alzheimer’s Association has become the largest private, nonprofit funder of Alzheimer research, awarding more than $300 million to 2,100 scientists around the globe.

To receive support or to learn more about Alzheimer’s Association TrialMatch and how you can become a hero, visit alz.org/stl or call 800.272.3900.

About Alzheimer’s Association TrialMatch?
Alzheimer’s Association TrialMatch is a first-of-its-kind, free, confidential interactive tool that provides comprehensive clinical trial information and an individualized trial matching service for people with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias. Alzheimer’s Association TrialMatch operates through the Internet (www.alz.org/TrialMatch), and through the Alzheimer’s Association toll-free phone number (800.272.3900). This powerful tool is also available to caregivers, physicians, researchers and people interested in becoming “healthy volunteers.”

The Alzheimer’s Association is the world leader in Alzheimer’s care, support and research. The St. Louis Chapter serves 38 counties in eastern Missouri and western Illinois, providing comprehensive care and support programs. The Alzheimer’s Association mission is to eliminate Alzheimer’s disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. For additional information about the disease, family support or research, visit the Alzheimer’s Association St. Louis Chapter web site at www.alz.org/stl, or call the 24/7 Helpline at 800.272.3900.

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