

Department of Neurology

December 17, 2019

Dear Friend,

Warm greetings from UCSF! I want to extend my best wishes to you for this holiday season.

As we close out another busy year, I reflect on the legacy of Richard K. Olney, MD, who was the founding director of the ALS Treatment and Research Center at UCSF, a pioneer in clinical research on ALS, and my mentor. Throughout his time at UCSF, Dr. Olney worked to advance the diagnosis and management of motor neuron diseases and used the tragic irony of his own diagnosis to increase public awareness of the condition. It was my life's honor to work with Dr. Olney – not only as his protégé, but also as his physician following his diagnosis with ALS.

During my residency at UCSF, Dr. Olney was an incredible advisor. He taught me how to diagnose patients and how to follow them over time. He also taught me about the value of basic science and clinical research in unlocking better treatments and eventually, a cure. After my residency, we worked side by side to grow the UCSF ALS Treatment and Research Center, which became an ALS Association center of excellence in 2001 and a Muscular Dystrophy Association center of excellence in 2007. We now treat more than 370 patients annually, including 100 patients through our three satellite clinics in Modesto, Monterey, and Santa Rosa. These clinics, first envisioned and implemented by Dr. Olney and later expanded under my directorship, allow us to provide comprehensive care to traditionally underserved patients, and diagnose ALS earlier. Now, as his successor as the director of the UCSF ALS Center, I have committed my career to taking his work forward and philanthropy has been instrumental in this effort.

You are an essential part of this team and I am writing to ask that you partner with us by making a year-end gift today.

Gifts to the Richard K. Olney Endowed Professorship Fund help support the majority of the ALS Center's research and treatment programs, such as our multidisciplinary model of care, which is recognized for prolonging both quality and length of life for patients. Having this endowment has given me the flexibility and support to increase our focus on clinical research, reinstitute our clinical trial program, and accelerate my work to fulfill Dr. Olney's vision to identify a cure for ALS. Most importantly, your philanthropy represents hope for those who have previously had little and eventually will help us ensure that future generations do not have to suffer similarly from this

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(over, please)

devastating disease. Each patient is unique and inspiring, and helps push me to think of new research questions and hopefully, one day, to find a cure.

With your year-end gift to the Rick Olney Endowed Professorship, we may continue to make advances in the diagnosis and treatment of ALS while delivering the best care possible to our patients.

Thank you for considering my request. Wishing you and yours a healthy holiday season – and a very Happy New Year!

Very truly yours,

C. Lomen Hoerth

Catherine Lomen-Hoerth MD, PhD Richard K. Olney Endowed Professorship Professor of Clinical Neurology Director, ALS Center at UCSF Director, ARCH weeks

P.S. Your support of the Richard K. Olney Endowed Professorship allows us to pursue our audacious research goals. Thank you for being a part of this team of revolutionary thinkers and for making these giant leaps possible! We couldn't unlock the mysteries of the mind and body without you.

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