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#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **NATIONAL PARKINSON FOUNDATION AWARDS \$9 MILLION IN NEW GRANTS**

*Supporting Innovative Research, Continuing Care and Essential Outreach Worldwide*

**MIAMI** - (July 13, 2006) - The National Parkinson Foundation (NPF) recently awarded over \$9 million in new grants to its Centers of Excellence, Care and Outreach Centers, university research programs and individual researchers representing organizations from all around the world. In addition, money has been allocated amongst 12 NPF Chapters throughout the United States to be used for a range of projects.

“The National Parkinson Foundation is committed to improving the lives of the 1.5 million Americans that are affected by Parkinson disease,” said Paul F. Orefice, NPF’s chairman. “One person develops Parkinson disease every nine minutes and our continued support of studies and investigations will fund innovative research to find the cause and cure of Parkinson disease.”

NPF awarded over \$4.5 million to a range of research programs, including:

- *The Fight Goes On - Mega Projects* at Case Western Reserve University, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Emory University and Northwestern University. “*Mega Projects*” are characterized by innovative explorations and collaborative ventures involving researchers from multiple institutions whose work is directly related Parkinson research.
- 18 NPF Centers of Excellence which each meet exceptional standards in research, outreach and comprehensive care.
- University of Miami/NPF Brain Endowment Bank to aid research of donated brain tissue, utilizing it to study the cause, cure and possible treatments.
- 12 individual grants were provided to international scientists who proposed high-risk, high-yield research projects.

In addition to funding research, NPF allocated approximately \$2.4 million towards comprehensive care grants to:

- 27 NPF Centers of Excellence and Care Centers worldwide, funding extensive services for patients including exercise sessions, mental health, educational programs and various publications.
- University of Miami’s clinical program.

The remainder of the money, approximately \$2.2 million, has been put towards outreach, education and Chapter grants at 41 Centers of Excellence, Care and Outreach Centers, along with 12 NPF Chapters.

Founded in 1957 and headquartered in Miami, the National Parkinson Foundation’s dual mission is to find the cause of and cure for Parkinson disease, as well as to improve the quality of life for those afflicted with the debilitating disease. NPF has invested over \$100 million in research and is equally dedicated to providing care, education and support services for persons whose lives are affected by Parkinson. *For more information about NPF and the allocation of the grants, including locations of centers and sums received, please visit [www.parkinson.org](http://www.parkinson.org) or call 800-327-4545.*