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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATIONAL LYMPHEDEMA NETWORK ACCEPTING PATIENT APPLICATIONS FOR 2016 LYMPH SCIENCE ADVOCACY PROGRAM

BERKELEY, CA. The National Lymphedema Network (NLN) is accepting applications to its 2016 Lymph Science Advocacy Program (LSAP), to be held in conjunction with the NLN International Conference, August 31–September 4, in Dallas, Texas.

Since 2000, the LSAP has educated patient advocates and leaders about the basic science of lymphedema and related disorders as part of the NLN International Conference. Selected candidates include patient advocates or caregivers who will be granted the same opportunity as healthcare professionals to attend the NLN conference. LSAP attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of the scientific and clinical research aspects of primary and secondary lymphedema and related disorders, and be guided towards making a difference in their own distinct ways and communities.

2014 LSAP participant, Sophia Hansen said, “Through LSAP I not only gained friends who understood my mental and physical pain, but also gleaned considerable knowledge about my disorder. LSAP offered a haven from the fear and doubt brought on by this chronic illness and inspired me to continue to advocate for other patients in any way that I can.”

The LSAP is integral to supporting the efforts of the NLN and giving rise to advocates for the field of Lymphology as a whole. While there is no charge to participate, the application process is selective. The deadline is **May 15, 2016**.

LSAP graduates hold leadership roles as patients, advocates, and activists in the field. Among the program’s graduates are:

- ~Sarah Bramblette, Obesity Action Coalition and Lymphedema Advocacy Group
- ~Cynthia Bridgewater, Florida State Team Leader, Lymphedema Advocacy Group
- ~Elaine Eigeman, Northwest Lymphedema Center and Lymphedema Advocacy Group
- ~Heather Ferguson, Founder and Executive Director, Lymphedema Advocacy Group
- ~Sophia Hanson, author, 2015 NORD Rare Disease Day Profile of Courage Honoree
- ~Cynthia “MsCJay” Judge, Radio host, Lymphedema Mavens “All Things Lymphedema”
- ~Anna Kennedy, Executive Director, Canadian Lymphedema Framework Project
- ~Yolanda Martin, author, Co-Chair, TX Walk to Fight Lymphedema and Lymphatic Diseases
- ~Amy Santiago, Mrs. Central Florida International and Global Lymphedema Ambassador
- ~Joan White, Founder and Executive Director, Lighthouse Lymphedema Network
- ~Judy Woodward, Executive Committee, Lymphedema Advocacy Group.

The NLN was founded with the mission of creating awareness of lymphedema through education and promoting and supporting the availability of quality medical treatment for all individuals at risk for or affected by lymphedema. For more information about the Lymph Science Advocacy Program and application process, visit <http://lymphnet.org/patients/lsap>. Registration for the 2016 NLN International Conference is open online at www.lymphnet.org/events/2016-nln-conference.

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