## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Cure JM VP of Research to Receive White House Award Wednesday

Cure JM proudly announces that Amy Gleason, our Vice President of Research, will be recognized by the White House as a "Champion of Change" for Precision Medicine tomorrow.

The awards presentation will be aired live Wednesday, July 8th, at 2:00 PM Eastern at <a href="www.whitehouse.gov/live">www.whitehouse.gov/live</a>. The program will feature remarks by Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell, Senior Advisor to the President Brian Deese, and Director of National Institutes of Health Francis Collins. During the event, share your stories or ask questions using the hashtags #WHChamps and #curejm.

Chosen out of hundreds of outstanding nominees, Cure JM Vice President Amy Gleason was one of only nine recipients of the "Champions of Change" for Precision Medicine Award. The Champions of Change program was created as an opportunity for the White House to feature individuals doing extraordinary things to empower and inspire members of their communities. These individuals are helping to "enable a new era of medicine through research and technology that empowers patients, researchers, and providers to work together toward development of individualized treatments," according to the White House press release.

For many years, Amy Gleason has devoted her life to making a difference for patients and families. She has worked tirelessly to transform the way health is improved and diseases are treated. Gleason began her career in nursing and soon realized that technology could improve health care. Since then she has become an advocate for patients and their families to use technology to better coordinate care and improve their health.

Her passion for patient care and individualized treatment took an important turn in 2010 when her daughter Morgan was diagnosed with Juvenile Myositis. As Amy tried to gather hundreds of pages of medical records for doctors' appointments, she knew there had to be a better way to collect and share medical data.

Emboldened with this goal, Amy helped create an electronic solution that puts the patients at the center of their care, equips them with their health care data, and gives them the tools to share that information effortlessly with the people who need it.

Amy also volunteers as the Vice President of Research for Cure JM where she has been instrumental in advancing Juvenile Myositis research. In her role as Vice President of

research for Cure JM, Gleason believes data is a key piece of the puzzle in finding a cure for Juvenile Myositis and many other diseases. When data is able to be formatted into standardized terminology, researchers can learn faster. "I believe that better health data can help lead to more personalized treatment options," says Gleason. "And that more personalized treatments can lead to better outcomes for patients and families."

Please tune in tomorrow and join us in Congratulating Amy!

## **About Cure JM**

Cure JM is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to finding a cure for Juvenile Dermatomyositis (JDM) and Juvenile Polymyositis (JPM), the rare and life-threatening autoimmune diseases collectively known as Juvenile Myositis (JM). Approximately 2 to 4 children in a million in the United States are diagnosed with JM each year.

Cure JM's mission is to provide support for families coping with JM, raise awareness of JM, and fund research that will ultimately lead to a cure.

Cure JM Foundation is the only organization that solely supports Juvenile Myositis and is also the largest charitable supporter of Juvenile Myositis research. Through the generosity of the JM community, family and friends, Cure JM has helped establish JM research centers in Chicago and Washington, D.C., and funded the first-ever book solely about JM. Cure JM has also funded a wide range of genetic and JM treatment studies and funded research fellowships. For more information on Cure JM visit www.curejm.org.