

National Office

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March 24, 2011

Wendy Kaye, Ph.D.
ALS Surveillance Project Director
McKing Consulting Corporation
4770 Buford Highway, MS F-57
Atlanta, GA 30341

Dear Dr. Kaye,

On behalf of The ALS Association, we are pleased to offer our support for the state and metropolitan area ALS Surveillance Projects. The ALS Association is the only voluntary health agency solely focused on Lou Gehrig's Disease. By leading the way in global research, providing assistance for people with ALS through a nationwide network of chapters, coordinating multidisciplinary care through certified clinical care centers, and fostering government partnerships, The Association builds hope and enhances quality of life while aggressively searching for new treatments and a cure.

We believe that these surveillance projects are vital elements in the fight to find a treatment and cure for ALS and will play important roles in supporting the National ALS Registry, which is currently being managed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). By helping to assess the completeness of the National Registry, this surveillance projects will advance the greater goals of the Registry to identify cases of ALS across the country and collect critical information about the disease so urgently needed for ALS research. In this way, the surveillance projects will help the National Registry to promote a better understanding of the disease, determine causes of ALS and significantly enhance the nation's efforts to find a treatment and cure for ALS.

The ALS Association looks forward to continuing to work with you to build support for the projects and facilitate the participation of the ALS community in these important initiatives.

Sincerely,



Lucie Bruijn, Ph.D.
Chief Scientist



Steve Gibson,
Vice President,
Government Relations
and Public Affairs



Sharon Matland,
Vice President, Patient Services



Member National Health Council