**RE: Fund-raising for The LAM Foundation**

Dear Family and Friends:

I hope that you are well. I know you don’t get a lot of letters from me, but this is a special request. Please excuse that this is a “form letter” and not personalized, but I’m sending this to quite a few people.

As you already know, Xxxxxx was diagnosed with an extremely rare lung disease in YEAR. The disease’s official name is lymphangioleiomyomatosis. It has 24 letters and is pronounced:

**“lim-FAN-je-o-LI-o-MI-o-ma-TO-sis”**

Most people refer to it as LAM.

LAM is a rare lung disease that almost exclusively affects women. It is characterized by mutating smooth muscle cells, especially in the lungs, lymphatic system, and kidneys. In the lungs, these mutant smooth muscle cells cause blockage of the small airways and damage to the lung tissues. This leads to the formation of large numbers of cysts in the lungs, all resulting in less airflow and less oxygen transfer to the blood. As the disease progresses, supplemental oxygen or a lung transplant may be required.

It is estimated that for every million women, three to five will have LAM. Suffice it to say, it’s very rare. All races are affected and women with LAM have been identified across the globe. Most women with LAM have symptoms for several years before ultimately being diagnosed.

I am hoping you can take the time to read more about this online at [www.thelamfoundation.org](http://www.thelamfoundation.org).

When Xxxxxx was first diagnosed, we were devastated. With the disease being so rare, there wasn’t much accurate information readily available. However, we were blessed the day that we discovered “The LAM Foundation”. Headquartered in Cincinnati, Ohio, The LAM Foundation provides support and education for women with LAM and their families. It engages doctors and scientists to continue to learn more about the disease and raises funds for the continued study of LAM. The LAM Foundation has raised more than $33.5 million over the last 28 years. This funded the research that resulted in a fundamental understanding of the genetic cause of LAM. This success has led to the first-ever clinical treatment trial and ultimately an FDA-approved treatment for the disease.

At this point, there is NOT a cure for LAM. However, the approved treatment options offer the opportunity to slow down, or even stop, the progression of the disease. Unfortunately, these treatments come with the burden of some pretty undesirable side effects, so long-term use is questionable. We hope that an actual cure is on the horizon.

The LAM Foundation was founded in 1995 as a grassroots effort. Although the Foundation operates with a very small staff, it is highly efficient and productive. It has been described by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) as "a model for voluntary health agencies."

The LAM Foundation is very dependent on the generosity of the friends and families of the patients for funding. Each year, many patients, family and friends organize a significant number of fundraising events, bake sales, fun runs, bicycle races, you name it. This is why I am writing to you.

I am asking our family, our close friends, and a few business associates to consider making a tax-deductible donation to The LAM Foundation over the next two months. I have set a personal fundraising goal for YEAR of **$10,000.00**, which I believe is realistic. I am sending this invitation to approximately 50 people with the hopes of raising most of my goal **by DATE**. To hit the goal, I’ll surely need a few very generous contributions. However, any amount that you can manage would be greatly appreciated.

I am making a personal commitment **to make up whatever amount we are lacking for the $10,000 goal**.

If you would be willing to support me on this, here’s what you can do.

1. Send a check made payable to **“The LAM Foundation”**, reference “In Honor of FIRST AND LAST NAME Please send your check directly to The LAM Foundation in the envelope provided, or to this address: The LAM Foundation, 4520 Cooper Road, Suite 300, Cincinnati, OH 45242
2. You may call The LAM Foundation at (877) 287-3526. They can accept credit card donations over the phone.
3. You can also donate online at [www.thelamfoundation.org](http://www.thelamfoundation.org)

When donations are made, The LAM Foundation will let me know who donated. That way, I can send out a personal letter of gratitude.They will also give me the total amount of donations made in Xxxxxx’s name. However, they **will NOT** tell me the amount that any individual gives. The LAM Foundation will also send you a tax receipt when the donation is processed.

Thank you in advance for your help,

Signature