

Hello To All Of You:

Please help us!

I had never failed at anything I tried. Sports, school, job, girl scout leader, church youth leader, building my own business into a success.....until I became very, very sick. For years no doctor knew what was wrong with me, standard tests showed nothing wrong. 17 years later I was diagnosed with CFIDS.

Despite how sick this disease made me I was damned if I was ever going to just give up. I had always succeeded at anything I put my mind to. I just never, never, never gave up! I researched every disease for which fatigue was a symptom and accumulated over 2300 pages of research.....When I was diagnosed with CFIDS, I accumulated another 1160 pages, only to learn not much is known about CFIDS; there is no cure; very, very few people seemed to care about we who suffer from this hellish disease, many don't even take it seriously, and our own government used funds designated for CFIDS research for other projects instead.

WHY??? I suppose it is because they have not walked even one step in our shoes and cannot even begin to imagine any disease could be so debilitating and painful.

Doctors who treat both AIDS patients and CFIDS patients have stated that given a choice, they would much rather have AIDS than CFIDS. My own doctor (an infectious disease specialist) said this to me several times. These doctors have not walked even one step in our shoes but they have watched us painfully struggle over and over, again and again to take that one step.

I've had CFIDS for over 30 years....my son has CFIDS.....a cousin has CFIDS.....We all share a genetic weakness in the R-nase L pathway. WE all got CFIDS after having a severe virus.

Please help us! I do NOT want this legacy to continue on my grandchildren!!!

Thank you for any help you choose to offer,

Juanita Thatcher