Public Comment
Claudia Goodsell

I will keep this brief. My name is Claudia Goodell and after years of being sick I was finally diagnosed with CFS and Fibromyalgia in 2005. Fortunately, with the help of a compassionate doctor I was quickly approved for Social Security Disability Insurance. In addition to losing my ability to use my advanced education I am also unable to pursue most of the activities I loved before becoming ill. I was a competitive mountain biker, an avid downhill skier, and loved to travel internationally. I am fortunate enough that my daughter was already grown and living independently when I was diagnosed, and that I have a husband who will provide for us and is very supportive of my needs, however ME/CFS and Fibromyalgia have stolen the active life we once enjoyed together. Please hear me and the millions of other patients when we say that this physiological illness is serious and debilitating. We need your help NOW. Will you help us ensure that our illness is recognized as having a physiological basis, is named appropriately, is defined properly to include post exertional malaise, and that treatments such as GET and CBT are not recommended as care for this disease? Without these basics we cannot expect to receive adequate funding for the research necessary to develop a treatment and/or cure. You must do this. Thank you, Claudia Goodell