

# Lymph Science Advocacy Program (LSAP)

9<sup>th</sup> NLN International Lymphedema Network Conference

*Lymphedema: Breaking Through the Barriers: Research, Education, and Practice*

## A Training Program for Advocates for Research and Education about Lymphedema

The National Lymphedema Network (NLN), in response to needs identified by LE patients, caregivers and advocates, has created a program to educate advocates in the science and issues of Lymphedema and related disorders during the bi-annual NLN Conference.. Participants will be selected from submitted nominations and will represent a diversity of backgrounds and interests including primary and secondary LE from related causes. The program will be limited to 5 new participants.

### *Program Goal*

The goal of the Lymph Science Advocacy Program (LSAP) is to engage and motivate patients and caregivers to action in issues of treatment and research of the lymphatic system through education and a more comprehensive understanding of the scientific and clinical research aspects of primary and secondary Lymphedema and related disorders.

### *Program Highlights*

- Individualized guidance on topic areas
- Introduction to the research process
- Mentors and scientific guidance
- Opportunity to participate in discussion groups with expert lymphologist
- Individualized action plan for dissemination and use of knowledge gained through the pilot program

### *Expected Outcomes of the Program*

The National Lymphedema Network expects program participants to:

- Gain a unique perspective and understanding about the basic research process
- Foster ideas and partnerships for new approaches and research
- A stronger commitment from participants in addressing the issues through advocacy in research, legislative and educational means
- Cast a broader “net” for inclusion of the NLN mission in all areas of LE research, treatment, prevention and education.

## *Guidelines*

Participants approved for the program will be expected to:

- Register and attend the pre-conference webinars and all designated sessions throughout the conference. LSAP participants should stay through the entire conference and not plan an early departure.
- Conduct themselves during the session in a manner respectful of the program
- Approach the subject topics with interest and an inquisitive mind
- Keep the scientific/research aspects top of mind throughout the program. While many of us are more comfortable discussing outreach activities and events the LSAP participants will be dedicated to learning more about medical research and the impact on patient care.
- Prepare written reports and return all evaluation surveys and participate in follow-up discussions designed by program organizers.
- Serve as an educational liaison following the program to other lymphedema patients and interested parties
- Participate in developing a group action plan for work following the conference

## *Program Faculty*

TBA

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

### **Lymph Science Advocacy Program (LSAP)**

#### **A Training Program for Advocates for Research and Education about Lymphedema**

*A program has been established by the National Lymphedema Network to educate advocates in the science and issues of Lymphedema and related disorders. The program seeks to engage and motivate patients and caregivers to action in addressing these issues through education and a more comprehensive understanding.*

*The three (3) webinars will take place between the last two weeks of August and first week of September*

*The onsite program will be offered at the National Lymphedema Network's 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference in Orlando FL Sept 22-26,2010. The program will be limited to 5 NEW participants. Participants will be selected from submitted nominations and will represent a diversity of backgrounds and interests (primary, secondary from breast, gynecological, melanoma, unrelated to cancer).*

#### **Nominations:**

Applicant may self nominate or be sponsored by an organization. Forms for application are enclosed.

#### **Eligibility:**

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# NLN

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Patients affected with LE, caregivers or those whose lives have been affected by lymphedema may apply. Applicants must show a curiosity and interest in learning scientific principles and research methods and be able to function as an observed in scientific session.

**Requirements:**

- Complete application
- Narrative description of your interest in participating in the project.
- Resume or curriculum vitae (CV) of applicant (please include volunteer responsibilities)
- No less than two (2) to no more than three (3) letters of support

**Registration Fees, Housing and Travel:**

Selected applicants will be responsible for all conference costs, registration fees, and travel. These costs may be underwritten by the supporting organization or the applicant.

**Schedule:**

- The **webinar panels** will take place between the last two weeks of August and the first week of September. Specific dates and times will be communicated to candidates upon acceptance.
- The **onsite program** will begin on September 22<sup>nd</sup> and conclude on September 26, 2010



**LSAP NLN CONFERENCE APPLICATION FORM COVER SHEET**

The National Lymphedema Network (NLN) is accepting nominations for participation in the Lymph Science Advocacy Program. The objective of this program is to educate and motivate lymphedema patients and caregivers to action by gaining a comprehensive understanding of the science and issues surrounding lymphedema.

**Each application should include this cover sheet and requested attachments.**

**Applicant's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Nomination:**

Applicant is:  Self-nominated  Nominated by sponsoring organization:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**How you plan to share the information/knowledge:**

Do you have a constituency group that would serve as a conduit for sharing the information/knowledge that you gain through this program?

Yes      If yes, please describe the group.

No      If no, please explain how you intend to share the information and apply the knowledge gained through this program.

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*You may use additional sheets, if necessary.*