Sample TSC Family Letter

Below is a sample letter to use in creating your own letter. **Be sure to include your contact information at the end of the letter.**

Dear Senator /or Congressman \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_:

I’m writing to you today to ask you to support funding for tuberous sclerosis research in the Tuberous Sclerosis Complex Research Program (TSCRP) part of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) in the Department of Defense (DoD) budget. Mine is just one of the families in (your state) affected by tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC).

**(Explain a little about how TSC affects your family – who has TSC, how or when it was diagnosed, what manifestations – what’s involved: brain, heart, kidneys, skin, teeth, eyes, lungs; what challenges you’ve had, what worries you have for the future – how research has helped or at least provided hope)**

**(For professionals – family doctors, therapists, other specialists: Use this section to explain the impact of TSC that you have seen on the individuals and their families.)**

**Use some of this or not – people adapt it**

“A cure for TSC remains an elusive goal. More innovative research must be funded to improve the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of TSC – and ultimately cure the multiple manifestations of the disease. The TSCRP has funded studies that serve as gateways into gaining a better understanding of epilepsy, ASD, diabetes, cancer and other disorders that afflict service personnel and their families. Continued funding of the TSCRP will allow Congress to build on the investments it has already made in the program and is essential to support a robust level of grant awards for basic, translational and clinical research, truly providing hope for improved quality of life for all those living with TSC.”

**Pictures can help tell the story and make it personal.**

On behalf of your constituents who care about finding a cure for tuberous sclerosis complex, thank you for taking time to hear our story about dealing with this terrible disorder and our concerns to make sure that treatments and a cure are within our reach. Please sign on in support of TSC research. Sign the Dear Colleague Letter.

Sincerely,

YOUR NAME
Your City and State

Some people also include email