

# GOOC Doctors

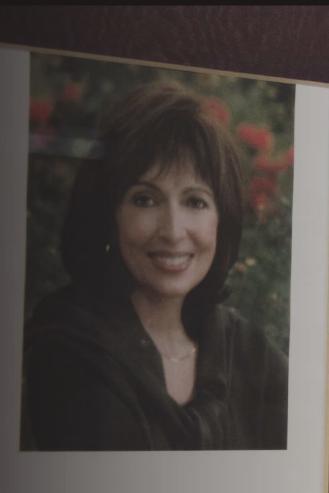
### The Advocates of ME/CFS & Long COVID

While the rest of the world disbelieves, there's one doctor whose understanding, treating, and acknowledging people with ME/CFS, fibromyalgia, and Long COVID makes her and her colleagues a powerful force for change.



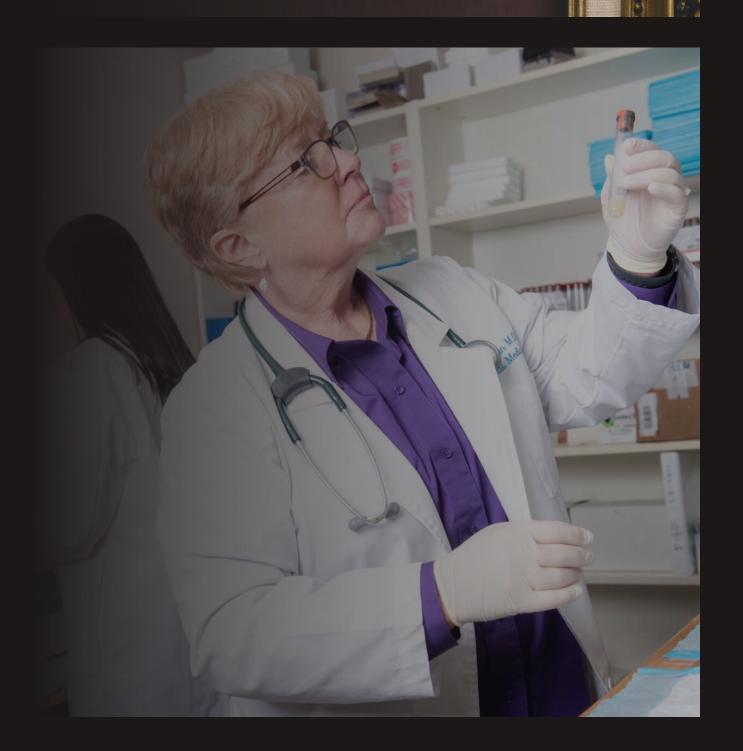






in the Lord with all thine heart; ot unto thine own understanding.

> all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Proverbs 3: 5-6



### SYNOPSIS

We follow Dr. Lucinda Bateman as she shares her lifelong work studying, researching, and treating patients suffering with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS), fibromyalgia and more recently, Long COVID. We also explore the center dedicated to her sister's memory that is desperately trying to find relief for these patients and hopefully, a cure. This is the ultimate underdog story not only in that of the patients, but of Dr. Bateman herself. As a female doctor in a state and profession that is predominately lead by cis-white males, to say she had obstacles to overcome is a gross understatement. Her story parallels the struggle that her patients experience with these illnesses where they don't receive help from many doctors, family members, and society in general. Many believe that this illness is all in their heads contrary to the evidence showing otherwise.

The film is four fold. One, the story of Dr. Bateman and her many colleagues whose advocacy have given hope to countless patients worldwide. Secondly, exploring these mysterious illnesses shrouded in controversy, gaslighting and skepticism for decades. Third, the controversial ME/CFS versus Long COVID conflict between the communities and the push to coalesce their efforts as the numbers of people affected are skyrocketing towards the tens of millions. And finally, her legacy that is already inspiring a new crop of medical professionals that will continue the cause upon her eventual retirement.

#### FORMATS

75-110 MINUTE FEATURE DOCUMENTARY 3 PART 45 MINUTE EPISODIC DOCUMENTARY SERIES **EDUCATION SPECIAL EDITIONS** PATIENT FRIENDLY EDITIONS (MIN. COLOR, MUSIC, MOTION GRAPHICS)

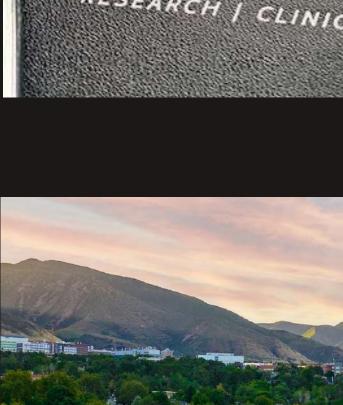


















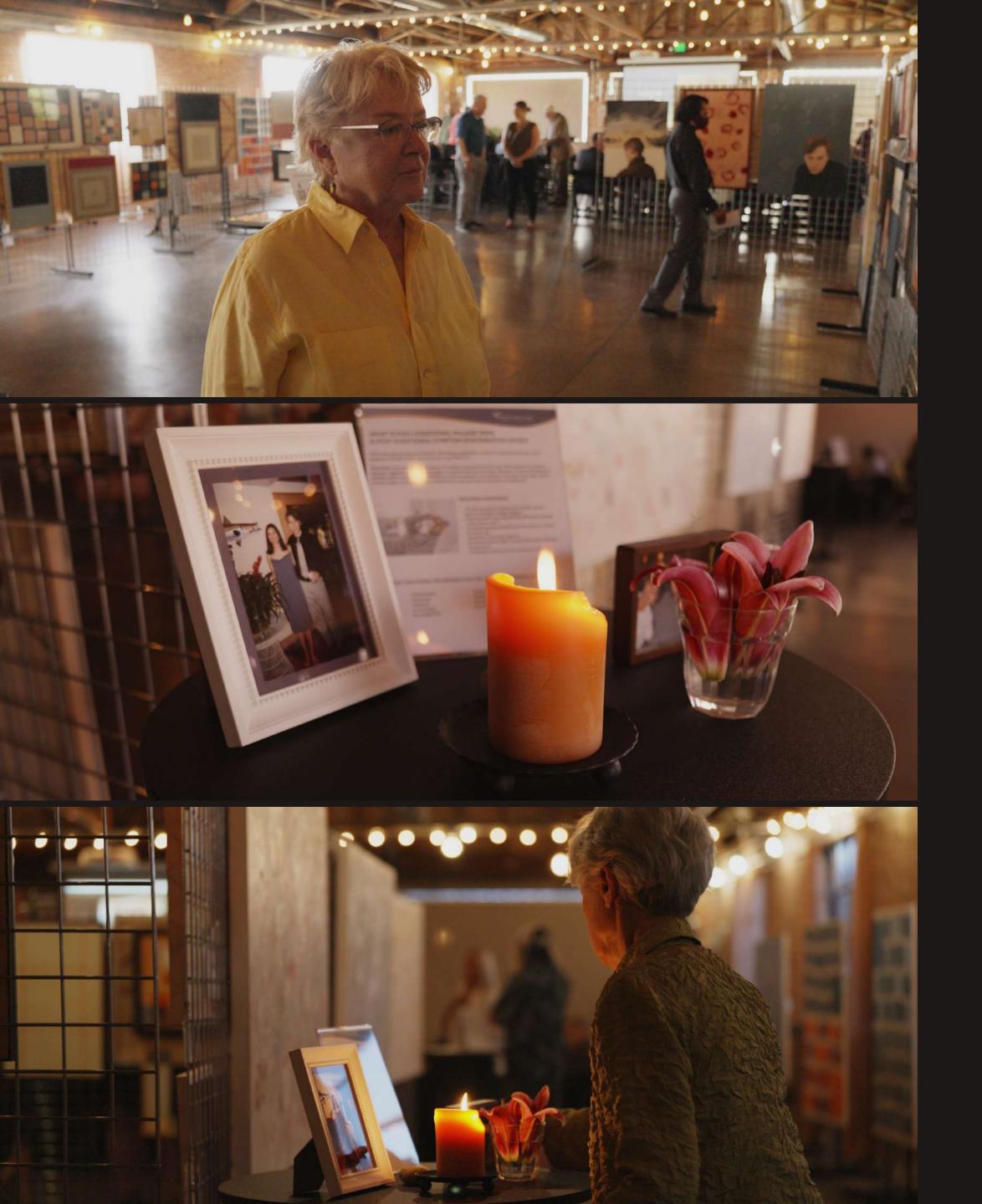






-DR. LUCINDA BATEMAN

"It's just tragic that this is a disease...so insidious, so chronic, so debilitating in terms of taking everything away in your life...and then to have the double insult of having people doubt that you're actually sick."



### VISUAL APPROACH

Verite footage will be shot in 4K video by the Netflix approved Sony FX6 and Sony FX3 footage for stylistic segments, transitions, motion graphics, and custom animation. Historical footage and photos of Dr. Bateman and her family will be largely present in the film, including those of her sister, Shauna Bateman Horne.

Interviews and events have been and will continue to be conducted all over the United States and the world. We have connections in Australia, New Zealand, Norway, and England to name a few. With these locations, we will get new and unique aerials and beautiful scenery to establish where these interviews are taking place. We plan on using time-lapse photography to portray the passage of time. This film will feel open and bigger than just Salt Lake City, Utah.

In respect to the interviews with the patients of ME/CFS, there are some special considerations to be made. Many are very sensitive to light and sound, therefore we will have to be careful in our choice of camera and lenses and people in the room. They will have to perform well in low light and will likely have a very shallow depth of field as we'll have to use fast lenses to capture as much ambient light as possible without causing harm to the subjects. Additionally, some subjects may prefer a Skype or Zoom call. In that instance, we will do our best to coach them in the best way possible to frame them up properly for the shot. Finally, some subjects will only be able to do a telephone call. In that instance, we will film the interviewer and the telephone to convey the visuals during these calls.

Recreations of historically impactful moments in the research of ME/CFS will be filmed tastefully with respect to those who suffer from this illness everyday.

## S SUBJEC.



## LUCINDA BATEMAN, MD\*



#### SUZANNE VERNON, PHD

Vernon is the research director of BHC and is one of the nation's leading researchers in ME/CFS. She completed an MS degree in microbiology from Colorado State University and a PhD degree in virology from the University of Wisconsin, Madison.



#### MELANIE HOPPERS, MD

Hoppers earned her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Union University in Jackson, TN, and her medical degree from the University of Tennessee College of Medicine, completing a dual residency in Pediatrics and Internal Medicine at the University of Tennessee at Regional One Medical Center and LeBonheur Children's Hospital.

Bateman is the founder and chief medical officer (CMO) of the Bateman Horne Center (BHC) and is recognized worldwide as an expert of ME/CFS. She completed BS and MS degrees at Brigham Young University (BYU) and a Doctor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins.



### SUPPORTING SUBJECTS



#### **BRAYDEN YELLMAN, MD\***

Yellman is a board-certified physician in internal medicine and rheumatology who joined BHC in 2018. He completed a BS in biology at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, and a Doctor of Medicine at University of Texas in Houston.



#### **PEGGY TOMSIC**

Wife of Dr. Bateman and Business Litigation attorney in Salt Lake City, Utah. She was instrumental in the 2013 Kitchen v. Herbert lawsuit that paved the way for a U.S. Supreme Court decision in 2015 legalizing same sex unions in the USA.



#### AMY MOONEY, OTR/L, MS

Mooney is a private practice Occupational Therapist (OT) who specializes in providing therapeutic care to individuals with chronic conditions involving post-exertional malaise/post exertion symptom exacerbation (PEM/PESE).



#### CLAYTON POWERS, DPT

Powers practices at the University of Utah specializing in treatment of individuals with ME/CFS and Post-COVID Syndrome. He presents to state, national, and international audiences on chronic illness rehabilitation principles.

#### \*U.S. ME/CFS CLINICIAN COALITION MEMBER



#### **MARY DIMMOCK\***

Co-Founder of the US ME/CFS Clincian Coalition

#### LINDA TANNENBAUM

Founder, President, and CEO, Open Medicine Foundation

#### LILY CHU, MD, MSHS\*

Vice president of the International Association for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/Myalgic Encephalomyelitis

#### **ANTHONY KOMAROFF, MD\***

Simcox/Clifford/Higby Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School Senior Physician, Brigham & Women's Hospital

#### **STEPHANIE GRACH, MD\***

Assistant Professor of Medicine, Mayo Clinic

#### THERESA DOWELL, FNP\*

Founder, Four Peaks Healthcare Associates

#### **ED YOUNG**

Journalist edyong.me/writing

#### **DAVID KAUFMAN\***

Center for Complex Diseases

#### **RYAN PRIOR**

Journalist, producer and author. ryantprior.com/about

#### NANCY KLIMAS, MD\*

Professor of Medicine, Chair, Clinical Immunology at Nova Southeastern University

#### RONALD W. DAVIS, PHD

Director at Stanford Genome Technology Center Father of pw Severe ME/CFS

#### **PETER ROWE\***

Professor of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

#### NINA MUIRHEAD, MD

UK Dermatology Oncology Surgeon Director, Doctors With ME pwME/CFS







### COMPARABLES



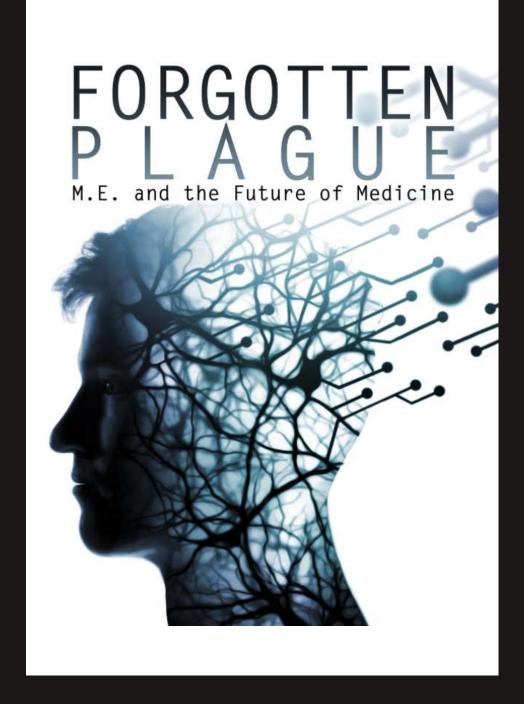
When Harvard Ph.D. student Jennifer Brea is struck down by a fever that leaves her bedridden, she sets out on a virtual journey to document her story as she fights a disease that medicine forgot.

A young girl and a Duke University scientist are both diagnosed with chronic Lyme disease, and the pair searches for answers surrounding the disease.



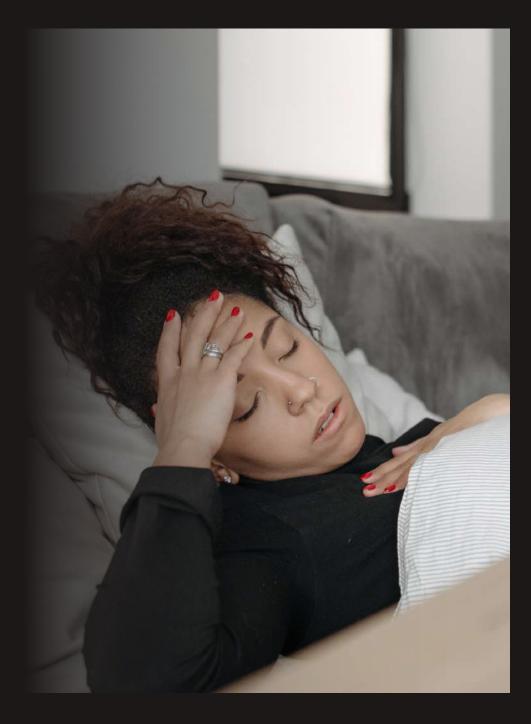
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A journalist afflicted with the underresearched debilitating condition known as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome embarks on a quest to find out why the CDC and medical system have neglected his disease and left millions sidelined from life.











### TARGET AUDIENCE

The main audience of the series will be people who suffer with ME/CFS, fibromyalgia and Long COVID. It will also target medical providers who may have a disbelief or misunderstanding of the illnesses. And lastly, we will include messaging to policy makers, researchers and potential donors to further the efforts to study these chronic illnesses.



### IMPACT CAMPAIGN

With the skill sets of the team, we will be launching a significant social media marketing campaign to drive up views, social engagement, and demonstrate the large audience that is interested in the subject to help secure distribution.

There will be free or low cost screening events. These will include crucially important educational screenings at medical centers, universities and colleges. Our primary goal is awareness of this disease to all, but especially to medical professionals. We will have features on our web site to help groups plan for and get the most out of these types of community events.

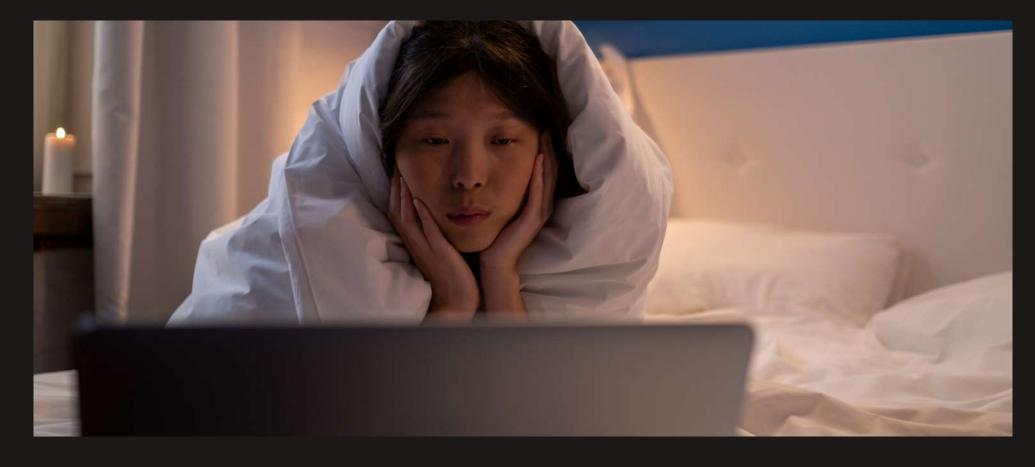


### DISTRIBUTION

- Film Festivals and Markets Leverage festival screenings for networking with distributors and press coverage.
- Theatrical Release Partner with independent theaters and chains offering special screenings or events.
- Streaming Platforms Explore exclusive release windows to maximize visibility and audience engagement.
- Educational Distribution Develop educational packages for schools, universities, and non-profits, including screening licenses and discussion guides.
- Sensory Friendly Versions We will prepare versions of every version of the film that has color desaturation, no music, no motion graphics, and minimized movement to make it easier for the severely ill to watch or listen to the film.













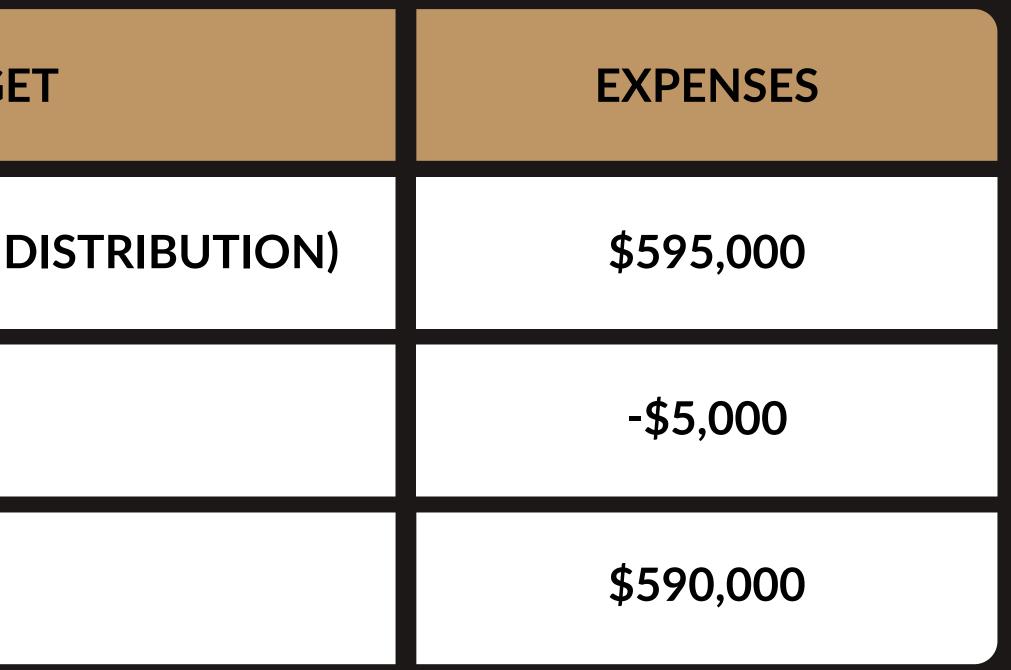
#### **DOCUMENTARY BUDGET**

#### **\*TOTAL EXPENSES (PRODUCTION + DISTRIBUTION)**

#### **TOTAL RAISED**

#### TOTAL NEEDED

\*ALL VIDEO EQUIPMENT PURCHASED FOR THE PRODUCTION OF THE FILM WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE BATEMAN HORNE CENTER PRO BONO TO FURTHER THEIR EDUCATIONAL AND AWARENESS INITIATIVES.





### PROGRESS & STATUS

Initial interviews have been conducted, b-roll footage shot, a teaser trailer edited with many more interviews lined pending further funding.

We have secured fiscal sponsorship with the non-profit Utah Film Center 501(c)(3). Through a crowd funding campaign, we raised \$5k for the first round of local interviews.

Next round of filming includes a detailed 2-day shoot with Dr. Bateman and her wife in Arizona. From this, we will produce a timeline of her events and line up re-creation shoots, further interviews, and pre-produce animations to support the film.

### THE TEAM



#### Brannon Richardson DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

Award-winning director and producer, Richardson has been producing educational multimedia content for BHC since 2017. He has extensive experience in feature films, television and commercial work since 2011.



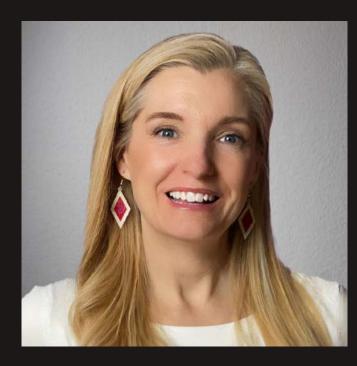
Lisa Richardson PRODUCER

Co-founder of Glemati Road Pictures, Richardson has been instrumental behind the scenes with the organization of the documentary. A fierce advocate of the ME/CFS community, her role of support and wisdom cannot be overstated.



Tahlia Ruschioni PRODUCER

Tahlia has over 19 years of healthcare experience and is the Deputy Executive **Director and Education** Director at BHC. Her personal and professional connection drive her passion and commitment to improving the lives of patients with ME/CFS and Long COVID.



#### Angela Linford **ASSOCIATE PRODUCER**

Program specialist at the Bateman Horne Center, Linford has not only proven invaluable as a subject of the film, but as a resource shedding light into the life of one who has lived with this disease for many years.



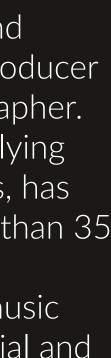
#### Rob Ence **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**

Since July of 2016, Ence has been the Executive Director of the Bateman Horne Center. Previously, he was the West Regional Vice President for AARP after serving nearly a decade as the AARP Utah State Director. His devotion to the ME/CFS community is felt by all.



#### Holly Tuckett **CONSULTING PRODUCER**

Tuckett is a documentary and narrative film producer and cinematographer. Her company, Flying Hat Productions, has produced more than 35 short narrative documentary, music video. commercial and industrial projects.



### FINAL STATEMENT

While there have been other well done documentaries devoted to the subject of chronic illnesses, and specifically ME/CFS, this one will compliment those and take it in a different direction. Many of these have primarily portrayed the point of view of the patients and not of any medical professionals. This unique perspective will be crucial to help shift the narrative away from disbelief and stigma unjustly associated with these diseases. Additionally, it will show the patient population that they are not alone. They have an advocate that has triumphed over nearly impossible obstacles to bring awareness to their often unheard pleas for recognition.

This will likely not be the last documentary on the subject. As will be showcased in the film, we still have a long way to go to bring this information to the masses. By supporting this documentary, it will bring us closer to resources enabling us to produce further critical educational content.



### CONTACT



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### PARTNERS





RESEARCH | CLINICAL CARE | EDUCATION