SURF-1 Gene Therapy

CURE MITO FOUNDATION

Support Packet

SEVEN YEARS. $1.5 MILLION INVESTED. A BETTER THERAPY. A CLEAR FDA PATHWAY. A SECURED RIGHT TO ACT.

Your gift — or your partnership — can place a proven gene therapy in the hands of scientists ready to move it forward, and give our children a shot to live.

Who We Fight For

These are some of the children at the heart of this mission. Visit the fundraisers on our leaderboard to learn more about their stories and why this fight matters so deeply.

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One Shot to Live

Leigh syndrome is the most common pediatric mitochondrial disease affecting 1 in 40,000 children. It is a fatal neurodegenerative condition that prevents mitochondria from producing sufficient energy for the brain and muscles, eventually robbing children of their ability to walk, talk, and swallow. Starting off as normal, the symptoms are similar in progression to ALS, but striking in early childhood, absolutely devastating families. **There is currently no FDA-approved treatment or cure**. The most common cause is a mutation in the SURF1 gene.

The Cure Mito Foundation was established in 2018 by families who refused to accept 'no hope' as an answer and is 100% volunteer-run and parent-led. Today it is a globally recognized organization, earning a **competitive $800,000 grant from the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative** and publishing peer-reviewed science in Springer Nature (2025). After years of hard work, we finally have the potential **cure!** Now we need $2.5 million to produce it.

2018-2022 — Hope and Setback

Cure Mito founded. Partners with Dr. Stevn Gray, Ph.D at **UT Southwestern** to develop an AAV9-based SURF1 gene therapy.

Therapy licensed to Taysha Gene Therapies. **FDA grants Orphan Drug and Rare Pediatric Disease** designations (TSHA-104).

Taysha pivots entirely to Rett syndrome. Shelves the SURF1 program and eventually returns license to Cure Mito.

2022-2025 — We Didn't Give Up

Dr. Gray and Cure Mito go back to work. Cure Mito invests $1.5 million to develop a new, improved second-generation AAV vector — with similar efficacy and significantly reduced cytotoxicity, **this is our possible cure!**

New therapy published peer-reviewed (Ling et al., Molecular Therapy Methods & Clinical Development).

2025-2026 — We are So Close

Pre-IND guidance meeting with FDA completed. Regulatory pathways are mapped.

Cure Mito fully funds the toxicology study and sets $2.5 million goal with the **"One Shot to Live"** campaign.

NOW — The Opportunity

Dr. Gray holds the patent. Cure Mito holds the license and first right of refusal, ensuring control of the technology and the right to market and sell the therapy.

A successful human trial before 2029 means the Rare Pediatric Disease designation triggers a transferable FDA Priority Review Voucher (PRV). **PRVs have historically sold for $100M–$200M on the open market — a substantial potential return. An investor / Cure Mito split is negotiable.**

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Opportunities

"SURF1 is 15% of Leigh syndrome cases. **Our dream is that the commercial success of this therapy flows back to fund the next gene therapy** — for MT-ATP6, ECHS1, and every mutation still waiting. One successful therapy funds the next, until no child with Leigh syndrome is left without options."

— Kasey Woleben, Executive Director, Cure Mito Foundation & Leigh syndrome parent

Cure Mito's goal is singular: raise $2.5 million to advance this CURE to clinical trials and get it to children who need it. We are not seeking to build a biotech or retain long-term commercial control of this IP. As an investor, you gain access to a scientifically validated, FDA-designated asset with genuine commercial upside. We are open to structuring arrangements that reflect the full value of this asset — philanthropic, commercial, or both. For gifts of $100,000+ or to discuss IP and commercialization arrangements, contact us directly.

$2.2 million
Manufacturing of medicine

$180,000
IND submission

$250,000
Clinical trial costs

+$100+ million
PRV triggered and sold

Tax Benefits for Donors

Cash Contributions
Deduct up to 60% of AGI with a 5-year carryforward. The 2026 0.5% AGI floor is negligible for six- or seven-figure gifts.

Appreciated Securities
Avoid capital gains tax (up to 23.8% combined) and deduct the full fair market value — one of the most tax-efficient giving strategies available.

QCD (Age 70½+)
Up to $111,000 directly from a traditional IRA. Reduces taxable income dollar-for-dollar, satisfies RMDs, not subject to the AGI floor.

Estate and Legacy Giving
2026 estate tax exemption: approximately $15M per individual ($30M for couples). Charitable bequests reduce the taxable estate.

Illustrative Example: Donating $1,000,000 in Appreciated Stock

Capital gains tax avoided (23.8% on $800K gain) ~$190,000
Federal income tax deduction (35% effective bracket) up to $350,000
Total tax benefit up to ~$540,000

Net cost of a $1M gift as low as ~$460,000 + Cure Mito receives the full $1,000,000

Consult your tax advisor for guidance specific to your situation.

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How to Help

For gifts of $100,000+ or to discuss IP and commercialization arrangements, contact us directly. Cure Mito Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) public charity (EIN: 82-4665767). All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent permitted by law.

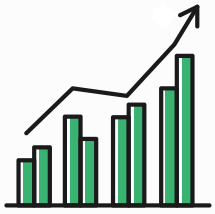
CURE MITO FOUNDATION

CUREMITO.ORG

Donate directly through curemito.org

MAIL IN CHECK

6808 Old Glory Ct.
McKinney, TX 75071-4734



STOCK TRANSFER

Email info@curemito.org for brokerage details

DIRECT BANK TRANSFER

Email info@curemito.org for account details

DAF GRANT

EIN: 82-4665767

FACEBOOK

Select @CureMITOFoundation for your birthday fundraiser

EXPAND OUR REACH

Know someone who could help accelerate this work? please email emily@curemito.org

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