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The Jack Pribaz Foundation welcomes two new board members

(WINFIELD, IL) February 1, 2017– The Jack Pribaz Foundation welcomes two new members to the organization’s Board of Directors: Jim Thompson of Des Moines, IA, and Gina Vozenilek of Peoria, IL. Both have previously served the foundation as advisers.

“I would like to officially welcome Jim and Gina to the Board of Directors,” said President Mike Pribaz. “Both of them offer this great cause tremendous talent and energy. We are all so excited to be moving forward with these new leaders on our executive team to make a difference in the lives of those who suffer from KCNQ2-related epilepsy.”

Continuing their service on the Board of Directors are Mike Pribaz (President), Brian Baird (Vice President), Eric Pierce (Secretary/Treasurer), and Elizabeth Pribaz.

Additionally, the entire foundation extends special thanks to John Vozenilek, MD, FACEP, who will transition from executive board service to a role as a medical adviser.

Mutations in the KCNQ2 gene for potassium channels in the brain are responsible for KCNQ2-related epilepsy and encephalopathy, which usually manifest with seizure onset in the first days of life and a spectrum of developmental disability.

Seven-year-old Jack Pribaz of Winfield, IL, was one the first known cases of KCNQ2 encephalopathy in the United States. His diagnosis prompted the establishment of the foundation that bears his name and now advocates for more than 400 families worldwide. Researchers are hopeful that knowledge of the mechanisms of this rare form of epilepsy may unlock greater understanding and treatment of epilepsy in general, a disease which affects one in 26 Americans.

The Jack Pribaz Foundation is a 501(c)3 public charity that seeks to

- *Honor God in everything they say and do*
- *Set an example to others of service and perseverance*

- *Welcome KCNQ2 families, connecting them with the KCNQ2 community and with helpful and reliable experts and information*
- *Fund and otherwise facilitate medical research that is closely and clearly related to KCNQ2*

More information about KCNQ2-related epilepsy and about the Jack Pribaz Foundation can be found at www.KCNQ2.org and www.JacksArmy.org.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Gina Vozenilek at gpvozenilek@kcnq2.org.