 **ILLINOIS RESPITE COALITION RECEIVES $10,000 GRANT FROM CHRISTOPHER & DANA REEVE FOUNDATION FOR EMERGENCY RESPITE PROGRAM**

**CHICAGO, IL – (AUGUST 31, 2017) –** The Illinois Respite Coalition (IRC) is proud to announce that it has received a $10,000 Respite Care grant from the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation. The Respite Care Grant Program recognizes family caregivers and the vital role they play by supporting nonprofits that address the episodic respite care needed to prevent caregiver ‘burn out’. The IRCwill use the grant from the Reeve Foundation to provide short-term respite services to 19 caregivers in the state of Illinois who are caring for a loved one with paralysis and who would benefit from having a break.

Earlier this year, the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation funded a total of $160,000 in Respite Care Grants to recognize family caregivers and the vital role they play. This new *Respite Care Grant Program* awarded one year grants to 19 nonprofit organizations nationwide. Organizations applied for grants to provide 4-6 days of respite (per family), allowing a caregiver to tend to their own medical needs, appointments and overall well-being.

“One of the goals of the Paralysis Resource Center is to provide caregivers and families the support they need to properly care for the loved ones living with paralysis and themselves without feeling overwhelmed,” said Maggie Goldberg, VP of Policy and Programs. “Adding the Respite Care Grant furthers our mission and Dana Reeve’s vision of making sure that the caregivers of the world also have the proper resources and support at hand to help them succeed.”

***About the Reeve Foundation***

*The Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation is dedicated to curing spinal cord injury by funding innovative research and improving the quality of life for people living with paralysis through grants, information and advocacy. We meet all 20 of the Better Business Bureau's standards for charity accountability and hold the BBB's Charity Seal. The Paralysis Resource Center (PRC) is a program of the Reeve Foundation, and is funded through a cooperative agreement with the Administration for Community Living (cooperative agreement number 90PR3002). For more information, please visit our website at* [*www.ChristopherReeve.org*](http://www.christopherreeve.org/) *or call 800-539-7309.*

The Illinois Respite Coalition (IRC) is dedicated to increasing public awareness of the importance of “Lifespan Respite,” promoting education and training for families and providers of respite services, and advocating support for caregivers by ensuring access to quality respite services for the residents of Illinois. More information about the IRC can be found at [www.illinoisrespitecoalition.org](http://www.illinoisrespitecoalition.org) or by calling 773.205.3627.

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