

AT A GLANCE

Ticks Bite and We Fight!



Our State News

By Sherry Sievewright, Board President

The Wisconsin Lyme Network welcomes 2020 with the hope that this year will be a game changer for so many. With the traction we are seeing through research, the news media reporting stories and Lyme disease and tick borne infections on the rise...finally, notice is being taken. We hope that our voices will finally be heard.

We are sharing this month the exciting things going in within our own state. No matter where, we are taking a bold stand against Lyme and vector borne illnesses, and we will be heard.

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Lyme Research

As we continue to bring awareness to our state, we are pleased to partner with the new *Tick-Borne Illness Center* that opened up recently in Woodruff, WI. Their research and patient care is already moving forward, and we are pleased that they are here and are dedicated to helping Wisconsin residents and those in surrounding states.

Erin Biertzer, President of the Howard Young Foundation writes:

We have raised \$3.2 million of our \$3.5 million goal, which has been enough to provide space, complete renovations, underwrite an Office Manager & Clinic Program Director, and test 500 research participants to help start a regional bio-bank. We are excited to announce that on September 24th, 2019, Dr. Kogelnik saw his first patient. Since then, the Center has seen 54 patients ranging from 6-80 years old, from all over the Midwest including Minnesota, Michigan and Illinois. The Center has consulted with patients across the country from Florida to Alaska and has a waitlist of 178 people. They are working on three different research studies: one on Immune Markers and their link to tick-borne illness and two through the Centers for Disease Control on fatiguing illnesses.

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Looking for some great volunteer opportunities? Wisconsin Lyme Network needs you!

The Wisconsin Lyme Network is in need of individuals who are interested in leading the way in the State of Wisconsin to educate, bring awareness and share with others the debilitating effects of Lyme disease.

Through educating our communities, we will be sure to heighten awareness so that our medical facilities and health care professionals can no longer look past the symptoms and dismiss the cause. We need people who are willing to step up within the entire state, working with the Wisconsin Lyme Network.

If you feel this to be your calling, please sign up through our website or email us to let us know where you are located. Send us some of your ideas of how you can get assist us in this cause. We need more volunteers who are up to the task, who know Lyme disease and who are willing to share their stories.

Hope to meet you soon!

-WLN Board of Directors



Lyme Research cont...

The Center has specialized tools unavailable in many traditional settings, which allows them to deliver and exceed the standard of care to those suffering from a tick-borne illness. We only have \$300K to go to finish the project of creating a center to research, diagnose and treat tick-borne illnesses. All donations are being matched by OMI up to \$3.5M as well, doubling the value of every gift.

Scott, a patient at the Center said, “Dr. Kogelnik was very thorough in trying to understand my symptoms and discussing what potential treatments would address those symptoms. I felt that if I am going to get better, this is the person who’s going to help me get there because he wants to help, and he has a different mindset than the previous doctors I have seen. He’s a partner in trying to find a positive solution.” Thanks to donors like you, patients like Scott have come from all over the Midwest to find treatment and hope. Scott is my husband, who has been dealing with an undiagnosed Tick Borne Illness since 2009 and this was only discovered because of this project. So I’m really passionate about it for him and for so many patients throughout our region.



UPCOMING EVENTS

WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED AS
DETAILS BECOME AVAILABLE FOR
UPCOMING EVENTS.

We are pleased to announce the opening of the *Tick-Borne Illness Center of Excellence* in Woodruff, WI this past fall. The Center offers comprehensive treatment and care to anyone suffering from a tick-borne illness. First of its kind in the Midwest, the *Tick-Borne Illness Center* seeks to combine clinical treatment with research: diving into the underlying issues that cause acute tick-borne illnesses and long-term, persistent tick-borne illnesses.

The Center is currently recruiting for a multitude of different research studies:

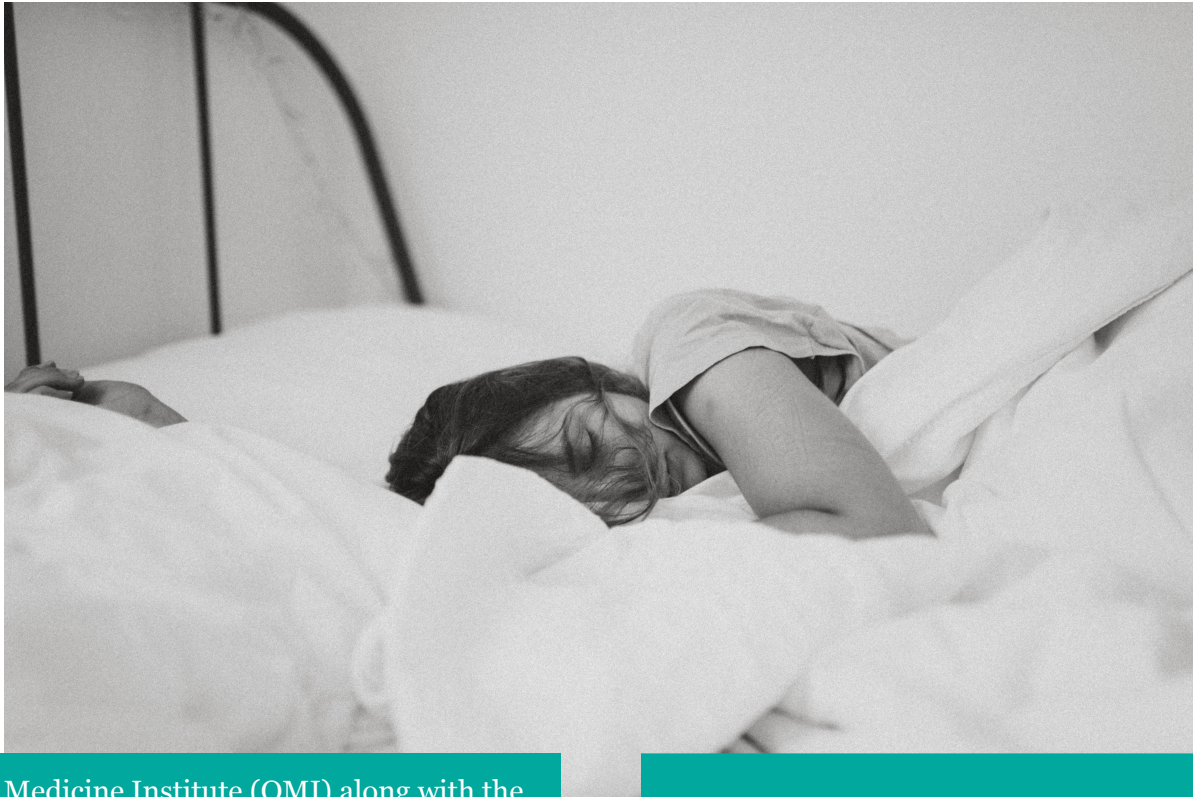
- The OMI-TBI Biobank– an ever growing collection of blood samples donated to be tested in a wide variety of ways. The biobank gives us the ability to find answers to current scientific unknowns in a timely and accurate manner. The biobank is held to a very high standard of testing– thoughtful and intuitive minds at work to pursue ideas that can be used in the scientific community and are regarded as accurate and trustworthy.
- Acute Tick-Borne Illnesses– current diagnosis and treatment of acute tick-borne illnesses is challenging with many unknowns. In order to bridge this gap and create better clinical standards we are seeking to recruit as many acute tick-borne illness patients as possible to join our Biobank Study.
- CDC Study on Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome in Children and Adolescents– we are seeking 200+ participants, ages 10-17, to be a part of this study on fatiguing illnesses. See flyer below for more information!
- CDC Ill Comparison Study on Multiple Sclerosis, Rheumatoid Arthritis, and Post-Cancer Fatigue– we are seeking 50 participants from each group, ages 18+, to be a part of this study on fatiguing illnesses. See flyer below for more information!
- CDC Study on Healthy Children and Adolescents– we are seeking 50+ participants, ages 10-17, to be a part of this study. These participants will provide a healthy baseline to compare to kids suffering from a fatiguing illness.

To get in touch with the research team at the Tick-Borne Illness Center, please call 715-203-1616 or email tbiresearch@openmedicineinstitute.org



Are you a kid who struggles with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) or Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME)?

Consider volunteering for this research
study!



The Open Medicine Institute (OMI) along with the OMI-HYF Tick-Borne Illness Center (TBI) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) are looking for children with CFS/ME between the ages of 10 and 17 years old to participate in our research study.

The study aims to use the data collected to better understand and treat fatiguing illnesses. If you or someone you know is interested in being a part of this study, please contact the research team at research@openmedicineinstitute.org or (650) 433-8930 x3004 to set up an appointment!

To Participate:

- Visit an OMI site for a free physical exam
- Complete a small blood draw
- Collect saliva swabs at home
- Fill out questionnaires via our secure online portal
- Receive a \$75 Amazon Gift Card upon completion

Currently have Multiple Sclerosis, Post-Cancer Fatigue, or Rheumatoid Arthritis? Help move research forward!



#25999216.0
IRB Approved at
the Study Level
Nov 22, 2019

The Open Medicine Institute (OMI) along with the OMI-HYF Tick-Borne Illness Center (TBI) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) are looking for participants with MS, RA, or Post-Cancer Fatigue to be a part of our research study. The purpose of the study is to better understand fatiguing illnesses through research on participants' biological samples and questionnaires.

Volunteers who participate will:

- Visit an OMI site for a free physical exam
- Complete a small blood draw
- Collect saliva swabs at home
- Fill out questionnaires via our secure online portal
- Receive a \$75 Amazon Gift Card upon completion

If you or someone you know is interested in being a part of this study, please contact

research@openmedicineinstitute.org or

(650) 433-8930 x3004 for more information.

WE HAVE PRETREATED SOCKS

Community Outreach

The Wisconsin Lyme Network has been able to partner with a company that manufactures factory bonded repellent socks.

We have Womens/girls socks that are more colorful and look similar to the ski socks as well as mens/boys crew socks.

If you are interested, please go to our website and you can order them directly from our web store. If you have any questions, you may email us at info@wisconsinlymenetwork.org.

Remember: Prevention is key to protecting yourself.



Wisconsin Lyme Network
wisconsinlymenetwork.org