To Whom It May Concern:

A postdoctoral student working in your lab is applying for the Target ALS Springboard Fellowship. This fellowship is focused on supporting senior lab fellows who are in their transition to an independent tenure-track position and interested in ALS research.

We are seeking candidates that are currently based in their postdoc lab and planning to move to an independent tenure track, or equivalent position, in a different institution within the next three years. The candidate must work together with you to propose a project plan that they can continue in their independent lab.

Successful applicants will receive funding of up to $220,000 for three years. The initial grant will be for a two-year period, with a funding maximum of $60,000 per year. Springboard fellows that have accepted an offer for an independent tenure track or equivalent position in a different institution will be eligible for a $100,000 third year grant.

As part of the application process, we ask that you provide a confidential letter of recommendation. This letter should be no longer than three pages and must:

- Provide your opinion of the candidate's suitability for an independent research career;
- Explicitly state that the candidate will be allowed sufficient time to commit to the project during their time in the lab. We require at least a 50% full time equivalency time commitment per year to the project;
- Confirm that you will allow the candidate to continue key aspects of the project in their independent lab; and
- Provide a plan and likely timeline for job applications by the candidate.

Please email a letter of recommendation on institutional letterhead to yuliya.rzad@targetALS.org by **September 2, 2025.**

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me at the above email address.

Sincerely,

Yuliya Rzad
Chief Grants Officer

OUR VISION: Everyone Lives
OUR MISSION: Break down barriers to ALS research to find effective treatments
OUR VALUES: Impatient Optimism, Deliberate Disruption, Radical Collaboration

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