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## **Hydrocephalus Association Chairman Appointed to NINDS Advisory Council**

*Former Microsoft Executive Lends Business Perspective to NIH*

**September 14, 2011 (San Francisco, CA)** - Paul Gross, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Hydrocephalus Association (HA), is one of four new members appointed to the National Advisory Neurological Disorders and Stroke Council, the major advisory panel to The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS). His appointment to the Council runs from August 1, 2011 to July 31, 2015.

"I am excited to play a role in advising NINDS on strategy and research investments" said Paul Gross, who is the father of a young boy with the brain condition called hydrocephalus. "The challenge of stimulating innovative new research for neurological conditions is near and dear to my heart and imperative for our country."

NINDS, a component of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), is the nation's primary supporter of basic, translational and clinical research on the brain and nervous system. Its 18-member Council, composed of physicians, scientists and representatives of the public, meets three times a year to review applications from scientists seeking government grants to support biomedical research on disorders of the brain and nervous system. Members also advise the Institute on research program planning and priorities.

"In just a few years, Mr. Gross has done a remarkable job of engaging engineers, scientists and clinicians in plans to develop research that will lead to better treatment for people with hydrocephalus," said Story Landis, Ph.D., Director of the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. "I am delighted that he will be a member of the NINDS Advisory Council and look forward to his participation."

Mr. Gross, an entrepreneur and former Microsoft senior executive, is one of the Council's four members whose formal training is in business, rather than bench or clinical research. As such, he brings to the Council an entrepreneurial perspective combined with successful business experience. Mr. Gross is also the co-founder of the Hydrocephalus Clinical Research Network, a collaboration of research centers at seven leading institutions to improve outcomes for children that suffer from hydrocephalus.

Mr. Gross has served as the Chairman of the HA Board of Directors since January, 2009 and led the Association's strategic planning process that resulted in a new, expanded mission for HA which now includes a long term commitment to research.

## **About the Hydrocephalus Association**

The Hydrocephalus Association (HA) is a national organization dedicated to eliminating the challenges of hydrocephalus by stimulating research and supporting people who are affected by this condition. Incorporated in 1986 as a San Francisco-based non-profit, HA is now the nation's largest and most widely respected organization dedicated solely to hydrocephalus. HA has been instrumental in creating a community of individuals, families and health care professionals addressing the complexities of hydrocephalus in all age groups.

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