

# March 2009 eLetter



Dr. Clark Research Association Increases Grant to National Health Freedom Coalition!

**But only if this grant is matched by  
pledges from members and friends!**

NHFC was excited to receive a generous offer from the [Dr. Clark Research Association](#), who offered to increase their monthly support to NHFC from \$2000 to \$3000 per month, if members and friends will give monthly pledges totaling \$3000 per month. We are nearly two thirds of the way there, having received pledges from groups and individuals totally nearly \$2000 per month so far! To read more about this exciting opportunity, [click here](#).

**To make a monthly pledge to NHFC that will be matched by the [Dr. Clark Research Association](#) Matching Grant, [click here](#).**



## **NHFC Appoints New President Marianne Lonergan Curtis**

2008 has been a year of outstanding accomplishments for health freedom. First and foremost, NHFC announced the entrance of a new President, Marianne Lonergan Curtis, CAMT, CFT, of Living Foods USA. After eight years of stellar service, Jerri Johnson, Co-Founder and President of origin, hands the torch to Marianne, with great confidence in the broad range of strength and leadership skills that Marianne brings to the NHFC Board of Directors. [Read more...](#)



## NHFC Appoints New Leader to Guide the Organization

The Board of Directors of NHFC is proud to introduce Executive Director Christine Chernis Brandt, who joins to NHFC with a broad range of nonprofit management and fundraising experience and a passion for choice in health care. With over twenty years experience in non profit management, the production of events and the performing arts, the main focus has been in all areas of event and theatrical producing, management marketing, grant writing, fund raising, theatre and arts education. [Read more...](#)



## What's Happening on the State Level in the Health Freedom Movement! Director of Law and Public Policy, Diane Miller, JD, Shares

Great state health freedom activists are working hard to protect access to health care options. They're creating wonderful momentum in the health freedom movement as they report project successes. [Read more...](#)

## Dr. Clark Research Association Increases Grant to National Health Freedom Coalition! **Press Release from National Health Freedom Coalition**

January 8, 2009

[Dr. Clark Research Association](#) increases its contributions to National Health Freedom Coalition (NHFC), leading the way in 2009 in supporting and strengthening the health freedom movement across the country. Dr. Clark Research Association's current matching grant of \$2,000/month will be increased to \$3,000/month, starting January 2009.

Dr. Clark Research Association, internationally known for its remarkable line of products, its online educational newsletter, and its cutting edge educational health seminars supporting the work of Dr. Hulda Clark, is not only a business that works for the good of peoples' health, but it also works for health freedom, ensuring that all people have health options. Partnering with NHFC in its matching grant, Dr.

Clark Research Association provides a way for everyone to contribute to the health freedom movement and make health freedom a movement for all people.

With the association's support NHFC has been able to have an outstanding year of accomplishments. It hosted the 2008 first reconvening of the United States Health Freedom Assembly bringing together even more US leaders and organizations than last year, making the total number of health freedom organization Assembly members to forty five. Assembly organizations discussed and adopted health freedom strategies that strengthened the voice and solidarity of the health freedom movement. In addition,

NHFC's Director of Law and Public Policy, Diane Miller, JD, provided presentations and consultation throughout the year to numerous state health freedom leaders, assisting them in their intense work to promote health freedom policies and laws right within their own states. NHFC also keeps its members and subscribers abreast of federal issues, writing explanatory memos for the public about FDA and FTC current issues, and working on special projects such as assisting the drafting of the upcoming impressive Codex Resolution.

NHFC is deeply grateful for the Dr. Clark Research Association Matching Grant and its recent increase in support and is excited to find individuals and groups that will step up and match the grant with their monthly contributions.

**To make a monthly pledge to NHFC that will be matched by the [Dr. Clark Research Association Matching Grant](#), [click here](#).**

## **An Introduction to Marianne Lonergan Curtis, New President of NHFC**

Marianne Lonergan Curtis, CAMT, CFT - Having always been interested in the interrelationship of Eastern Medicine and allopathic medicine, Marianne began her journey and career in Chinese medicine, hands-on healing and spiritual teaching in 1987.

Since 1991 Marianne has been a practitioner and teacher of Acupressure Massage Therapy, teacher and practitioner of Jin Shin Jyutsu, Inner Relationship Focusing Trainer, and trained in Chinese Medicine and 5 Element Theory and Shamanic practices. Trained in the science and application of leading edge bioresonance therapy technology, Marianne not only utilizes this in her own practice but also teaches other physicians and practitioners in its use and application. Musician, currently in the realm of creating chant with sacred names. Managing Editor of The Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine: Research on Paradigm, Practice and Policy (JACM) since September of 2001 and currently Consulting Editor. She together with her husband, Bruce D. Curtis as Guest Editor has brought forth a special issue on Energy Medicine. Bruce and Marianne travel and teach seminars to aid the education of the soul and teach the Higher Mysteries of Light and enter into professional dialogues regarding the spiritual-scientific synthesis, such as the nature of genetic modification and its affects on the human organism. In addition, Marianne is founder and President of Living Foods USA, bringing the highest quality organic fermented

whole food probiotics and organic whole food supplements to the greater health community.

“I have a personal stake in Health Freedom. It has always been my mission to speak truth to power and to empower individuals to stand for truth and freedom. In my 20 plus years in the medical field and alternative medicine field I have seen our freedoms slowing and sometimes quickly eroded. Herbs disappearing from the shelves without a word, competition and fear standing as obstacles for better integrated health care that can utilize the wisdom, knowledge and years of expertise in the ancient medical systems together with modern science. As managing editor of the JACM, I use every opportunity to educate the greater community on the loss of our rights and opportunities to take action to preserve our right to choose our health care and health care provider. In San Francisco I worked to bring alternative medicine into the hospitals and critical care facilities. My passion is to educate individuals and groups about health and at this time I cannot educate about health without educating about our Health Freedom.

In order to preserve this democracy we must now all become involved in securing our freedom of choice in health care. It is a very exciting time for the field of health with many doctors and physicians making great breakthroughs showing how food, herbs, mind/body practices, massage, meditation, breathing to name a few can bring about great results for our health and vitality. These are non-invasive, supportive therapies that are generally regarded as safe. A time has come now where we must be proactive to secure the freedom to keep the choice alive to choose basic non-invasive therapies and healthy foods and food supplements; to support our culture to choose to make these available by supporting our practitioners and our businesses that bring us these fine products. It is my great pleasure to be a part of the excellent work of NHFC to educate individuals to become active in their communities and in their government. Please join me in celebrating our Health Freedom by becoming involved with NHFC and this great movement to let our voice be heard and our actions be recognized.”

I will leave you with this quote from one of our Founding Fathers who had great foresight:

*“The Constitution of this Republic should make special provision for Medical Freedom as well as Religious Freedom... To restrict the art of healing to one class of men and deny equal privileges to others will constitute a bastille [prison] of medical science. All such laws are un-American and despotic.”*

- Benjamin Rush, M.D.,  
Signer of the Declaration of Independence

## **Christine Brandt Joins NHFC**

While growing up in Rochester, New York, Christine gained a fine appreciation for the arts as result of attending performances at the Eastman School of Music. Her family provided her with an education in dance, music and theatre at an early age as well as many trips to New York City where she became enchanted with theatre as a result of attending Broadway plays.

She began her career in the arts at the young age of five and performed in school, community and semi – professional theatre through her teen years. Later, she worked in New York City as an actress and a model.

Brandt earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre Arts from California State University, Los and a Master's degree in Arts Administration at the University of California, Los Angeles.

She has worked with a variety of arts organizations including PCPA Theatrefest on the central coast of California, The Michigan Festival in East Lansing, MI and the Struthers Library Theatre in Warren, PA. She has taught acting, theatre and nonprofit administration at Wayne State University in Detroit, MI, Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY and Salem State College in Salem, MA.

Brandt served as Executive Director for the Northern Arizona Vision and Hearing Loss Center in Prescott, AZ. The Center serves persons who have a vision or hearing loss or are completely blind and deaf.

Brandt along with her husband Richard owned and operated a self improvement store in Phoenix, AZ that provided books and tapes on homeopathic and natural healing methods. The store held classes and workshops on a variety of natural healing methods. They produced a twice yearly event in the mall where their store was located in central Phoenix that focused on a variety of healing modalities. The Brandts presented authors and speakers at many events in the greater Phoenix area. Brandt has served as a consultant, grant writer, fundraiser, turn around and change agent for a variety of nonprofit organizations.

The Brandts have a consulting firm BRANDTS FOR GRANTS. For several years they lived in Sedona, AZ where they ran a sightseeing company. When asked why they moved to Minnesota, they reply 'for the weather'. Visit [www.notforprofitmanagement.org](http://www.notforprofitmanagement.org)

## **Diane Miller, Director of Law and Public Policy for NHFC reports on the latest news in Health Freedom**

### **Go Montana!!!**

**Montana SB287 has passed the Senate Floor 32 to 18, February 23, 2009!!!** Montana Health Freedom Coalition mobilized Montana to introduce SB287, **The Consumer Health Freedom and Access to Health Care Services Act**, a bill that acknowledges that many natural health care practitioners such as herbalists, homeopaths, and traditional naturopaths, regularly practice in the public domain in Montana and healthseekers want to protect access to them. The bill creates a safe harbor exemption law protecting the practitioners from unnecessary prosecution as long as they practice within the safe harbor parameters including avoiding prohibited conduct and giving out proper disclosures.

After SB287 passed the Senate Floor it was sent to the House. The House has now referred it to the Business and Labor Committee. Senate sponsors are Senators Balyeat, R. Brown, Erickson, Gebhardt,

Hinkle, Jackson, Jopek, Kaufmann, Mcgee, Mendenhall, More, Shockley, Squires, Steinbeisser, Stewart-Peregoy, Williams, Wilmer, Reinhart, Shockley.

Montana Health Freedom Coalition leaders Deb Kimmett and Linda Peterson are two of a number of great leaders leading the charge. The Montana Health Freedom Coalition [www.montanahealthfreedom.org](http://www.montanahealthfreedom.org) has aligned with supportive organizations such as Sunshine Health Freedom Foundation and National Health Freedom Action. In honor of the local indigenous traditional healers the bill has a special exemption from disclosure requirements for practitioners who are recognized within their community as traditional and cultural healers. We congratulate MHFC and send them positive intentions for their future success!

## **Yes to New Mexico!!!!**

**New Mexico HB664 passed the House Health and Government Affairs Committee 7 to 2 on February 25th!!!!** HB664, the **Unlicensed Health Care Practice Act**, was introduced in New Mexico by Representative W. Ken Martinez. Now HB664 is on its way to the Judiciary Committee. Thanks to the efforts of leader Wynn Werner, one of New Mexico's health freedom advocates, HB664 has been crafted within a collaborative environment with many sectors of the medical and health community now supporting the bill. Grassroots health freedom organization New Mexico Complementary and Alternative Medicine Project, LLC (NMCAAMP) continues to post all developments on their website. ([www.nmcaamp.org](http://www.nmcaamp.org)).

In 2007 New Mexico passed a Memorial HB047, requesting a study to assess whether the public's right to access traditional, cultural, complementary and alternative health care therapies and remedies freely is adequately protected by law. The Memorial noted that *"WHEREAS, New Mexico has a long history of cultural healers, including the curandera, sobadora, partera, medica and arbolaira, and healing traditions, including plant medicines and foods, prayer, ceremony and song, and these traditions must be shared with the current generation and preserved by future generations; and WHEREAS, in New Mexico, there are also well-accepted complementary and alternative health care therapies that have historically been practiced by persons who are not licensed or regulated by the state, including naturopathy, homeopathy, meditation, mind-body healing practices, traditional eastern practices such as qi gong and ayurveda, nutrition and lifestyle change, energy therapies, aromatherapy, folk remedies, anthroposophy, herbal therapy and healing practices using heat, cold, water, light and sound"*.

Many believe that the study laid the groundwork for the current legal reform of a safe harbor exemption bill now pending. We send out congratulations and best wishes for the continued successful travel of HB664 in the New Mexico Legislature.

## **Thank goodness for Virginians!!!!**

**The Certified Natural Health Professionals of Virginia** mobilized Virginia to introduce **HB1744, The Natural Health Care Providers (Health Freedom Bill) in January 2009!!** Representative Deborah Pogge sponsored the bill. Virginians for health freedom packed the hearing room on January 26th for

their first subcommittee meeting. As Janet Sutton says, their *“numbers spoke louder than words and contributed greatly to HB1744 not being killed outright in the subcommittee. Even though the outcome was a great disappointment to all, we are making inroads. Now is the time to maximize that momentum and press forward to working on passing of our bill next year.”*

The CNHP bill would have protected the right of health seekers to have unobstructed access to practitioners who are not licensed, registered, or certified by the state, to provide *“natural health care services, therapies, and methods by recommending, advising, educating, counseling, informing, or rendering care to consumers regarding the use of foods, dietary supplements, homeopathic remedies and products, and healing and natural therapies for the prevention, or remedy of various health or physical conditions”*, as long as they stay within the parameters of the prohibited conduct spelled out in the safe harbor and as long as they give out proper disclosures. We congratulate CNHP Virginia ([www.vacnhp.org](http://www.vacnhp.org)) on their work and look forward to seeing their continue success in educating legislators and moving their bill forward.

In addition to promoting the Health Freedom Bill, CNHP leaders found it necessary to defeat a naturopathic licensure bill which would have, if passed, put all unlicensed practitioners, healers, and traditional practitioners, out of business, and made them no longer available to consumers. They were successful in their efforts to defeat that bill.

NHFA is working with leaders from all over the country to support their efforts in gaining safe harbor exemption bills passed which will protect health seeker’s’ unobstructed access to all of the health care and healing practitioners currently practicing in the public domain.

**For more information on even  
more exciting projects go to:**

Iowa [www.iowahealthfreedom.org](http://www.iowahealthfreedom.org)

Montana [www.montanahealthfreedom.org](http://www.montanahealthfreedom.org)

New Mexico [www.nmcaamp.org](http://www.nmcaamp.org)

North Carolina [www.citizensforhealthcarefreedom.org](http://www.citizensforhealthcarefreedom.org)

Ohio [www.ohiohealthfreedom.com](http://www.ohiohealthfreedom.com)

Texas [www.texashealthfreedom.com](http://www.texashealthfreedom.com)

Virginia [www.vacnhp.org](http://www.vacnhp.org)

Washington [www.healthfreedomwa.org](http://www.healthfreedomwa.org)

Wisconsin [www.wihfc.com](http://www.wihfc.com)

**Become a member of NHFC  
and help us work to ensure health freedom!**

To become a member of NHFC, [click here](#).

NHFC is a non-profit 501(c)3 educational organization and your contributions may be tax deductible for charitable giving purposes.

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