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NRFTD raises \$30,000 for Research into Lyme and Other Tick-Borne Diseases

New Canaan, CT – October 12, 2006 – The National Research Fund for Tick-Borne Diseases, Inc. (NRFTD) today announced it raised \$30,000 for scientific research into Lyme and other tick-borne diseases at a cocktail party hosted by New Canaan residents, Martha and Michael Schram. The event, which was held to support a year long campaign, "New Research, New Hope, New Friends," attracted over 60 people from Fairfield and Westchester counties. Chairman of the Board, Leo J. Shea III Ph.D. of New York University Medical Center, described the urgent need for credible scientific research.

Cathy Morrissey, NRFTD founder and Chair of its Research Board, explained that the NRFTD is the only non-profit organization in the nation devoted strictly to funding research in the field of tick-borne diseases. Their mission to accelerate the advancement of scientific research regarding Lyme and tick-borne diseases into tangible results for patients is unique. Morrissey went on to say that their strong emphasis on supporting the most promising research projects at preeminent academic institutions has brought numerous world-claim scientists on to the Scientific Advisory Board. In attendance was Steven J. Norris, Ph.D.; a nationally known researcher at the University of Texas - Houston Medical Center. He discussed the rigorous grant review process modeled on National Institutes of Health criteria and reinforced the ethical and scientific standards utilized by the NRFTD in awarding grants.

The NRFTD is currently preparing for its third cocktail party in its campaign, "New Research, New Hope, New Friends," to be hosted by Barbara and Joseph Walsh in New Canaan on Thursday November 2, 2006.



The Board of the National Research Fund for Tick-borne Diseases, Inc.

About the National Research Fund for Tick-Borne Diseases, Inc.

The NRFTD is a nonprofit organization devoted to funding scientific research in the rapidly expanding field of tick-borne diseases. It is determined to advance scientific understanding of these complicated infections by sponsoring innovative research of the highest quality at premier institutions throughout the world.

The NRFTD was founded in 1999 to address the complex and critical research questions raised by thousands of patients afflicted with emerging tick-borne diseases, including Lyme disease, relapsing fever borrelia, anaplasmosis, babesiosis, bartonella and ehrlichiosis. The need for answers has grown markedly as Lyme disease has spread dramatically throughout the country and as other tick-borne infections have been recognized as public health threats.

For more information about the NRFTD, or to make a tax-deductible donation, visit www.nrftd.org.