



Job Title: Vice-President and Chief Executive for Science

#### Overview

The Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA) is a world leader in supporting scientific research leading to treatments and a cure for Friedreich's Ataxia and related conditions. Friedreich's ataxia (FA) is a debilitating, life-shortening, degenerative, neuro-muscular disorder characterized by loss of coordination in the arms and legs; energy deprivation; impairment of vision, hearing, and speech; aggressive scoliosis; diabetes, and a serious heart condition. Our *mission* is to marshal and focus the resources and relationships needed to cure this disease by raising funds for research, promoting public awareness, and aligning scientists, patients, clinicians, networks, government agencies, pharmaceutical companies and other organizations dedicated to curing FA and related diseases. We are seeking a goal-oriented professional with commitment to FA research to oversee and enhance our scientific programs and partnerships and to ensure that our strategic research priorities are efficiently and effectively advanced.

#### Description

The Vice-President and Chief Executive for Science will work closely with the President, Executive Director, and the Board of Directors to advance the scientific goals of FARA. Duties and Responsibilities include:

- Chair of the FARA Scientific Advisory Board, a diverse group of clinical and research professionals with extensive expertise in FA. This board serves as a resource on scientific and medical issues and provides FARA with critical guidance in setting our research priorities and goals.
- Oversee FARA research grant program.
  - Ensure that all incoming grant proposals have adequate peer-review and work with scientific review committee to select proposals to be recommended to the Board of Directors for funding.
  - Follow-up with funded researchers, track their progress and milestones, and facilitate communication and collaboration among researchers.
  - Promote visibility and build partnerships with funding agencies (government, private foundations, industry, etc) to ensure synergistic funding.
- FARA Scientific Ambassador to the larger research community.
  - Network with relevant entities to bring new clinicians, researchers, industry partners and scientific advancements to the FA community;
  - Attend and participate in scientific meeting and forums to communicate advancements and challenges in FA science and
  - Assist in partnering FA scientists to leverage resources and knowledge in the scientific community.

#### Requirements

MD and/or PhD and a minimum of five years of experience in neurology, neuroscience or neurodegenerative diseases with a track record of grant funding preferred. Knowledge of FA and/or related-disease research and commitment to the values of FARA is essential. The successful candidate will have demonstrated success in networking, collaborative accomplishments and building relationships. The candidate must be able to articulate FARA's mission to scientific community, and possess outstanding written and oral communication skills. An understanding of drug development and pharmaceutical industry is preferred. Travel required.

#### Contact

Interested parties should contact Jennifer Farmer, Executive Director by e-mail, [jen.farmer@cureFA.org](mailto:jen.farmer@cureFA.org) or by phone (484) 875-3015.