

## INSTITUTE OF GERONTOLOGY

87 EAST FERRY 226 KNAPP BUILDING DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48202

April 12, 2017

Mr. Keith Famie Executive Documentary Producer - Visionalist Entertainment Productions 28345 Beck Rd, Ste 404 Wixom MI 48393

Dear Mr. Famie:

I am delighted that you are planning to produce a documentary on the Front Lines of Alzheimer's disease. While Science has made progress in being able to understand some of the causal factors associated with Alzheimer's disease, it has proved to be a much more complicated picture than was hoped for. At this time, families continue to be the main source of support and care for older persons with Alzheimer's disease. Alzheimer's has been termed a chronic stressor; since caring for a person with Alzheimer's requires a high degree of vigilance and involves a high degree of unpredictability. I know that Alzheimer's disease has impacted your family as it has mine and that you will bring a sensitivity and sophistication to this film that will enrich us all.

As a clinical gerontologist and a professor of Psychology I have worked with thousands of older adults. Almost all of these older adults, from those with the most vigor to those suffering Alzheimer's disease have inspired me and impacted my own views on aging in a positive way. I know your film can do the same for thousands of others.

Sincerely,

Sincerely, Peter a Lichterley

Peter A. Lichtenberg, Ph.D., ABPP Director, Institute of Gerontology &

Professor of Psychology, and Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation