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**National Foundation for Infectious Diseases Calls for Nominations of Infectious Disease Heroes
2018 Awards Ceremony Will Honor Outstanding Leaders in Conjunction with 45th Anniversary of NFID**

Bethesda, MD (May 30, 2017) - The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) is calling for the nomination of infectious disease heroes. Each year, NFID recognizes individuals who have made significant and lasting contributions to global public health through scientific achievement, philanthropy or legislation. NFID is planning a special celebration in 2018 to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the organization as well the 100th anniversary of the influenza pandemic of 1918 which claimed more lives than World War I.

“2018 is the perfect time to reflect on all we have achieved in infectious disease prevention and treatment over the last century. Since its creation in 1973, NFID has continued to play a pivotal role in educating the public and healthcare professionals and communicating key scientific developments. One hundred years after the 'Spanish Flu' pandemic which claimed between 20 and 40 million lives, we are reminded of the need for ongoing efforts to communicate the importance of disease prevention,” said Walter A. Orenstein, MD, NFID President.

Online nominations for the 2018 [Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement](#) and [Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award](#) will be accepted until **June 30, 2017**. All nominations must be submitted online at: www.nfid.org/awards/2018-awards-nomination.html.

The Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement is named for Maxwell Finland, MD, a distinguished scholar and scientist who pioneered work in epidemiology and antimicrobial resistance and helped define the discipline of infectious diseases as we know it today. The award, first presented in 1988, recognizes scientists who have made outstanding contributions to the understanding of infectious diseases and public health. Selection criteria include: excellence in clinical and/or research activities; participation in the training of future leaders in the field; and positive impact on global public health.

The Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award is named for Former President and Mrs. Carter, the first recipients of the award. The award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding humanitarian contributions to improving global public health. Priority is given to contributions in the area of infectious diseases. Selection criteria include: humanitarian service; public education activities; and/or legislative or administrative contributions.

Awards will be presented at a black-tie gala in the Spring of 2018 in the Washington, DC area.

At the 2017 awards gala, NFID recognized three outstanding individuals:

- [Peter Piot, MD, PhD](#), recipient of the 2017 Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Humanitarian Award, for his lifetime public health contributions and leadership, including his role in the first isolation of the Ebola virus and outbreak investigation, his early AIDS research in Africa, his leadership of the global AIDS response and his service as head of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine.
- [Myron M. Levine, MD](#), recipient of the 2017 Maxwell Finland Award for Scientific Achievement, for his unparalleled accomplishments in public health to identify solutions to major sources of disease in the developing world including cholera, typhoid and *Shigella* dysentery.
- [Thomas M. File, Jr., MD](#), recipient of the 2017 John P. Utz Leadership Award, for his commitment as a national leader in infectious diseases and an exceptional teacher, clinician, scientist and prolific contributor to the infectious disease literature, including his work on the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of pneumonia.

About the National Foundation for Infectious Diseases

The National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID) is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1973 dedicated to educating the public and healthcare professionals about the causes, prevention and treatment of infectious diseases across the lifespan.

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