Dear Members of the CIRM Board, Letter of support for CLIN2 17091

RE:
I am writing to you as a grandparent of children diagnosed with SPG50, a rare and life-altering neurodegenerative disorder. Families like that of my son and daughter-in-law face an uncertain future, but we know that with the right support, there is hope. That's why I am reaching out—to ask for your partnership in advancing gene therapy research that could change the lives of children like Naomi and Jack.

Rare diseases often struggle to attract the funding necessary for treatment development, despite their devastating impact. But breakthroughs in gene therapy are offering new possibilities, and with your help, we can accelerate progress. By investing in SPG50 research, you are not just supporting one disease—you are contributing to a growing field that has the potential to transform lives across many rare conditions.

We believe that by working together, we can create a future where no family has to endure the heartbreak of watching their child's abilities fade away. We invite you to be part of this movement for change by supporting the SPG50 program.

Thank you for your time, your work, and your commitment to improving lives.

Warm regards,
Evalie Lockard, grandmother of Naomi and Jack Lockard