**Corntoss Challenge [Boston] taking place on [March 9] aims to raise [$20,000]**

*All proceeds from the event will benefit the ALS Therapy Development Institute (ALS TDI)*

[Boston, MA | May 10,] 2019 – On [June 14], the ALS Therapy Development Institute (ALS TDI) Corntoss Challenge, [Boston] will take place at [300 Technology Square, Cambridge] to raise funds for ALS research at [ALS TDI](http://www.als.net). Corntoss, or cornhole, is a lawn game in which two teams of two take turns tossing bags at a raised platform with a hole in the far end. This will be the [sixth] time the event has taken place in [Boston].

All funds raised will benefit the ALS Therapy Development Institute, whose scientists actively discover and develop effective treatments to end ALS. More potential treatments for ALS have been tested at ALS TDI than any other research lab in the world, thanks to support from fundraising events like the [Boston] Corntoss Challenge.

Since its creation by the Young Faces of ALS in 2011, the Corntoss Challenge has raised over $1.75 million for ALS research and engaged over 5,000 participants in 24 cities nationwide. This year, challenges will take place across ten different cities – Boston, MA, Atlanta, GA, Washington, D.C., Seattle, WA, Bay Area, CA, Eugene, OR, Portland, OR, Detroit, MI, Baltimore, MD and Rochester, NY. Each event is organized by young people with ALS, their family members and friends who want to raise awareness of ALS and help fund research for a cure.

Every 90 minutes, someone is diagnosed with ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease or Motor Neuron Disease (MND). It is a progressive and fatal neurodegenerative disease that causes muscle weakness, difficulty breathing and swallowing, and paralysis while leaving the senses intact. Most people survive two to five years after their diagnosis, with an estimated 30,000 people in the U.S. and 450,000 worldwide living with the disease. While ALS is often considered a mid-to late-life disease, ALS affects people of all ages. It can affect anyone, anywhere. Currently, there is no effective treatment or cure.

This year’s [Boston] event is hosted by [host name here followed by story and a quote e.g. Mary Smith who lost her brother Michael to ALS five years ago. “The corntoss challenge is an easy and fun way to raise funds and awareness for this horrific disease” says Mary “my family and I continue to hold this event each year so we can one day see a world without ALS.”]

This year’s sponsors include [Cytokinetics, Inc., North Point Trust Company LLC and Taylor Farms]. Tickets for this event cost [$50] per team or [$20] to just hang out. To register for the [Boston] Corntoss Challenge, donate or learn more about the campaign, visit [insert city hyperlink here].

**About the ALS Therapy Development Institute**

The ALS Therapy Development Institute (ALS TDI) and its scientists actively discover and develop treatments for ALS. It is the world’s first and largest nonprofit biotech focused 100 percent on ALS research. Led by people with ALS and drug development experts, ALS TDI understands the urgent need to slow and stop this disease. Based in Cambridge, MA, ALS TDI has over 30 full-time, industry trained, drug development experts on staff. ALS TDI is internationally recognized as a leader in optimizing preclinical models of neurodegeneration for clinical translation, and partners with pharmaceutical companies and biotechs around the world. Rated a CharityNavigator.com four-star charity, ALS TDI spends 87% of each dollar raised on research to find an effective treatment and cure. Learn more at www.als.net.

**About the Corntoss Challenge**

The ALS Therapy Development Institute (ALS TDI) Corntoss Challenge raises funds for ALS research. Each summer, the event takes place in multiple cities across the U.S. featuring the tailgate game Cornhole. Since its creation by the Young Faces of ALS in 2011, the event has raised over $1.75 million and engaged over 5,000 participants in 24 cities nationwide. Learn more at www.als.net/corntosschallenge.

**About the Young Faces of ALS**

Created by people living with ALS who were diagnosed before their 35th birthdays, the Young Faces of ALS (YFALS) is the first community for young people affected by ALS, as well as their families and friends. The purpose of the program is to create an engaging online community of young people committed to raising awareness for ALS and funds for ALS research at ALS TDI. In 2011, they founded the Corntoss Challenge. Since then, the Young Faces of ALS have raised over $1.75 million for ALS TDI. Learn more at [www.youngfacesofALS.com](http://www.youngfacesofALS.com).