



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ANDREW ROSEN ANNOUNCED AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Minneapolis, MN** (March 6, 2019) – The National Ataxia Foundation (NAF) Board of Directors and staff announced their new Executive Director, Andrew Rosen, following a nationwide search conducted by a committee of the Board of Directors. He will lead NAF’s efforts in improving the lives of persons affected by Ataxia through support, education, and research.

Mr. Rosen has built a reputation as a collaborative and trusted executive with a passion for social service and helping organizations build capacity. He was previously President of Angel Foundation, a Twin Cities-based agency providing emergency financial assistance, education and support for local adults with cancer and their families. He has also served as President of HousingLink, an innovative web-based non-profit that provides affordable housing information for the State of Minnesota, and as Interim Executive Director for Social Venture Partners (SVP) Minnesota. He holds an MBA in Marketing from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, and an MA in International Studies from U Penn. His undergraduate degree is from Tufts University in Boston.

“NAF is now navigating an exciting new environment as research accelerates towards potential treatments for Ataxia,” said Bill Sweeney, President of the NAF Board of Directors. “NAF needs a leader who can help us meet the challenges and identify the opportunities presented in this new environment. Our board is confident that Andrew will effectively direct NAF to take advantage of these opportunities to benefit all who are affected by Ataxia.”

Mr. Rosen said, “I am honored to be joining the strong team at NAF, and look forward to building on the work that has impacted so many people with Ataxia since the organization was founded in 1957. Research supported by NAF continues to make progress in the search for treatments and an eventual cure for Ataxia. It is a pivotal time for the Ataxia community, and I will be focused on accelerating NAF's growth in the coming years.”

**About NAF**

The National Ataxia Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that was established in 1957 to look for treatments and a cure for Ataxia. Ataxia is a rare, neurological disease affecting less than 150,000 people in the United States. It is progressive, affecting a person’s ability to walk, talk, and use fine motor skills. It can be fatal. NAF continues its efforts in helping Ataxia families through research, education, and support.

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To learn more, contact us or visit NAF’s website at [www.ataxia.org](http://www.ataxia.org)