



# ***Invest in ME Research***

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UK Registered Charity Nr. 1153730

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June 2019

Invest in ME Research has won a £1,000 Movement for Good award thanks to nominations from the public – and especially to our great supporters.

Invest in ME Research was nominated to win a £1,000 boost as part of specialist insurer Ecclesiastical's Movement for Good awards, which is giving £1million to charities this summer.

The charity will take this opportunity to support the clinical fellowship scheme in which the charity is collaborating with Quadram Institute Bioscience to create an opportunity for a GP to spend one day a week for a year with researchers at Quadram. This scheme will improve knowledge of ME in the community and benefit patients in the long run.

Members of the public were invited to nominate causes close to their hearts, with 500 gifts of £1,000 available for donation. Invest in ME Research was one more than 7,000 charities which were nominated by an amazing 98,000 members of the public to be in for a chance to win a financial boost.

Chairman Kathleen McCall commented - "The charity is very grateful to Ecclesiastical for this wonderful initiative to help a small charity such as ours to make further progress in improving research into ME. We also wish to thank all those who supported the charity with their nominations – especially to our wonderful supporters who have been responsible for changing the way that ME is perceived, researched and treated over the last decade. Invest in ME Research has made great progress thanks to this support – now arranging the premier conference week for ME, introducing a forum for young researchers, establishing a family of international biomedical researchers, initiating a European ME Clinicians Council, funding high-quality biomedical research and developing the foundations of the UK Centre of Excellence for ME. This demonstrates what a small charity with determination and resolve can achieve when supported by such wonderful supporters".

Mark Hews, group chief executive at Ecclesiastical, said: “As a company whose purpose is to contribute to the greater good of society, charitable giving is at the heart of our business. We know that £1,000 can make a huge difference to the incredible work that charities do and we’re looking forward to seeing how this financial boost will change lives for the better.”

\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\*

Notes for editors

Contact details [Who should the journalist contact for more information]

About Invest in ME Research

- Invest in ME Research is an independent UK charity finding, funding and facilitating a strategy of biomedical research into Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME or ME/CFS) and promoting better education about ME.
- Invest in ME Research is run by volunteers - patients or parents of children with ME - with no paid staff. Overheads are kept to a minimum to enable all funds raised to go to promoting education of, and facilitating and funding biomedical research into, ME.
- The charity's objectives are to initiate, maintain and augment a strategy of high-quality biomedical research into ME, to provide education about ME, and to raise awareness of the effects of the disease on patients and families. For more information visit [www.investinme.org](http://www.investinme.org)

About Ecclesiastical

1. Owned by a registered charity, Allchurches Trust, Ecclesiastical is a specialist insurer of the faith, heritage, fine art, charities, education and private client sectors
2. Ecclesiastical is one of the UK’s top five company givers to charity according to the 2017-18 UK Guide to Company Giving. After donating £50m to charity in three years, Ecclesiastical launched a bold vision in 2016 to raise £100m for good causes by the end of 2020. In August 2018, the Group announced it had already raised £50million towards its target. Find out more at [www.ecclesiastical.com/ourstory](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/ourstory)

The Chair and Board of Invest in ME Research

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**[www.investinme.org](http://www.investinme.org)**

