For Immediate Release – May 10, 2021

American Cochlear Implant Alliance Membership Elects New Board Leadership

Washington, D.C.: At the organization’s annual member meeting on April 30, American Cochlear Implant Alliance (ACI Alliance) membership elected a new Board Member and a new Chair of the Board of Directors.

Oliver F. Adunka MD, Professor and Director of Otology, Neurotology and Cranial Base Surgery, Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery at Ohio State University Nationwide Children’s Hospital, is the new Chair of the Board of Directors. He previously served as treasurer of the board.

Barbara Mellert MPH, Information, Technology and Consulting at Dartmouth College and Administrator, Parents of Children with Cochlear Implants Facebook group was elected as a new board member. Ms. Mellert is the parent of two adult children who have cochlear implants.

ACI Alliance is grateful to Meredith Holcomb AuD, Director of Hearing Implants and Associate Professor at University of Miami Miller School of Medicine for her service as the immediate past Chair of ACI Alliance during an especially challenging two years. Dr. Holcomb continues to serve on the board of directors for another year.

ACI Alliance is also thankful to Andrew G. Shuman MD, Associate Professor in the Department of Otolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Michigan Medical School for his service on the Board of Directors. Dr. Shuman, a parent of two young children with cochlear implants, recently ended six years of board service.

The members of the ACI Alliance Board of Directors reflect the diversity and mission of the organization by including surgeons, audiologists, speech-language pathologists, educators of children with hearing loss, and other professionals on cochlear implant teams or from school settings, as well as parents and consumers.

ACI Alliance is a not-for-profit membership organization created with the purpose of eliminating barriers to cochlear implantation by sponsoring research, driving heightened awareness and advocating for improved access to cochlear implants for patients of all ages across the US.

For more on the leadership of ACI Alliance visit: www.acialliance.org/page/BoardofDirectors

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