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April 24, 2015

## To Whom It May Concern:

The American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR), <a href="www.afar.org">www.afar.org</a>; (AFAR), is a leading national non-profit organization that supports healthy aging through biomedical research based in New York, NY. AFAR was founded in 1981 to fund and nurture talented scientists and physicians, and to encourage them to pursue lifelong careers in research focused on aging processes and age-related diseases. AFAR has awarded approximately \$147 million in support to new scientists and physicians in aging research and geriatric medicine. The important work AFAR supports leads to a better understanding of the aging process and to improvements in the health of all Americans as they age.

AFAR has entered into a collaboration with the Foundation for the Mediterranean Diet to further explore the scientific benefits of the diet, particularly as it pertains to older adults. This will be accomplished through a variety of means that will include the following:

- 1) Seeking collaborative funding to provide research grants to scientists investigating the potential benefits of the Mediterranean Diet.
- 2) Describing and featuring information about the Mediterranean Diet on <u>www.infoaging.org</u>; an AFAR website, targeted at the general public, which draws upon the expertise of AFAR funded scientists to bring the public the latest, most up-to-date information on the science of aging.

AFAR is excited to be able to assist the Foundation for the Mediterranean Diet in their efforts to disseminate scientific findings about the diet and promote its healthful use among different population groups.

Sincerely yours,

Stephanie Lederman

**Executive Director**