

## ***Francis Collins Call Script for House Parties***

***Francis Collins needs to hear from us directly with a clear, simple ask to watch UNREST and screen the film at the NIH.*** A flood of calls can be VERY effective in getting attention!!

You have two options of how to participate in calls!

- 1) You can have your house party participants call one-by-one at your house party after you watch the film. You'll have to **leave a message** using the script below for Francis Collins by calling his line at the NIH: **301-496-2433**

**or**

- 2) You can encourage your guests to call the following day to speak to the office assistant or ideally FRANCIS COLLINS directly. His business hours are: 8am-6pm EST. You need to REMIND your guests if you go this route and follow up with them the following day! It's the same number as listed above: **301-496-2433**

*Remember: The ask should be simple! We are asking Francis Collins to watch the film and have a screening! It is the very least he can do for the millions of people suffering from ME with extremely low allocation of research funding- thanks to Francis Collins, himself!*

*\*\*If you leave a message, it rings longer than you would think, so just wait a little longer and you will get to the voicemail.*

### **Script for Calls During Office Hours:**

Hi. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. May I speak to Francis Collins?

**If *what is this regarding?*...** I am calling about an urgent matter related to ME/CFS. I'd like to speak to Mr. Collins directly. (Then, depending on their answer, see below.)

**If *no*...**I'd like to leave a voicemail (Jump to Voicemail section below. If you are not redirected to voicemail, then ask to leave the voicemail message below with the administrative assistant.)

**If *yes*...** (WOW, this is awesome!!) Thank you (and wait to be directed). Hi Mr. Collins, I am calling because I am a concerned (patient/parent/friend/citizen) calling to talk to you about ME/CFS or Myalgic encephalomyelitis. Have you heard of it?

**If, *yes*....** Well as you probably know it is a devastating disease that causes dysfunction of the neurological, immune, endocrine, and energy metabolism systems. that affects over a million Americans, over 75% of which are women. I've recently

watched a film that I believe will help educate Americans about ME/CFS. It's called *Unrest*. Have you seen it?

**If yes...** That is wonderful news! Then you must know how important it is to raise awareness of this disease and how the film is a perfect way to do that. I want to ask you to host a screening of this film for NIH members. Would you agree to do that?

**If yes...** I cannot tell you how important this will be. Do you have a day and time in the works?

**If yes...** That is excellent news! When will it be? I can't wait to spread the word? (Jump to thanks)

**If no...** I will be following up with your office to find out more details. This will mean so much for the ME/CFS community.

**Maybe...** I will be following up with your office to find out more details. This will mean so much for the ME/CFS community.

**If no...** I can make sure you are sent a screener link for the film. What is your best email address? There are also many ways to watch including on the PBS website through January 15th (jump to Thank You after you has his email address).

**If maybe...** I can make sure you are sent a screener link for the film. What is your best email address? There are also many ways to watch including on the PBS website through January 15th. (jump to Thank You after you has his email address).

**THANK YOU-** Thank you for your time in speaking with me today. I cannot tell you how important further research for ME/CFS will be.

***Voicemail Message:***

Hi Mr. Collins. I am calling because I am a concerned (patient/parent/friend/citizen) calling to talk to you about ME/CFS or Myalgic encephalomyelitis. It is a devastating disease that causes dysfunction of the neurological, immune, endocrine, and energy metabolism systems. ME/CFS affects over a million Americans, over 75% of which are women. I've recently watched a film that I believe will help educate Americans about ME/CFS. It's called *Unrest*. This film is helping to spread awareness of the disease, increase quality of care, and inspire new researchers to the field. I am calling to ask you directly to watch the film and host a screening with members of the NIH. Please learn more at [www.unrest.film](http://www.unrest.film). Thank you.

