MS Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP) Talking Points

HOOK your audience with a personal statement on how CDMRP funding does or could impact you.
- Example: I know that more answers about MS will come from creative, innovative research—like that funded by the MS Research Program within the CDMRP.
- What is your hook/personal story?

LINE: Support your Hook with a LINE (facts), such as:
- There are approximately 32,870 veterans with confirmed MS. 11,632 of those veterans have a service connected disability for MS.
- Each year, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) provides care to more than 20,000 veterans living with MS.
- The CDMRP is a peer-reviewed program funded through the Department of Defense via the Defense Appropriations Act.
- The CDMRP fills research gaps by funding high impact, high-risk and high gain projects that other agencies may not venture to fund.
- Congress established the MS Research Program (MSRP) in FY 2009.
- In FY 2016, the MSRP received $6 million.
- The MSRP has been unable to administer research grants in FY 2017 due to the federal government operating under a continuing resolution for most of the fiscal year.
- More investment is needed. On average, fewer than 15% of research applications submitted to the MS CDMRP were able to be funded annually between FY 2009-2014.

SINKER: Leave your audience with the SINKER (request) detailing what the elected official can do to support this issue.
- Please provide $10 million for the MSRP in FY 2018.