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October 16, 2017

Ms. Stella Pavlides  
1848 Murray Avenue  
Clearwater, FL 33755

Dear Stella,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment to you and share my enthusiasm for the wonderful work you are doing, advocating for patients (and especially children) who are suffering from vitiligo. As you know, vitiligo is a debilitating condition that arises from the loss of pigment producing cells in the skin. The result is patches of depigmentation, that can have major psychological consequences. Some have described vitiligo as a cosmetic condition—but this is incorrect because the consequences of vitiligo run much deeper than a cosmetic label might imply.

As we have discussed, the science underlying the development of vitiligo has been growing at an exciting pace. Discoveries are being made, regarding genes that can be associated with vitiligo. And there are certain drugs which can cause vitiligo—thereby offering significant clues to the causation and hopefully effective treatments eventually.

While research has been moving forward, we know that the pace of discovery has not been adequate. Those of us working in the trenches are hoping to gain clinically actionable insights soon, but we know the challenges in our patients are formidable. We stand together with patients, their families, and loved ones, forcefully advocating for the support of more research and resources to help discover better treatment options. And we stand together with AVRF and you, who have dedicated yourself to helping countless children and other patients afflicted with vitiligo.

I salute your magnificent mission, and am pleased to support you in your wonderful work.

Sincerely,

David E. Fisher