# **HDSA RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP**





**Steps in the Presymptomatic Disease Process** 

**Steps in Disease Progression** 













### **HDSA Research Pipeline to Treatments**



## Discovery Start with the right ore

## Grants and Fellowships Coalition





#### Lifeline of a brain cell with the HD mutation

Trigger mechanism Changes that disable the brain cell

Changes that kill the brain cell

**Focus of HDSA Research** 

# **Grants and Fellowships** NEW IDEAS, NEW (DEDICATED) HD RESEARCHERS

- Vital flexible funding to seed new HD research areas and to support young researchers at the start of their careers
- Grant \$50,000 for one year
- Fellowship \$40,000 per year (2 years)











#### **Grant Recipient**

Dr. Ruth Luthi-Carter, Ph.D. Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne Switzerland Molecular changes in human HD brain

#### **Fellowship Recipients**

Dr. Browen Martin, Ph.D. National Institutes of Health (Bethesda MD) Molecules that respond to sugar

Dr. Jean Savare, Ph.D. J. David Gladstone Institutes (San Francisco CA) Finding all huntingtin partners in yeast

Dr. Austin Milnerwood, Ph.D. (with HSC) University British Columbia Brain cell function in YAC128 HD gene mice

# Coalition

16 expert international laboratories committed to cooperative HD research, self-organized into teams aimed at pressing issues in HD research, closely aligned with HSC, CHDI, NIH in order to capitalize quickly on the research findings.

Gillian Bates, Ph.D. Flint Beal, M.D. David Borchelt, Ph.D. Elena Cattaneo, Ph.D. Jang-Ho Cha, M.D., Ph.D. Marian Difiglia, Ph.D. Robert Freedlander, M.D. James Gusella, Ph.D. Michael Hayden, M.D., Ph.D. Steven Hersch, M.D., Ph.D. Ron Kopito, Ph.D. Marcy MacDonald, Ph.D. Richard Morimoto, Ph.D. Christopher Ross, M.D., Ph.D. Leslie Thompson, Ph.D. Erich Wanker, Ph.D.

# Huntingtin - a cargo barge



**Huntingtin Function** 



#### Mitochondria & Energy Metabolism



#### Huntingtin Proteolysis and Posttranslational Modification



Folding, Aggregation and Clearance of Mutant Huntingtin



#### **Transcription**





#### Lifeline of a brain cell with the HD mutation



Trigger mechanism C 4

**Changes that** may disable the brain cell



Changes related to death of the brain cell



Michael Macor / The Chronicle





