FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Soft Bones, Inc.
Denise Goodbar
(973) 453-3093
info@softbones.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 2018

Brian L. Foster, PhD Awarded 2018 Research Grant from Soft Bones

Annual Hypophosphatasia Research Grant Awarded to The Ohio State University Researcher

BOONTON, New Jersey --Dr. Brian L. Foster, an Assistant Professor within the Biosciences Division at College of Dentistry at Ohio State University, and colleagues were recently awarded the 5th annual Soft Bones research grant for $25,000. This is the second Soft Bones grant awarded to Dr. Foster.

As the recipient of a 2018 research grant from Soft Bones, Dr. Foster, in collaboration with Dr. Michael P. Whyte, an Endocrinologist at Shriners Hospital for Children and Washington University in St. Louis, proposes to analyze primary teeth (deciduous or baby teeth) from individuals with hypophosphatasia (HPP). This study is the first of its kind to quantitatively analyze teeth from a large group of HPP subjects. Dr. Foster hopes to gain a better understanding of how dental problems correlate to skeletal, biochemical and genetic changes in individuals with HPP. In the future, this may help medical professionals predict the severity of HPP-associated dental disease, better treat dental disorders arising from HPP, or even estimate the overall course of disease.

With this project, Dr. Foster and his team will continue building upon years of achievement in the field of HPP research, with a specific focus on the relationship between HPP and dental disorders. For several years, Dr. Foster has been studying mouse models of HPP to understand how the disorder affects the different hard tissues of teeth and supporting jaws, including enamel, dentin, cementum, and bone. Dr. Foster won the 2016 Soft Bones research grant for his mouse model research, and the 2016 grant supported development of a new mouse model of HPP that was featured in the Journal of Dental Research

About Hypophosphatasia*:* Hypophosphatasia (HPP) is an inherited, metabolic (chemical) bone disease of broad-ranging severity that causes life-threatening complications in approximately one per 100,000 births. Depending on the severity of the skeletal disease, there can be deformity of the limbs and chest, pneumonia, and recurrent fractures. While there is currently no cure for hypophosphatasia, medical and supportive treatment is directed towards preventing or correcting its signs, symptoms, and complications.

About Soft Bones, Inc.: Soft Bones, the US Hypophosphatasia Foundation, is a patient advocacy group founded in 2009 to provide information and to establish a forum to educate, empower, and connect patients living with hypophosphatasia, their families, and caregivers. The

Foundation also promotes research of rare bone disease through awareness and fundraising efforts.

Related Links:
http://www.SoftBones.org

###