The Honorable
Nita M. Lowey
U.S. Representative (D-NY-17)

“Every day, thanks to the work of those in this room, we move toward a new frontier in scientific advancement. Every day, we prove that there has never, ever, been a better time to be alive. Every day, more people are given hope of a brighter future. That is what your research means to me, and to millions of Americans.”

The Honorable
Richard Shelby
U.S. Senator (R-AL)

“It is an honor to receive the esteemed Edwin C. Whitehead Award for Medical Research Advocacy. I have long believed that we must prioritize our nation’s health needs by funding biomedical research and organizations such as the National Institute of Health, the National Science Foundation, and others. Investments in modern medicine are essential to spur innovation for the next generation of treatments, and I will continue work with my colleagues to provide our researchers with the necessary support to develop cutting-edge discoveries and potential cures.”

The Honorable
Louis W. Sullivan
Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and Founding Dean and President Emeritus of the Morehouse School of Medicine

“Thirty years ago I was excited by the opportunity to serve as Secretary, to give greater voice and leadership to address the health needs of the nation, including the need for continued, robust investment in biomedical research…and the need to improve access to health services for all Americans, especially the poor and the medically underserved.”

Siddhartha Mukherjee, MD, DPhil
Physician, oncologist, and author; Assistant Professor of Medicine, Columbia University Medical Center

“There is perhaps only one skill that a scientist or writer possesses and that is resilience or of survivorship. We acquire resilience when we find purpose in our work. We seek mastery. And we need autonomy, we need independence in doing the things we do. We are celebrating the 30th anniversary of this remarkable organization and it reminds me that scientific research enables precisely these three things.”
Herbert Pardes Family Award for National Leadership in Advocacy for Research

David R. Williams, PhD
Florence Sprague Norman and Laura Smart Norman Professor of Public Health, Chair of the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and Professor of African and African American Studies and Sociology at Harvard University

“Martin Luther King said that injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. Research clearly points us to avoidable gaps and shortfalls in health that persist in this great nation and calls us to use all of the science that we currently have to take effective actions to improve the health of every American, and to eliminate all of the social disparities in health.”

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Accepted by
Mary Dwight, Senior Vice President, The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and Melissa Shiffman, Patient Advocate

Mary Dwight: “This is a story where research drives hope and discovery and coordination of care. Fundamentally it’s a story that is powered by a community, first of a community of parents and now a community of people with cystic fibrosis.”

Melissa Shiffman: “As an adult with cystic fibrosis, my family and I are so grateful to the incredible work of the CF Foundation. Its steadfast dedication to drug development research while searching for a cure has allowed me to live a much fuller life than was expected when I was diagnosed in 1978. The CF Foundation [also] gave me a voice when I felt like CF had taken mine away.”

Gordon and Llura Gund Leadership Award

Denny Sanford
Health care philanthropist and longtime supporter of Sanford Health and its Sanford Research arm in Sioux Falls, South Dakota

“In philanthropy, I still think like an investor, but I look for projects that promise the most meaningful returns for the most people. In that regard, one of my smartest investments has been in Sanford Health. In partnership, we’re bringing healing to families around the world, accelerating research that gives hope to millions, and more. It doesn’t get better than that.”
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We look forward to seeing you again on March 11, 2020!