



President Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

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Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of Research!America, thank you for your unwavering commitment to progress in the global health arena, as compellingly articulated in your Fiscal Year 2023 [budget proposal](#). Your decision to call on Dr. Francis Collins to serve as your interim science advisor is further evidence of your dedication to global health. Dr. Collins' tenure as Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) was groundbreaking in numerous respects, including his extraordinary resolve in advancing global health R&D and R&D capacity building in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). We urge you to ensure your nominee for the 17th Director of NIH is equally committed to global health.

During his tenure, Dr. Collins acknowledged the significance of global health by singling it out as one of his top five priorities as Director. From there he went on to help launch the Consortium of Universities for Global Health, stand up several successful global health programs through the NIH Common Fund, and play a pivotal role in the COVID-19 R&D response, saving lives across the globe. That list is not exhaustive; no leader of NIH has been more outspoken and effective in making the case for global health or in advancing it.

We firmly believe that it is in the nation's best interests and aligned with values that unify Americans to bring about a future in which two realities converge: global health threats lose their deadly power and the capacity to achieve medical progress is not exclusive to wealthy nations.

Critical to achieving that vision is an NIH Director who, like the visionary leader who preceded them, empowers NIH to deploy R&D and R&D capacity building to dramatically advance global health. We ask that you emphasize these priorities with your NIH Director nominee.

Thank you, Mr. President, for your unprecedented role in accelerating medical progress to the benefit of all, and for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Mary Wooley  
President and CEO  
Research!America

241 18<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Suite 501  
Arlington, VA 22202

P 703-739-2577

F 703-739-2372

E [info@researchamerica.org](mailto:info@researchamerica.org)