



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

National Institutes of Health
National Institute of Neurological
Disorders and Stroke

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Monica Weldon
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February 20, 2020

Dear Mrs. Weldon,

On June 29 and 30, 2020 the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) is hosting our annual NINDS Nonprofit Forum: Collaborations and Capacity Building at the Neuroscience Center in Bethesda, MD. Thanks to our partners, we have learned each year how to make this an ever more valuable activity for our attendees. This two-day meeting will feature speakers from nonprofit organizations, government agencies, industry, and academia that support research for people with neurological disorders. The Forum is an opportunity for representatives from foundations and patient advocacy groups to learn about NIH, NINDS, and other Federal programs; to network with colleagues and to engage in discussions with NINDS program directors.

The agenda this year will feature panel discussions on challenges in therapeutic development, precision approaches in clinical trials, and will highlight the power of collaborations and storytelling for nonprofit organizations.

I would like to invite you to be a part of the "Perspectives from Patients" panel on Tuesday, June 30th from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. As you know, this topic was suggested by our Executive Planning Committee to give attendees the opportunity to hear from families, caregivers, and patients themselves about the power of advocacy. As we confirm your fellow panelists, we will set up a planning call to discuss session goals and presentations in more detail.

Please note that due to our tight travel budget, participants in the NINDS Nonprofit Forum are expected to be responsible for their own travel expenses, though we may be able to provide some assistance in certain cases. Your experience is incredibly valuable to our attendees, and I hope you will join us as a panelist at this important event.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I am happy to provide any additional information in support of your participation. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Walter J. Koroshetz, M.D.
Director