Rally for Medical Research Capitol Hill Day Reception

September 17, 2013 • 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. • Capitol Visitor Center

The Rally for Medical Research Capitol Hill Day is supported by 172 organizations that comprise a broad spectrum of diseases that afflict a large portion of the population, from high incidence diseases to rare diseases. Nearly 300 people from 40 states will convene on Capitol Hill to meet in more than 250 Congressional offices, including 80 Senate offices, to urge Congress to invest in the National Institutes of Health for the health and economic security of our Nation.

The Capitol Hill Day is all about continuing the momentum that was established on April 8, 2013, when more than 200 national organizations joined to support the mission of the Rally for Medical Research – that we are together for more progress, more hope, and more life. On that historic day, nearly 10,000 advocates gathered in Washington, D.C. to call on our nation’s policymakers to make funding for the National Institutes of Health a national priority.

Participating Capitol Hill Day Reception Speakers
Program order subject to change

- Margaret Foti, Ph.D., M.D. (h.c.), CEO of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)
- Charles L. Sawyers, M.D., President, American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)
- Ann C. Bonham, Ph.D., Chief Scientific Officer, Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)
- George J. Weiner, M.D., Professor and Director, Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Iowa
- Honorable Tom Harkin, Member of the U.S. Senate (D-Iowa)
- Sydney Salmon, a heart transplant recipient (12+ years out) and spokesperson for the American Heart Association (AHA)
- Calaneet H. Balas, MBA, MS, CEO of the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance
- Erin Brady, Miss USA 2013 from Connecticut whose platform for the year is to be a spokeswoman for the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance, spreading awareness about ovarian cancer education and prevention
- Irene Smith, a mother of two sons who both have Type 1 diabetes and is a volunteer for the American Diabetes Association
- Julie M. Fleshman, JD, MBA, President and CEO of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
- Lisa Niemi Swayze, Actor, dancer and bestselling author who became Chief Ambassador of Hope for the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network after losing her husband Patrick to pancreatic cancer in 2009

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Special thanks to the following organizations that have helped defray the costs associated with Hill Day.