



February 29, 2016

Commissioner Robert Califf, MD  
Food and Drug Administration  
10903 New Hampshire Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20993

**RE: Congratulations – From Patients Who Want To Help Dr. Califf**

Congratulations on your confirmation by the U.S. Senate to serve as the 22nd Commissioner of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. You join a distinguished list of public health leaders who have headed one of the federal government's most important agencies. On behalf of patients living with chronic illnesses and their families throughout our country, we are writing to you with support and our pledge to help.

The voice of patients within FDA's decision-making process is an important one, and we are poised to lend our diverse patient perspective to the agency. We look forward to engaging the agency through formal public comment processes, collaborating with your team to identify new opportunities to increase the involvement of patients in the regulatory process, and offering our own data and research findings generated through ArthritisPower, a PCORI-funded Patient Powered Research Network. Our component of the PCORnet national resource is available to support the FDA's mission to make the best decisions using the most informed, relevant and accurate data about our health and safety.

In addition, our 50-State Network of patient advocates can provide on-the-ground, grassroots perspective to lend guidance and support to FDA. Among the many issues you face as commissioner, we are well suited to help in the areas of:

1. Ensuring patient confidence in the responsible introduction of biosimilars to the marketplace.
2. Balanced policies that address opioid addiction with the need to treat chronic pain that plagues millions of people.
3. Integrating Patient Reported Outcomes into post-approval drug evaluation, including comparative effectiveness research and the development of patient-centered outcomes measures.



Our network of patients, caregivers, and community join me in congratulating you on your new role as Commissioner.

You're tasked with the job of protecting us. So we enthusiastically ask: how may we help you help us?

To Good Health,

Seth Ginsberg  
Co-PI, ArthritisPower Co-founder, GHLF

A Baldwin, Patient  
Lake placid, FL

Anna Meyer, Patient  
Damascus, OR

Amy Vallejo, Patient  
Humble, TX

Barbara Welch, Patient  
Clearwater, FL

Barry Shibuya, Caregiver  
Fremont, CA

Christine Schwab, Patient  
Newport Coast, CA

Brenda Kleinsasser , Patient  
Bismarck, ND

David Curtis, Caregiver  
Danbury, CT

Cara Zelas, Patient  
Park Ridge, NJ

David Belton, Patient  
Sand Fork, WV

Carin Anderson, Patient  
Fifty Lakes, MN



Diane Talbert, Patient  
Waldorf, MD



Chantelle Marcial, Patient  
Boston, MA



Deb Constien, Patient  
Sun Prairie, WI



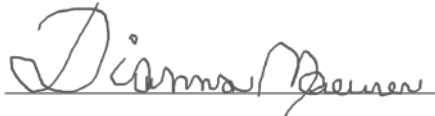
Cheryl Jeschke, Patient  
Machesney Park, IL




Judy Nagy, Patient  
Sandusky, OH



Dianna Maeurer, Patient  
New York, NY



Julie Rinard, Patient  
Marietta, OH



Donna Womble, Patient  
Hermitage, TN



Kara Sanford, Patient  
Cedar Rapids, IA



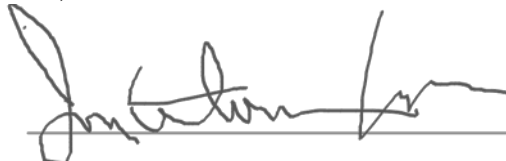
Elizabeth Funkhouser, Patient  
St. Louis, MO



Kathleen Arntsen, Patient  
Verona, NY



Jonathon Aumann, Patient  
Olathe, KS



Kelley Stillman, Patient  
Newnan, GA



Judy Ungar, Patient  
Lido Beach, NY



Kelli Carlson, Patient  
Woodbury, MN





Kelly Clayton, Patient  
Rockton, IL

Leslie Landry, Patient  
Baton Rouge, LA

Kim Riley, Patient  
Cedar, MN

Lisa Chandler, Patient  
Brookville, PA

Kimberly Sone, Patient  
Hagerstown, MD

Lisabeth Iglesias, Patient  
Rome, NY

Kirsten Bonacquisti, Patient  
Lincoln, DE

Lori Jorgensen, Patient  
Wichita, KS

Kirsten Schultz, Patient  
Madison, WI

Margaret Minnich, Patient  
Whitmore Lake, MI

Layne Martin, Patient  
Hewitt, TX

Maria Ory, Patient  
Dallas, TX

Mary Glover, Patient  
Topeka, KS

Pam Steele, Patient  
Ennis, TX

Mary Sharkey, Patient  
Haddon Twp, NJ

Patricia Heavener, Patient  
Andover, NJ

Melissa Hicks, Patient  
Woodridge, IL



Melissa Klemencic, Patient  
Pingree Grove, IL



Monica Duquin, Patient  
Buffalo, NY



Nadia Sindi, Patient  
Eugene, OR



Sharon Wickham, Patient  
Lake Worth, FL



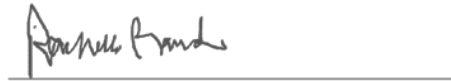
Stephen McGovern, Patient  
Palacios, TX



Therese Humphrey, Patient  
Derby, KS



Rachelle Rand, Patient  
Olathe, KS



Regan Reynolds, Patient  
Raleigh, NC



Sandra Boman, Patient  
Tulsa, OK



Sarah Aonan, Caregiver  
La Canada Flintridge, CA



Stacy Hayden-Viernes, Patient  
Eagle, ID



Susan Nash, Patient  
Midlothian, VA

