

# Support Robust Funding for the National Institutes of Health and the Food and Drug Administration

## Congressional Ask

We respectfully request at least a **\$2 billion** increase in funding for the National Institutes of Health, **\$2.8 billion** in funding for the Food and Drug Administration, and ensure that 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures implementation is fully funded in a Fiscal Year 2018 omnibus appropriations bill.

## Rationale

It is estimated that 1 in 10 individuals has a rare disease. There may be as many as 7,000 rare diseases, but unfortunately, the vast majority (95%) do not yet have a treatment approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) supports research projects that strengthen the biomedical infrastructure across America while driving forward science that can lead to new therapies and cures. NIH is the world's leading funder of basic biomedical research supporting breakthroughs in how we understand and treat deadly and debilitating diseases.

The FDA plays a critical role by providing a thorough review of innovative medicines and devices that may benefit rare disease patients.

## Building on the momentum of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures

The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act supports innovation in achieving medical progress, to speed discovery, development and delivery of new treatments and cures to patients, incorporating the patient voice in the process. The bill created an NIH Innovation Fund and an FDA Innovation Fund to carry out the priorities enacted in legislation. We urge Congress to support the funding request enacted in the legislation for Fiscal Year 2018.

- NIH Innovation Fund: \$496,000,000
- FDA Innovation Fund: \$60,000,000

## Fiscal Year 2018 and Fiscal Year 2019

In order to move forward with the priorities of NIH and FDA in Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, we urge Congress to pass an omnibus appropriations bill for FY 2018.