

August 22, 2022

The Honorable Nanette Diaz Barragán
United States House of Representatives
2246 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Barragán,

The [Alliance for Aging Research](http://www.agingresearch.org) (Alliance) applauds your exceptional leadership in the United States House of Representatives that has brought forth sound policies to improve the health and well-being of older Americans. More specifically, the Alliance commends:

- Your leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives urging the Department of Health and Human Services and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to revise CMS' National Coverage Determination for monoclonal antibodies for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease;
- Your cosponsorship of H. 7213, the *Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act*, which enhances access to vaccination services in long-term care settings;
- Your introduction of H.R. 379, the *Improving Social Determinants of Health Act of 2021*, to coordinate and appropriate funding for programs to address the community, societal, and environmental factors that influence health outcomes;
- Your continued advocacy for patients and family caregivers living with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia, as well as advocacy for increased research for these diseases;
- Your continued support of the Affordable Care Act and dedication to preserving and strengthening healthcare reforms and services, such as those provided by Medicare, that make quality, affordable healthcare coverage accessible to all of America's seniors; and
- Your leadership as a member of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and its Subcommittee on Health.

In recognition of your tireless work and remarkable accomplishments, the Alliance would like to present you with our **2022 Claude Pepper Award for Advancing Healthy Aging** at this year's [Annual Bipartisan Congressional Awards Celebration](#). The celebration **will take place in-person on Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at the U.S. Institute of Peace in Washington, D.C.** The Claude Pepper Award for Advancing Healthy Aging would be presented to you by Thomas J. Spulak, a partner at King & Spalding and Chairman and President of the Claude Pepper Foundation, which underwrites this distinguished award.

If you choose to accept the Claude Pepper Award for Advancing Healthy Aging, we will invite you and a guest of your choice to join us by 6:30 p.m. for our VIP reception where our photographer would take pictures, and then for our seated dinner and awards program, which starts at 7:00 p.m. The Claude Pepper Award for Advancing Healthy Aging is presented first, at approximately 7:30 p.m. This timing is ideal; however, *we can discuss schedule accommodations if your schedule only permits you to attend a portion of the event.* You would have 5 minutes to make remarks after you are presented with the award by Mr. Spulak. The evening will end by 9:00 p.m. following a dessert reception.

It is my hope that you will honor the Alliance by accepting the Claude Pepper Award for Advancing Healthy Aging and join us on September 20th. **Please let us know by COB Monday, August 29, 2022, if you are able to attend the Awards Dinner so we are able to finalize the program and schedule for the event.**

I am including more information about the Claude Pepper Award for Advancing Healthy Aging, the Annual Bipartisan Congressional Awards Celebration, and the Alliance for Aging Research below.

Thank you for your consideration of this invitation. Please have your staff contact me at (202) 688-1246 or speschin@agingresearch.org, or Sarah Delgado, Vice President of Development, at (202) 688-1243 or sdelgado@agingresearch.org, with any questions and to respond.

Warmly,



Susan Peschin, MHS
President and CEO

About the Claude Pepper Award for Advancing Health Aging

The Claude Pepper Award for Advancing Healthy Aging was established to honor a Democratic member of Congress each year who is leading the way for policies encouraging medical research, innovation, and care to benefit Americans as they grow older. Generously supported by the Claude Pepper Foundation, this award is named for the Honorable Claude Pepper, who fought tirelessly in both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives to help those in need. As Chair of the House Select Committee on Aging, he sought to strengthen programs for older adults and disabled Americans, including Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. Through the Claude Pepper Foundation, the Center, and its related Policy Arms, the Congressman's legacy lives on and is dedicated to research on aging, alternatives to long-term care, and other issues.

We invite you to join us at a 6:30 p.m. reception and then share your thoughts during the 7:00 p.m. dinner award presentation. Our event is expertly run and ends by 9:00 p.m. at the latest.

About the Annual Bipartisan Congressional Awards Celebration

The 29th Annual Bipartisan Congressional Awards Celebration will take place in-person on Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at the United States Institute of Peace in Washington, DC. This year's theme is *Heroes in Health: An Evening to Celebrate Generativity, Joy, and Healthy Aging*, and the celebration will honor individuals for their contributions to advance the science of human aging and recognize those whose outstanding efforts have helped older Americans, one of the most vulnerable populations, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each year the Alliance sponsors this event to recognize a Democratic and a Republican whose leadership is helping to achieve healthier aging for all Americans. We honor a "Silver Innovator" who anticipates and embraces the evolution of high-quality research aligned with the needs of older patients. With the Daniel Perry Founder's Award and Perennial Hero Award, we honor individuals who are helping to change the paradigm of how we view aging and well-being.

Past recipients of the Alliance for Aging Research Congressional Awards constitute a bipartisan honor roll of current and former Congressional champions of aging research and care: Charles "Chuck" Grassley, James Clyburn, Roy Blunt, Steny Hoyer, Ed Markey, Shelley Moore Capito, Tom Carper, Diana DeGette, Bill Cassidy, Maxine Waters, Richard Burr, Susan Collins, Fred Upton, Bill Nelson, Tom Harkin, and John Glenn. Some of our additional past awardees

include NIAID's Dr. Anthony Fauci, NPR's Scott Simon; Martha Stewart (for her work at Mt. Sinai Center for Healthy Aging); National Institute on Aging Director, Dr. Richard Hodes; and former member of Congress and author of the Americans with Disabilities Act, The Honorable Tony Coelho.

In previous years, our Annual Bipartisan Congressional Awards Celebration has included approximately 250 attendees from Capitol Hill and Federal health agencies; medical researchers and older adult patient advocates; executives from leading healthcare companies; and national leaders of research, patient, and provider advocacy organizations. Our goal is to uplift and motivate attendees to support aging issues, and our regular patrons have told us many times that our event is their favorite charity event of the year.

About the Alliance for Aging Research

The Alliance for Aging Research is the leading nonprofit organization dedicated to accelerating the pace of scientific discoveries and their application to vastly improve the universal human experience of aging and health. The Alliance believes advances in research help people live longer, happier, more productive lives and reduce healthcare costs over the long term. For more than 30 years, the Alliance has guided efforts to substantially increase funding and focus for aging at the National Institutes of Health and Food and Drug Administration; built influential coalitions to guide groundbreaking regulatory improvements for age-related diseases; and created award-winning, high-impact educational materials to improve the health and well-being of older adults and their family caregivers. For more information, visit www.agingresearch.org.