

**Statement from Research!America President and CEO Mary Woolley on  
President Obama's FY14 Budget Proposal**

**April 10, 2013**

The president's FY14 budget proposal offers a lifeline for medical research to replace sequestration's damaging footprints. The budget includes \$31.3 billion for the National Institutes of Health, as well as increases for the Food and Drug Administration and National Science Foundation. These increases would take our nation in the right direction, but we're concerned that budget proposals from Congress — one from each of the House and Senate — unlike the president, fail to reverse sequestration. Sequestration, 10 years of across-the-board spending cuts, will drag our nation down from its leadership position in research and development as other countries aggressively ramp up investments, attracting American businesses and young scientists concerned that federal funding is on the decline, that the U.S. no longer prioritizes research. Our nation has the most sophisticated medical research ecosystem in the world; yet our elected officials have ignored the short- and long-term consequences of dismantling it via sequestration — more deaths from preventable diseases, increased joblessness and soaring health care costs as more Baby boomers become afflicted with Alzheimer's, cancer, heart disease and other life-threatening, costly illnesses. Policy makers must start acting in the best interests of this nation and tackle tax and entitlement reform to end sequestration. Without bold action by Congress and the administration, our nation's research enterprise will sputter as other countries fuel their competitive edge.

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