

**CHARLENE MIERS FOUNDATION FOR CANCER RESEARCH**

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August 29, 2012

Harold Varmus, M.D.  
Director  
National Cancer Institute  
31 Center Drive, Suite 11A48  
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

Re: FY 2013 and FY 2014 NCI Bypass Budget to  
President

Dear Dr. Varmus:

Our organization is a private foundation organized in Oklahoma which advocates increase of cancer research and greater appropriations to the National Cancer Institute (“NCI”). We are a member of One Voice Against Cancer (“OVAC”) a national coalition of more than thirty organizations advocating increased federal funding of cancer research.

**We urge the NCI to submit the NCI “Bypass Budget” directly to the President for FY 2013 and FY 2014 in the fall 2012, at the same time other Federal departments and Executive branch agencies make their FY 2014 budget submissions to the Office of Management in Budget (OMB).**

**We believe great uncertainty about the Federal budget gives added importance to the NCI Bypass Budget as an element of the National Cancer Program. We ask you and NCI to submit both an FY 2013 and FY 2014 NCI Bypass Budget in the fall of 2012 to make the NCI’s scientifically based determination of essential funding of the National Cancer Program available to and be known by candidates and voters before the November 2012 elections.**

The National Cancer Act of 1971 (P. L. 92-218), authorizes the NCI to prepare a plan for building on research successes, supporting the cancer research workforce with the technologies and resources it needs, and ensuring that research discoveries are applied to improve human health. The plan is provided directly to the President of the United States for the purpose of formulating the President’s budget request to Congress.

In April of 2011, we wrote to you about the NCI Bypass Budget submission to the President under the National Cancer Act of 1971, and urged that it be submitted for FY 2013 in the fall of 2011, when the other Federal departments and agencies were supposed to submit their budgets to the OMB. A copy of our letter is enclosed.

We suggested that the NCI Bypass Budget request authorized under the National Cancer Act of 1971 was envisioned and provided for by Congress in federal law as a special implement to accelerate and further essential scientific discovery to control and cure cancer under leadership of the NCI. It is our understanding that the FY 2013 NCI Bypass Budget has not yet been submitted to the President.

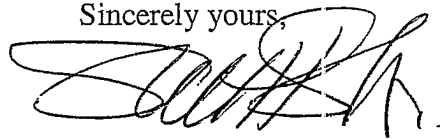
We understand there is great uncertainty at this time about the federal budget and appropriations for FY 2013 and subsequent fiscal years. Much appears to hinge upon the outcome of the 2012 elections for the office of the President and for seats in Congress, and Congressional action this year. Our organization nevertheless continues urging present members of the House of Representatives and Senate to support and vote for increased appropriations to the NCI if and when appropriations are voted upon in order to carry out NCI's programs and make urgently needed discoveries to end cancer.

The great uncertainty about the federal discretionary budget makes us believe submission of the NCI Bypass Budget to the President at this time, in the way authorized by the National Cancer Act of 1971, *for both FY 2013 and FY 2014*, is an important opportunity for and responsibility of NCI.

NCI Bypass Budgets for *FY 2013 and FY 2014 being submitted to the President and made available to the public at this time* would make expert explanation of cancer research funding needs known in specific terms to both candidates for President, candidates for the House of Representatives and the Senate, voters, and present office holders. It would be the best estimate available of what should be committed to funding of science and the NCI to achieve objectives of the National Cancer Program, and be available to be considered in election year dialogue about our country's future.

Thank you for considering this request and for all that you and the NCI do for the National Cancer Program.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sheppard F. Miers, Jr.', written in a cursive style.

Sheppard F. Miers, Jr.  
President/Director

Enclosure