October 16, 2023

CANCER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL
EXPRESSES STRONG SUPPORT FOR NIH DIRECTOR NOMINEE
MONICA BERTAGNOLLI

The undersigned cancer patient, medical professional, research, and caregiver organizations write to express our enthusiastic support for Dr. Monica Bertagnolli for the position of Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). We know Dr. Bertagnolli as a talented physician researcher, cancer center leader, professional peer and leader, and cancer survivor. We believe she has the expertise, experience, and temperament to be a stellar NIH leader.

Many of us have known Dr. Bertagnolli for many years, working with her to advance cancer research and care and improve the quality of care and life for cancer survivors. Others have become acquainted with Dr. Bertagnolli during her tenure as National Cancer Institute (NCI) Director. In her time at NCI, she has sought out every group of cancer stakeholders but has been especially mindful of seeking the input of and becoming acquainted with cancer patients and patient advocates she did not already know. Her own diagnosis with cancer has made an already empathetic and sensitive physician researcher even more attuned to the life-changing challenges that come with a cancer diagnosis. We wish she had never heard the words, “you have cancer,” but we are gratified that she remains in the fight to ensure that fewer Americans hear those words and that a cancer diagnosis is steadily less frightening because of treatment advances.

We are all fortunate that Dr. Bertagnolli will bring to NIH the qualities that have made her an outstanding NCI Director.
We look forward to Dr. Bertagnolli’s confirmation hearing, followed by speedy Senate action to confirm her and provide NIH the strong leader we all deserve.

**Cancer Leadership Council**

- Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators
- American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
- American Society for Radiation Oncology
- Association for Clinical Oncology
- Association of Oncology Social Work
- CancerCare
- Cancer Support Community
- Children’s Cancer Cause
- Fight Colorectal Cancer
- Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association
- International Myeloma Foundation
- LUNGevity Foundation
- Lymphoma Research Foundation
- National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship
- Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance
- Prevent Cancer Foundation
- Susan G. Komen