

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20515

**Celebrate Brain Awareness Week and Join the Congressional  
Neuroscience Caucus**

March 12, 2014

Dear Colleague,

We urge you to join us in commemorating Brain Awareness Week, which presents an important opportunity to educate students and the broader public about brain science, its impacts, how millions stand to benefit, and the many events taking place across the country in the coming days.

This year, Brain Awareness Week is March 10-16. Neuroscientists around the world will participate in educational activities to strengthen public understanding of brain function. This is critical when you consider that brain disorders and diseases affect the lives of the nearly 100 million Americans. At a time when someone in America is turning 60 every eight seconds, the rate of Alzheimer's is skyrocketing, and the cost of mental illness is at \$300 billion a year, and rising, these conversations could not happen at a more critical time.

We also invite you to join the bipartisan **Congressional Neuroscience Caucus**, whose mission is to build awareness of the intrinsic role brain research plays in understanding ourselves and our society. As Co-Chairs, we are committed to working on these important issues together and hope you will join our efforts as Members of the Congressional Neuroscience Caucus.

For further information, please contact Kristen Donheffner with Congressman Blumenauer at 5-4811 or Melanie Steele 5-2006 with Congresswoman McMorris Rodgers.

Sincerely,



Earl Blumenauer

Member of Congress

Co-Chair



Cathy McMorris Rodgers

Member of Congress

Co-Chair