



## **Executive Summary**

! Founded in 1989, Research!America is a 501(c)(3), membership-supported, public education and advocacy alliance dedicated to making research to improve health a much higher national priority. **Our 500 member institutions, organizations and businesses together represent 125 million Americans.** All are leaders in the scientific and health communities and include universities, health professions schools, business and industry, research institutes, voluntary health/patient advocacy organizations, professional societies and foundations.

! **Our members are positioned prominently in the ranks of national leaders in the research advocacy community** and receive our health research-related polling data, publications and other messaging. **Our events** such as our annual National Forum and Advocacy Awards Gala **feature ideal settings for cross-sector interactions with influential government, industry, academic and patient advocacy leaders.**

! Through our **Your Candidates—Your Health 2008** voter education initiative, we have invited all presidential, U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives candidates who will be on the ballot in November to share their views on health and health research issues. We are promoting this in part through national advertising and editorial campaigns in national and regional media including on PARADE.com and in *The Hill* newspaper that was disseminated at the Democratic and Republican National Conventions and to its subscribers. **Responses to date—including those of presidential candidates Senator McCain and Senator Obama—are at [www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org](http://www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org).** Much of the content is also available in Spanish.

! Research!America's award-winning **Your Congress—Your Health** constituent education initiative was featured in March and June issues of *PARADE* magazine. All members of Congress were invited to complete a questionnaire about where they stand on a range of research and other health issues. Results to date are posted in English and Spanish at [www.yourcongressyourhealth.org](http://www.yourcongressyourhealth.org).

! Research!America's **advocacy programs, national and state public opinion polling, Web-based tools and publications help to advance key messages about research to improve health.** Examples of what we provide to our members, Congress, journalists and other influential decision makers include our annual **America Speaks poll data summary, Investment in Research Saves Lives and Money** series and **national and state data on the economic impact of research**, and our fact sheets on the power of **bridging multiple fields of science.**

! We continue to **lead the movement for strong, increased investment in our nation's federal research agencies including the National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality** and the **National Science Foundation.**

! For nearly a decade, our **U.S. Investment in Health Research reports** have tracked and analyzed the total U.S. investment in research. In 2006, we estimate that \$116 billion was spent on research to improve health.

! Research!America supports the **advancement of stem cell research** and **personalized medicine.**

! We continue to expand the information we offer online, through leading policy-focused media **The Hill** and **National Journal** to reach policy makers, journalists and other research advocates.

! Research!America believes the physical and life sciences are essential to each other and supports **an innovation agenda that sustains our global leadership.**

! Our Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research was created to increase awareness of and make the case for **greater U.S. investment in global health research.**

! **The Honorable John Edward Porter**, former U.S. Congressman, serves as board chair, and **Mary Woolley** serves as president and CEO. **The Honorable Paul G. Rogers**, former U.S. Congressman, is chair emeritus. Other board members include top officials from every research sector, as well as media experts.

! Additional Research!America member benefits include targeted **e-advocacy alerts** on key issues, our award-winning **Research Advocate** newsletter, **members-only Web access** to our poll graphics and presentations, **complimentary admission to our national and regional forums**, and **on-call communications** support.

*For more information, [visit www.researchamerica.org](http://www.researchamerica.org)  
or contact Cindy McConnell, 703-739-2577, ext. 35; [cmccconnell@researchamerica.org](mailto:cmccconnell@researchamerica.org).*