



# NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

*Together, we can...*

Office of the President

April 28, 2021

Dear Colleague:

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones well. The past year was one of the most challenging in recent memory; but with the new year came renewed hope to bring the COVID-19 pandemic to an end in our nation and around the world. Moments like these are why the National Academy of Sciences was founded and *together* we can make a difference. Our work delivers timely advice to spur progress on achieving key national priorities and to build a more robust, resilient nation and world, and your support and service are essential to the success of these efforts. Your philanthropy enables our work to continue when it is needed most. Please join me in making a gift today.

The nation is moving forward with a new administration in office that is prioritizing reliance on an informed scientific voice. Primary concerns that the new administration has identified—the COVID-19 pandemic, economic recovery, racial equity, climate change, and the nation's infrastructure—are core issues for our work. In addition to ongoing activities and initiatives, new projects that align with the administration's priorities include:

- A communications initiative to help Americans make informed decisions about vaccines, which will draw upon the institution's extensive body of work on vaccine safety;
- The inaugural project of the Response and Resilient Recovery Strategic Science Initiative, which will examine possible future cascading impacts and mitigation actions as the pandemic affects property evictions within low- and middle-income communities and disadvantaged groups; and
- A multiyear Deep Decarbonization Initiative that will draw upon expertise across the physical sciences, engineering, policy, and social and behavioral sciences to engage policymakers and the public with the challenges and opportunities associated with a low-carbon future.

Our studies and initiatives—thanks to philanthropic support from members and partners like you, volunteer expert service, and committed staff—are actively addressing multiple aspects of these priorities. From building the resilience of our infrastructure to strengthening education and workforce preparedness, your support is addressing a range of critical tasks facing our country. Read about how we are sparking progress and innovation by confronting challenging issues for the benefit of society at [nationalacademies.org/advising-the-nation](https://nationalacademies.org/advising-the-nation).

I am grateful for the time and resources that you and other NAS members and friends contributed during one of the most difficult times for our nation and world. Brighter days are on the horizon, but there is still work to be done before we get there. While science, engineering, and medicine cannot provide all the answers, they play an essential role in ensuring that advice and guidance to address these major issues are based on sound evidence. ***Together***, we can eliminate the pandemic and respond to its wide-reaching effects. ***Together***, we can build a more resilient future for the U.S. and the world. ***Together***, we can make a difference through the promotion of evidence-based advice. **Please join me today by making a gift to our Annual Fund.**

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcia McNutt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

Marcia McNutt  
President