

May 14, 2008

Phoenix Business Journal
Attn: Health Care Heroes Program
101 North First Avenue, Suite #2300
Phoenix, AZ 85003

RE: Barbara B. Kavanagh, M.S.W.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a Letter of Recommendation and Support for Mrs. Barbara Kavanagh who has been nominated for recognition in the Phoenix Business Journal's "Health Care Heroes" award program. Mrs. Kavanagh is Founder and President of the Arizona Myeloma Network (AzMN) and the Tissue Donor Awareness Project (TDAP).

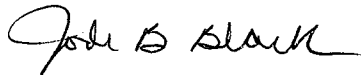
The AzMN, a non-profit organization, was founded in June 2004 to promote education, awareness and advocacy for the improved treatment and quality of life for multiple myeloma patients and their families and caregivers. The emphasis of the Network is on collaboration, sharing, cooperation, developing partnerships and support for all interested individuals, organizations, agencies, healthcare providers and research investigators in behalf of those with multiple myeloma. The TDAP, begun in March 2007 as an education and awareness project, was also founded by Mrs. Kavanagh to promote the understanding of the critical importance of donating tissue for cancer research and clinical studies. The project helps build a bridge of knowledge and communication between cancer researchers, clinical providers and patients in order to further cancer research for more effective treatment.

Mrs. Kavanagh has worked tirelessly in her efforts to reach out to the public, patients and those in health care and cancer research. She has been able to obtain resources to enable both the AzMN and the TDAP to be at the forefront of patient advocacy and research. In 2007, Mrs. Kavanagh organized, implemented and conducted workshops and forums in Scottsdale, Prescott and Tucson on "Tissue Donor Awareness" and "Multiple Myeloma". These were highly successful day-long events of presentations by healthcare providers and researchers, and by patients, their families and community leaders. She has worked closely with state and local agencies and cancer advocacy organizations to collaborate and build essential partnerships for better patient care and to further research efforts. She is well-respected for her knowledge, her communication skills, her understanding of the various issues, her determination and her deep commitment and devotion to better patient access, treatment and support. She is at the forefront in advocating for breakthroughs in cancer diagnosis and application of research to treatment. Through Mrs. Kavanagh's personal efforts and through the organizations she has founded, she has educated others regarding the importance and relevance of participating in cancer clinical trials. She has passionately dedicated herself to all these efforts and has made a difference in other's lives.

We strongly recommend that Mrs. Kavanagh be recognized as an outstanding "Health Care Hero" in the Community Outreach category of your program. We have worked closely with Mrs. Kavanagh and have participated in all the workshops and forums of the AzMN and TDAP. In addition, she has assisted our research institute in creating awareness and understanding of the need to enhance and support cancer research, clinical trials and tissue sample donation, especially in underserved communities and the minority populations within the state of Arizona and the Phoenix Valley. It has been a great pleasure, personally and professionally, to work with Mrs. Kavanagh.

Please contact us at 602-343-8400 if you need any additional information.

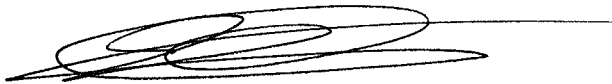
Sincerely,



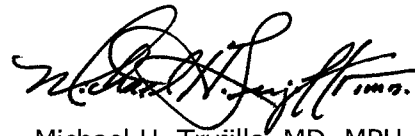
Jodi B. Black, PhD, MMSc
Vice President, Research Administration



Michael Berens, PhD
Director, Cancer & Cell Biology Division



John D. Carpten, PhD
Director, Integrated Cancer Genomics
Division



Michael H. Trujillo, MD, MPH
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