

# NPAF National Patient Advocate Foundation

The Patient's Voice | since 1996

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May 14, 2009

The Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Wasserman Schultz:

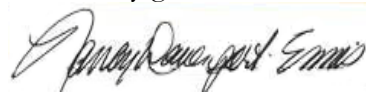
On behalf of the National Patient Advocate Foundation (NPAF), I want to commend you for introducing H.R. 1740, the Breast Cancer Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act (EARLY). This critically important legislation will serve to increase awareness in young women about breast cancer and will provide needed support to those young women who are diagnosed with breast cancer.

Our companion organization, Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF), is a direct services organization providing case management services free of charge to individuals faced with a chronic, life-threatening or debilitating disease diagnosis. Last year 9.5 million individuals contacted PAF by phone or on the Internet. Of those, 48,369 became full blown cases requiring direct mediation or counseling to achieve resolution. NPAF is a policy organization headquartered in Washington, DC, which translates the experiences of the patients served by PAF into recommendations for healthcare reform. NPAF strives to be the patient voice on issues surrounding access to, and reimbursement for, high quality, affordable health care.

Both the national education campaign and the assistance to organizations to support young women diagnosed with breast cancer will be of enormous benefit to young women diagnosed with breast cancer. These young women often need social and psychological support and counseling in facing the enormous burdens of their disease.

As a two-time survivor of breast cancer for more than 20 years, I was transported back to my own diagnosis while listening to your ABC interview. I so admire your strength in taking your message to the public so that others may be aware. It is both a professional honor and a personal privilege to support your noble work.

With every good wish,



Nancy Davenport-Ennis  
CEO and President