Meeting with your elected officials in your state/local district is atoghealtdwarping relationships with your elected officials, communicate your experiences and the communicate the importance of science funding.

Below are some talking points to help you have a successful meeting.

General talking points

- 1. Round of introductions
 - a. Introduce yourselfwho you are, what scientific work you do, etc.

b. Then explain why you're here today to meet with them

- i. Example: "I'm here today to talk to you about the importance of science fundingnd how the recent changes at the NIH have impacted me and my community."
- c. Explain howrecent actions by federal agencies have impacted your lab and howitaffects your state and/or the country as a whole.

i. Example:

- 1. By this time \$\percent{gear}_i\$ typically would receive scores for my grant applications. However, with the policy changes at key science agencies, I have not received my \$\text{geotre}_i\$ this uncertainty harms my lab because it downwarf me to prepare my research accordingly.
- 2. I run a training program that supports a numbted ents that was cut. Training programs such as mine attract talented young scientists from across the country and this funding supports parts of their tuition, research and cost of living adding to the local/state economy.
- 2. Key federal science agencies are not spending funds apprdpyiated restrictions for FY 25, training programs are being cut, and research grants are being terminated arbitrarily. These collective actions damaging our research enterprise and are signaling the wrong message to Amesician tists and to our research competitors abroad.

3.

scientific powerhouse that we need to drive U.S. competitiveness and innovation.

Q&A for Potential Questions

Facilities and Administrative Costs

Q: What is your take famcilities and administrationsts? I heard it takes away from funding that supports research.

A: F&Acosts do not take away from funding research, in fact it ensures that research is able to function most effectively. Indirect convents dvanced research lab equipment, secure data storage, radiation and chemical safety and other laboratory maintenance costs. These are real costs, and research cannot be conducted without them.

NIH Restructuring

Q: NIH is planning to restructure its institutes into fixee fact with hat should we know about how this reorganization will impact science?

A: Any significant reorganization of NIH must include basic science research and training for the next generation of scientists. Our members across the biochemistry and molecular biology community are funded across NIH institutes and across key sciencæagencies urge political leadership to ensure basic science research is prioritized.

In addition, we believe that any NIH reorganization and optimization should be made on the foundation of a thorough, consultative process that incorporates congressional hearings, bipartisanship and substantial stakeholder input.

Gain-of-Function Research

Q: The president recently released an Executive Order onf Gain Research. What are your thoughts on how this will keep Americans.

A: I cannot directly speak on the Executive Order Directly. I will refer you to our public affairs team to answer this question.