Congressional Neuroscience Caucus Co-Chairs Earl Blumenauer and Cathy McMorris Rodgers receive the ACNP Public Service Award

The American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ACNP) has named Congressional Neuroscience Caucus Co-Chairs Earl Blumenauer and Cathy McMorris Rodgers as the 2022 Public Service Award recipients.

Representatives Blumenauer and McMorris Rodgers are recognized for establishing the Congressional Neuroscience Caucus (CNC), which for the last decade has worked to build awareness of the intrinsic role brain research plays in understanding ourselves and our society, to help communicate the progress and the benefits of this research and promote changes in federal policies to support neuroscience research. Their activities have included hosting dozens of briefings and information sessions to advocate for neuroscience research and mental health awareness. Recently, they held a webinar focused on understanding the neurological effects of Long COVID, featuring both personal accounts of Long COVID patients, as well as physician-led discussions of the psychological impact of the pandemic on society as a whole.

Representatives Blumenauer and McMorris Rodgers have also been vocal advocates for funding for neuroscience research, by educating their colleagues on the purpose and importance of specialized funding mechanisms like the BRAIN initiative. The impact of this work can be seen in the continued growth of CNC membership, which now stands at 35 Representatives. Through their leadership and sustained efforts, Reps. Blumenauer and McMorris Rodgers have promoted not just awareness of neuroscience, but also the prioritization of research into brain health and disease in Congressional spending.

The Public Service Award, presented at the 61st Annual Meeting of the ACNP is presented in recognition of substantial contributions to affect public policies or other activities related to improving the health of the public with an emphasis on patients with brain diseases.

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related to these disorders and their treatment; and ensuring the dissemination of relevant scientific advances.