



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

BARBARA CUBIN

WYOMING—AT LARGE

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Brent Sherard, M.D., Director
Wyoming Department of Health
401 Hathaway Building
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Dear Dr. Sherard and Guests:

Let me begin by thanking you for the gracious invitation to join you for the “Frostbite Frolic Walk” and the unveiling of the “Wyoming State Plan addressing cardiovascular disease.” Although my duties in Washington prevent me from attending, I appreciate the privilege of joining you in the fight against cardiovascular disease.

I would like to recognize the hard work and dedication of the Wyoming Cardiovascular Disease Coalition in making Wyoming’s cardiovascular disease plan a reality. The Coalition represents a community-based, statewide commitment to reducing the burden of the disease on Wyoming’s citizens. Prevention and control efforts in Wyoming will be well-served to have a working plan focused on the specific needs of our state.

As a heart attack survivor myself, I personally experienced that cardiovascular disease can happen to literally anyone, and without warning. With increased awareness and better prevention, however, America’s future generations will be able to replace the fear of cardiovascular disease with the knowledge that it can be beaten.

On the federal level, I am proud to be a member of the Congressional Heart and Stroke Coalition, which raises awareness of cardiovascular disease and acts as a resource center for federal policymakers. As a coalition, we have advocated for heart disease and stroke legislation as well as increased federal funding for research, treatment and prevention.

I have also joined a bipartisan and bicameral group of women lawmakers in introducing the Heart disease Education, Research and Analysis, and Treatment (HEART) for Women Act. The HEART for Women Act takes a three-pronged approach to reducing the cardiovascular disease death rate for women: improved health education, gender specific analysis and research, and increased access to preventative screening under the WISEWOMAN program run by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The WISEWOMAN program, currently available in only 14 states, provides free cardiovascular disease screening to low-income, uninsured women. Expanding this program nationwide would help give women in Wyoming the number one tool in fighting any disease—the ability for early detection.

Again, congratulations on the unveiling of Wyoming's state cardiovascular disease plan. I look forward to continuing my work with you and invite you to contact me anytime I may be of assistance. God bless.

With warm regards,



Barbara Cubin
Member of Congress