

In 2008, NHF created a collaborative fundraising program that would help chapters raise the funds needed to support research and provide programs and direct services to people with bleeding disorders. I can't believe that we are now kicking off the ninth year of the Hemophilia Walk program. In just eight years of the program, NHF and its chapters have raised more than \$14.5 million and engaged 66,000 walkers with over 5,600 teams. These impressive numbers are certain to grow since we have increased to more than 40 locations this year. What a testament to the strength of the collaboration between NHF, our chapter network, our sponsors and partners, and our families who come to the Walks year after year.

In particular, I am pleased to recognize our National Presenting Sponsor, Baxalta, whose \$3.7+ million investment to date in the Hemophilia Walk has provided critical funds to build the foundation for the program, enabled us to provide training and technical assistance to every Walk location, and established a Road to Research Fund, which provides a unique opportunity for chapters to support research fellowships for physical therapists, social workers and nurses, who provide care for people with bleeding disorders. Baxalta's ongoing support for the Walk is a great demonstration of the company's commitment to pursuing a life without bleeds for all people with bleeding disorders.

I am eager to see what the 2016 Hemophilia Walk season will bring, and I hope you will join us at one of the 40 Walk locations this year!

Val D. Bias  
Chief Executive Officer