



Thomas R. Insel, MD
Co-Founder and Chairman, Humanest
6300 Laura Lane
Pleasanton, CA
tom@humanestcare.com

16th November, 2020

Dear Patrick,

With the new administration now in transition, I am reaching out to suggest you consider returning to public service. I've been thinking of where you could provide singular leadership at this moment of need. ONDCP would be, I think, an ideal perch for you. I know some of the previous ONDCP Directors have had a military or criminal justice background. Given this moment in time as we shift from punishment towards treatment, the Director of ONDCP should be, I believe, a person with lived experience who understands recovery. The Director needs to appreciate both the science and the policy issues about addiction. You not only have lived experience but a deep understanding of both the state and federal legislative process. I know from our work together when you were in Congress and I was NIMH Director that you really "get" the science and you know how to focus on public health outcomes. I can't imagine a better person at this moment to lead ONDCP. I hope you will consider this, although I know you have a lot of other initiatives on your plate right now. Let me know if there is anything I can do to support you for this opportunity.

My best,
Tom

Thomas R. Insel, MD
Former NIMH Director (2002 – 2015)