

Gratitude for Breakthroughs

I echo the voice of every Patient
In all tongues
From every nation, in all hues
I echo every body part reaching to you
From blood to bone marrow
Patchworked scalp to trembling feet
From the epidermis to the molecule
Resounding gratitude
For you...
You are our medicine
The path to our transformation
The heart when ours slowed
Your heart which grew in capacity
To challenge yourself
To love people you will never meet
To change our life trajectories
To the scholars and teachers
Institutional academies tracing history
Reimagining now and forever
The researchers' fingers tinkering
Continued dreaming
Manifesting magic through science
Turning what might
Into what will be
To the public servants paving pathways
Giving access
Holding us all accountable
As well as themselves
To the biopharmaceutical companies
Both the large and the small
Charged with charting the course
From the accountant
To the consultants
The analysts decoding data

And the Patient advocates who
Make space amidst their own battles
Wielding voices as swords
Moving us towards the healing
That we claim as ours
Never forget...
You have liberated so many bodies
From the oppression of diagnosis
Returned breath to us
Through the sweat of your brow
Our healing is a side effect of your diligence
New Jersey
You are taking a stand and leaving footprints
Creating a path
For the world to follow
An ecosystem of innovation
Distinction in Patient support
Novel treatments allowing reclamation
Of lost mobility
Approved therapies
Improving outcomes
Reminding us of long forgotten joy
We the Patients
The families and friends
Continue to count on you
Continue to celebrate you
New Jersey Biopharma
We thank you for prioritizing us
For loving all of humanity
With every task and breakthrough



Shanelle Gabriel

A stylized, cursive signature of Shanelle Gabriel in black ink.