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### Words to live by...

*I value honesty and open communication in the practice of science and in life. I strive to be kind, empathetic, and authentic. As a scientist and a mom, I have learned that minimizing external voices – assumed expectations and presumed limitations – is key to my happiness and continued growth. In my new role as a PI and mentor, I find that facilitating the advancement and empowerment of my trainees to be as motivating and gratifying as making new scientific discoveries.*

### What is your favorite thing about working at NCI?

The intellectual freedom and resources to pursue long-term, high-impact research objectives. Space to engage deeply and critically with my team's research and that of our colleagues and collaborators. Protected time for attentive and holistic mentorship of my trainees.

### In my spare time, I enjoy...

I enjoy reading, playing board games, and spending time outside with my two children, running, and birdwatching.

### My favorite traditions/holidays...

I started a tradition for my children, the "Twelve books of Christmas": each gets a new book every other day between December 1-24. I also enjoy contributing to holiday toy drives benefitting children in need, like the program run through The Children's Inn at NIH each December.

