

# CANCER RESEARCH FUNDING CRISIS



## WE ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING A GENERATION OF PROGRESS in research and treatments if we don't act.

### THE CURRENT CHALLENGE

The COVID-19 pandemic has upended lives and plans. Jobs have been lost and families are struggling. Retirement savings have diminished. Businesses are closing.

The American Cancer Society is no exception. Projected revenue for the year has declined by one third.

Despite deep and painful cuts we have made, American Cancer Society programs, including our hallmark research program, are in jeopardy.

An important part of our efforts has long been to better understand health disparities. This year, we were slated to fund 59 health equity research grants. These inquiries must continue now more than ever.

Each year, we invest \$100 million in new research. Because of the budget shortfall, we are at risk of cutting cancer research funding by 50 percent this year -- this would represent our lowest investment in this century.

**Failing to invest in research now means that we will have fewer preventative tools, fewer treatment options, lost progress towards a cure, and ultimately, more deaths from cancer in the future.**

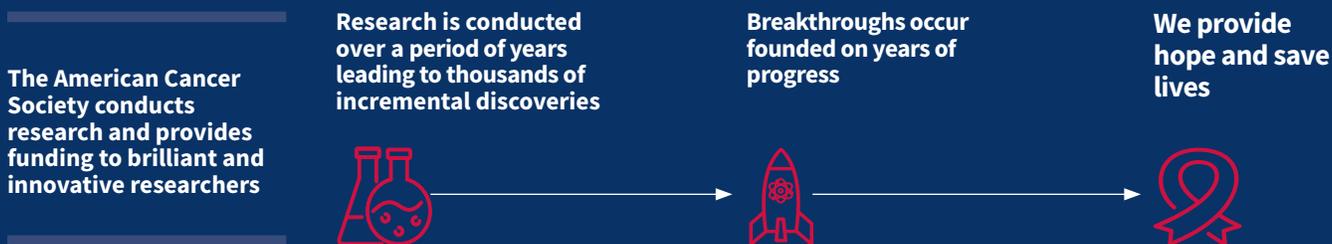
### The American Cancer Society has been in this fight for more than 100 years.

We've played a role in almost every major cancer research breakthrough in the last century and have funded the research of 49 investigators who went on to win the Nobel Prize. Our rigorous peer-review process is top notch, and we have reach into over 200 institutions nationwide - which allows us to invest in the very best research projects. We know what to do when it comes to cancer research. But we need your help at this critical moment. **Will you join us in our ambitious effort to raise \$100 million towards cancer research?**



## THE LIFECYCLE OF RESEARCH

The end of cancer begins with research, which is why it has always been core to achieving our mission. Research takes years to come to fruition. A cancer breakthrough begins perhaps 10-20 years earlier. If research is disrupted today, it means lives lost tomorrow.



## WE ARE FIGHTING FOR A FUTURE WHERE...

there is **no such thing** as terminal cancer

cancer diagnoses decrease and **life expectancies increase**

affordable, high-quality **treatments move from lab to bedside quickly**

everyone has a fair and just **opportunity to survive cancer**

## ACCELERATING RESEARCH TO FUEL THE MOST INNOVATIVE IDEAS

Launching the careers of talented, young cancer researchers at the beginning of their profession remains a priority because a robust community of cancer scientists is critical to continued progress in the fight against cancer. Right now, a lack of available funding for cancer research could divert early-stage investigators from the field.

### Research is the cornerstone of our work in the fight against cancer.

It helps drive new treatments. It tells us who is at risk and why. It informs prevention, patient support, and advocacy efforts.

### One thing sets the American Cancer Society apart: our connection to all cancers.

This breadth gives us the unique ability to identify the best in research or care, and to eliminate redundancies. That translates into rapid and efficient action.

We are uniquely equipped to use our research as part of an integrated approach to fighting cancer – by sharing information directly with the public, affecting public policy, and driving strategy around screening and other preventative activities.

Right now, research studies on the verge of breakthroughs have stopped.

**As our country begins to reopen again, we must be poised to fulfill and renew research funding or these advances will be lost.**

The Diversity Research Internship program ensures college students of diverse backgrounds who are underrepresented in the cancer research field see medical research as a potential career opportunity. With fewer research programs funded, students will have fewer opportunities to develop as scientists and find solutions.

We can save and improve more lives but only if we keep pushing forward, embracing and pursuing new treatments and scientific frontiers. **Without funding, there is no hope.**

## TIME AND TALENT MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE

### THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY WAS THERE TO

Fund the first successful chemotherapy treatment

Confirm the link between smoking and lung cancer

Battle tobacco companies and win by increasing  
cigarette taxes and requiring warning labels

Demonstrate the efficacy of mammograms for  
early detection

Expedite the wide adoption of the Pap test for uterine  
and cervical cancer

Establish the link between obesity and death from  
certain types of cancer

Make possible the first targeted cancer therapy to  
receive FDA approval

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I was diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer in 2015 at 38, with two little kids. I was beyond terrified. In our first meeting, my oncologist wrote down the handful of drugs that we would string together to get me as many years as possible. She explained that I would be on one drug until the cancer outsmarted it, then move to the next drug. It was a finite list. The research pipeline—continuing to add to that list—is my only hope for a future. And that’s true for so many cancer patients.

The drugs I am on now are based in research that started in 1985. I was 9. Today’s research investments are tomorrow’s cancer treatments. Everything we are doing right now is helping guarantee someone’s future.”

— RACHEL



## CANCER CAN'T WAIT

Help us to raise \$100M to save our cancer research.

### JOIN US IN THIS CRITICAL MOMENT

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused so much loss. Our lives have been forever altered. If we don't act now, those losses will be compounded.

A generation of research depends on what we do right now.

With your help, vital research won't stop. Together, we can save millions of lives and lead the fight for a world without cancer. **Join us now and help us stop cancer.**

To learn more, please contact:

