Early Detection = Better Outcomes

Check your health.
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At the Prevent Cancer Foundation, we are dedicated to making sure people know the routine cancer screenings they need and why early detection is so important. That’s why at the beginning of this year, we set out on a mission to spread this message far and wide through our new signature campaign, Early Detection = Better Outcomes.

But what do we mean by Better Outcomes?

We mean the opportunity to live a long and healthy life beyond a cancer diagnosis. Early detection allows for the potential to have less extensive treatment, more treatment options and better chances of survival. Every person deserves this chance. By increasing access to cancer education and screenings—for people in all communities—we can improve cancer-related outcomes. Together, we can create a world where cancer is preventable, detectable and beatable for all.

Your support allows us to spread this message, fund research and innovations in early detection, and empower people to stay ahead of cancer through prevention and early detection. Thank you for helping us give people new hope—and Better Outcomes—when it comes to cancer.

Sincerely,

Jody Hoyos
Chief Executive Officer

William “Bill” Magner
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Most people don’t experience signs or symptoms of cancer until it’s in advanced stages. But you don’t need to wait for symptoms to get a potentially lifesaving health check-up or cancer screening. Early detection of cancer can mean less extensive treatment, more treatment options and better chances of survival.

Research shows that with the knowledge we have today, up to 50% of all cancer cases and deaths are preventable. When we educate people about the routine screenings needed at every age and encourage everyone to be proactive, not reactive, about checking their health, we shift the power from cancer to the people—where it belongs.
My dad is a retired cardiologist, so I always took for granted that if something were seriously wrong with my health, I would know better than to let it linger.

Yet it never occurred to me that the sharp pain I suddenly felt in my testicle was a crisis that needed serious medical attention. I was only 28—too young for testicular cancer, I thought.

But the pain kept getting worse. I finally mentioned it to my friend Morgan, a Hodgkin’s lymphoma survivor.

“Man, do me a favor and just see your doctor. Do it for me,” he said.

Currently, there is no recommended routine screening for testicular cancer.* Had I not listened to my friend, I might not have survived.

I got an appointment with my primary care physician, who was slightly alarmed. He sent me for an ultrasound the next morning. It turned out I had cancer and had to quickly undergo surgery to remove the tumor, which was found to be non-seminoma testicular cancer. I also learned that, while rare, testicular cancer is one of the more common types of cancer in young men, with the incidence highest among those ages 20–39.

After a procedure to see if the cancer had spread to nearby lymph nodes and chemotherapy as a result, I have lived cancer-free since 2006. Even though it’s been nearly 20 years since my “all clear” from cancer, there has been relatively little advancement in detecting and treating testicular cancer. It’s time we made a change! I am especially passionate about prevention and survivorship and working on starting my own nonprofit to ease the fear and pain for others going through similar situations to what I experienced.

I know that nothing in life is guaranteed. I also know now that it’s better to use our time on earth to help others—and that when your best buddy tells you to get that pain checked out, do it right away!

*While the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force does not include screening for testicular cancer in its recommendations, the Prevent Cancer Foundation encourages individuals with testicles to ask their health care provider to examine their testicles as part of their routine physical and to talk to them about testicular self-examination.
Too Young for This Sh*t

Colorectal cancer is on the rise in adults under 45, and Black Americans are especially at risk. Black people in the U.S. are more likely to develop colorectal cancer and more likely to die from it than other racial or ethnic groups. That’s why the Prevent Cancer Foundation has continued to invest in colorectal cancer prevention and early detection public education pieces, including our award-winning public service announcement, “Too Young for This Sh*t”. The PSA concept was developed following a series of focus groups with Black Americans that found that the original “Too Young for This Sh*t” messaging resonated with this high-risk community, but the campaign assets were not representative of them. The PSA features a diverse group of voices, including a Black male as one of the leads, to help reduce the taboo associated with the disease.

To date, this PSA has earned 124 million impressions, and has run on television stations in nearly 650 major markets, accruing more than $8 million in donated airtime. Donated airtime is decided by major network producers based on the quality of the service announcement and importance of the message.

It’s important for all adults to learn about colorectal cancer prevention, early detection and the signs and symptoms of the disease—even if you think you’re too young for this sh*t. Visit tooyoungforthis.org to learn more.

Scan to view our award-winning PSA!
Multi-Cancer Early Detection

Prevent Cancer Foundation leads 500+ organizations in support of Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act

Routine screenings can be key to finding cancer early to achieve Better Outcomes. But currently in the U.S., routine screening is available for only five types of cancer, which means even people up to date on their screenings are not being screened for most cancers.

The Prevent Cancer Foundation is pleased to support legislation currently under consideration in Congress that would ensure Medicare can make a coverage decision on multi-cancer early detection (MCED) tests to detect multiple types of cancer at once.

The Prevent Cancer Foundation opened a sign-on letter in 2021 with the goal of demonstrating broad support for the pending MCED legislation.

Since then, more than 500 organizations have joined the Foundation in endorsing the Nancy Gardner Sewell Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act (HR 2407) and the Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act (S. 2085). The Foundation is humbled by the overwhelming support that demonstrates the significant potential for impact MCED tests could have across diverse communities nationwide.

For more information on multi-cancer early detection, visit: preventcancer.org/early

Thank you for your leadership in ensuring Medicare beneficiaries have the best chance at early detection.

House bill sponsors
Rep. Jodey Arrington (R-Texas)
Rep. Terri Sewell (D-Ala.)
Rep. Richard Hudson (R-N.C.)
Rep. Raul Ruiz (D-Calif.)

Senate bill sponsors
Sen. Mike Crapo (R-Idaho)
Sen. Michael Bennet (D-Colo.)
Sen. Ben Cardin (D-Md.)
Sen. Tim Scott (D-Ala.)

Read the full letter and view the list of signers.
We know cancer prevention and early detection can lead to more effective, efficient treatment and a better quality of life for patients and their loved ones. Innovation is changing the way we think about how we detect and treat cancer and will make it easier for Americans to check their health.

With your support, the Foundation has to date invested nearly $46 million toward advances in cancer prevention research and early detection innovations, improving people’s lives in communities around the world.

With your continued support, the Foundation can deepen its commitment to prioritizing innovations that give people new hope when it comes to cancer.

In Innovation Council

In April, the Prevent Cancer Foundation invited thought leaders from industry and academia to form its first-ever Innovation Council to explore the political, societal and industry factors shaping the future of cancer prevention and early detection. By identifying the most relevant innovations now and the ones coming down the pike, the Foundation can proactively fund potential areas of groundbreaking research, advocate for policies and invest in programs to increase better outcomes.
Spotlight:
Sharon Cook

By Sharon Cook

I lost my mother, grandmother, cousin and my husband to cancer. Each loss reinforced that the ‘cure’ to cancer is prevention and early detection. Studies consistently show that the earlier cancer is detected, the greater the chance for survival. That fact is what makes the work of the Prevent Cancer Foundation essential to reducing cancer fatalities.

The toll cancer has taken on my family is great. We feel it every holiday, birthday, wedding or other special occasion. It’s what fuels my passion for supporting ways to make cancer prevention easier and more affordable for all.

In my own philanthropic journey, I have discovered that without passion for the mission, remaining dedicated to the cause is difficult. Passion is part of what keeps you committed to a goal, willing to do all you can to accomplish it. Donating to the Prevent Cancer Foundation and serving on its board of directors are in alignment with my personal mission of raising awareness that a cancer diagnosis does not have to be a death sentence.

I admire the passion and commitment of the Prevent Cancer Foundation team. They are creative, inclusive and forward-thinking. They face the financial and political challenges of their work with grace and integrity, every single day. I credit this ethic to the Foundation’s founder, Bo Aldigé, a strong, determined and knowledgeable leader whose own passion for ending cancer has personal ties similar to mine—Bo was compelled by the memory of her late father to start the Prevent Cancer Foundation nearly 40 years ago. The Foundation’s CEO, Jody Hoyos, has harnessed this passionate history and is working to usher in a new era of innovation. Her considerable experience in health care philanthropy and generational giving is a tremendous asset to making this possible.

As both a donor and board member, it’s important for me to find ways to communicate in a manner that touches both the current and future generation of donors and other supporters of the Foundation. Each group may have different priorities but are likely to be equally passionate about the mission.

As someone who knows firsthand the toll that being a caregiver for a cancer patient can take, it is meaningful to me that as a board member, I am helping spread the message of the dramatic emotional and financial savings that can be realized if we expand federal support for cancer prevention and early detection. Expanded screening leads to fewer cancers. Fewer cancers mean more resources are available to invest in innovative treatments and other ways to support care for patients and families. This is rewarding not just for me, but for everyone.
Research Grants and Fellowships

In January 2023, the Foundation awarded eight $100,000 two-year grants to projects focused on the prevention or early detection of blood, breast, colorectal, lung, prostate, and skin cancers, including one in memory of former Foundation board member, Congressman Victor “Vic” Fazio (D-Calif.), who died of melanoma in 2022.

**GRANTEE:** Francisco Cartujano, M.D.  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Advancing Lung Cancer Screening Among Latinos One Text at a Time  
**NAMED AWARD:** Richard C. Devereaux Outstanding Young Investigator Award  
**POSITION:** Assistant Professor of Research  
**INSTITUTION:** Wilmot Cancer Institute, University of Rochester Medical Center, Rochester, N.Y.

**FELLOW:** Brandon Gheller, Ph.D.  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Dietary Intervention for Clonal Hematopoiesis, Myelodysplasia and Leukemia  
**NAMED AWARD:** Awesome Games Done Quick Postdoctoral Research Fellow  
**POSITION:** Boston Children’s Hospital, Boston, Mass.

**GRANTEE:** Maayan Levy, Ph.D.  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Designing Metabolite-Based Prevention in Lynch Syndrome  
**NAMED AWARD:** Stohlman Family Grant in Memory of Richard Stohlman and Margaret Weigand  
**POSITION:** Assistant Professor of Microbiology  
**INSTITUTION:** Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

**FELLOW:** Caner Saygin, M.D.  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Dissecting the Evolution of Clonal Hematopoiesis to Prevent Acute Leukemias  
**NAMED AWARD:** Awesome Games Done Quick Assistant Professor of Medicine  
**POSITION:** University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

**GRANTEE:** Srividya Swaminathan, Ph.D.  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Targeting the Long Isoform of the Prolactin Receptor to Prevent B-Lymphomas  
**NAMED AWARD:** Congressional Families Program Tribute to The Honorable Vic Fazio  
**POSITION:** Assistant Professor, Dept. of Systems Biology  
**INSTITUTION:** Beckman Research Institute at City of Hope, Duarte, Calif.

**GRANTEE:** Veronica Rotemberg, M.D., Ph.D.  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Quantifying the Impact of Skin Tone on Diagnostic Prediction  
**NAMED AWARD:** Vic Fazio Memorial Fund  
**POSITION:** Director, the Tow Foundation Skin Cancer Informatics Program  
**INSTITUTION:** Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, N.Y.

**GRANTEE:** Ester Villalonga Olives, Ph.D., Ms.C.  
**PROJECT TITLE:** Adaptation of Project HEAL for Hispanic/Latino Immigrants  
**NAMED AWARD:** Awesome Games Done Quick  
**POSITION:** Assistant Professor, Practice, Sciences and Health Outcomes Research  
**INSTITUTION:** University of Maryland, Baltimore, Md.

**GRANTEE:** Michelle S. Williams, Ph.D., MSPH, MPH, MCHES  
**PROJECT TITLE:** A Multicomponent Lung Cancer Screening Awareness mHealth  
**NAMED AWARD:** The Shure Family Charitable Foundation  
**POSITION:** Assistant Professor, Global and Community Health  
**INSTITUTION:** George Mason University, Fairfax, Va.
Technical Fellowships

Since 2015, fellows from low- and middle-income countries have received technical training grants awarded jointly by the Prevent Cancer Foundation and the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC). Awardees study cancer prevention and early detection at top research and cancer institutes around the world, then return to their home countries to disseminate their new knowledge and train their colleagues. The UICC fellowships are generously supported by the FitzGerald Family.

FELLOW:
Bède Bigirimana  
Kamenge University Hospital Center, Burundi  
HOST INSTITUTION:  
General Hospital of Grand Yoff, Dakar, Senegal  
PROJECT TITLE:  
Building Capacity in Diagnostic Immunohistochemistry Techniques for Cervical Cancer

FELLOW:  
Ivana Blazic, M.D., Ph.D.  
Clinical Hospital Center Zemun, Serbia  
HOST INSTITUTION:  
Ramon and Cajal University Hospital, Spain  
PROJECT TITLE:  
Epidemiological and Clinical Analysis of Early Onset of Colorectal Cancer

FELLOW:  
Alice Nanelin Guingané, M.D., MPH  
Chu Bogodogo, Hepato-gastro Enterology Service, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso  
HOST INSTITUTION:  
Savory Metropolis Hospital Center, Chambery, France  
PROJECT TITLE:  
Endoscopic Screening and Early Diagnosis of Colorectal Cancer

FELLOW:  
Grâce Aurélie Majoumo Mukam  
Yaoundé Gynecology, Obstetrics and Pediatrics Hospital, Cameroon  
HOST INSTITUTION:  
Pathological Anatomy Laboratory Beauvais Hospital Center, France  
PROJECT TITLE:  
Building Capacity in Diagnostic Testing for Human Papillomavirus

Use this QR code to explore the new Research Grants and Fellowships Award Database.

“Dr. Bernard Levin has understood for many more years than most that transforming cancer from a deadly disease to one that is chronic and manageable is through prevention and early detection. Not only is he an outstanding physician scientist, he also understands the value of nurturing the next generations. I have witnessed that commitment over and over during the sessions of the Prevent Cancer Foundation’s Scientific Review Panel that he has co-chaired for two decades. Bernard’s contributions to the Foundation are lengthy and many and we will always treasure his wisdom and friendship.”

–Carolyn R. Aldigé  
Prevent Cancer Foundation Founder
Health Equity = Better Outcomes

Everyone deserves an equal opportunity to stay ahead of cancer through prevention and early detection. But access to cancer screening and prevention is not created equally, leading to health disparities and affecting access to knowledge and resources.

A world where cancer is preventable, detectable and beatable for all is achievable only if everyone has access to cancer prevention and early detection services. That’s why the Foundation supports local efforts to reach medically underserved communities, and funds innovative research that could lead to the next breakthrough in cancer prevention and early detection.

We remain relentless in our pursuit of health equity to create Better Outcomes for everyone.
Spotlight: Dr. Robert Winn

Advancing health equity at the community level

By Robert Winn, M.D.

I think one of the reasons why I’m so passionate about health equity is because I’ve been there. I’ve walked in the shoes that too many others are still walking in today. My mother was 15 years old when she had me, and I was largely raised by my grandparents in a working-class neighborhood in Buffalo, New York. While I grew up rich with support and guidance, I was a “have not” in many more ways. But why was it that way? And why is it still that way today?

Health care, including cancer treatment, is a basic human right. Everyone needs access to the means to live healthy lives. The side of the railroad tracks that you live on should not determine whether you screen for cancer early and beat it or die from an advanced stage disease because you did not have the money or the transportation to get the necessary tests.

That’s why I’ve devoted my career to advocating for community-engaged approaches to eliminating health disparities. We absolutely cannot wait for people to come to us first because they will not. It’s about being proactive, not reactive. We need to take resources to where they live, work, play and pray. Meet people where they are. This approach is different than current standards of care because it allows the people we serve to guide the conversation, to guide the research, and ultimately, to have a voice they may have never had before in health care. It infuses their ideas and their needs into everything we do.

One strategy that will help us achieve this is representation, and I am not just referring to having someone who looks like you when you are going through a cancer diagnosis and treatment (although that can also be important). We must hire from communities, for communities. We need a more diverse workforce that reflects the day-to-day experiences of the individuals we serve.

At the core of all our individual efforts is the idea that we need to build trust when engaging with traditionally underserved communities. People see through education programs that go into their neighborhoods for what amounts to only a few minutes in the grand scheme of things and expect to win everyone over with all their ‘do this’ and ‘do that’s.’ Building trust takes time, investment and many face-to-face conversations. What are we doing to make ourselves trustworthy? When we answer that question—when we let people know their communities are worthy of our time—that is how we break down barriers and start to see real change.

Watch Dr. Winn’s presentation at the 2023 Prevent Cancer Dialogue.
Prevent Cancer Dialogue

The Prevent Cancer Dialogue is an annual event that brings together a diverse group of stakeholders to discuss the latest advances in research, policy, practice and programs in cancer prevention and early detection. Participants take Dialogue learnings back to their communities and workplaces to enhance or expand their work to promote cancer prevention practices and appropriate screening.

The 2023 Prevent Cancer Dialogue was held virtually as a series of two summits (in May and June) and focused on health equity and innovation. Through presentations and break-out sessions, attendees were presented with various community-centered approaches, such as patient navigation, to overcome disparities in cancer care and screening.

Participants also learned about new colorectal cancer screening options, improvements for breast cancer screening in dense breasts and HPV self-sampling technology currently under development.

Access the 2023 Dialogue session recordings, slide presentations and resource materials.
Community Impact

Addressing health equity through local outreach

The Prevent Cancer Foundation remains steadfast in our commitment to address health equity in cancer prevention and early detection.

In 2023, the Foundation addressed barriers to cancer screenings in LGBTQ+ and Latina communities by supporting various efforts to provide patient navigation, education, and outreach programs.

Our community grantees:
- participated in over 60 community events
- distributed more than 15,000 educational materials
- trained nearly 300 health care providers to increase screening rates in the LGBTQ+ community

As a result, over 11,000 individuals were served, more than 5,000 screenings were provided and more than 4,000 individuals received patient navigation support.

There is no doubt that providing opportunities for [preventive] health care for members of the LGBTQIA+ community is lifesaving and absolutely necessary. However, providing health care that allows these community members to be their authentic selves and to experience autonomy over their health decisions is life changing. With this grant, we hope to bring these possibilities to fruition here in the Texas Panhandle."

Board member
Panhandle Breast Health
Amarillo, Texas

From January to June 2023, 144 uninsured low-income Hispanic women in McHenry County, [Illinois] received breast and cervical cancer screening services. The program has educated women by providing resources to help reduce the incidence of breast cancer in the county. All women receive culturally appropriate bilingual education, early screening and detection information along with patient navigation services. The Family Health Partnership Clinic would not have been able to provide the lifesaving services to so many women without the continued support of the Prevent Cancer Foundation."

Suzanne Hoban, MPH, Executive Director
Family Health Partnership Clinic
Crystal Lake, Illinois

Long Island Jewish Medical Center’s LGBTQ+ Cancer Prevention Coalition Program

The ¡Celebremos la Vida! (Let’s Celebrate Life!) program serves Latinas ages 40 and over. To date, this program has provided:
- more than 20,000 mammograms and diagnostic tests
- more than 13,000 cervical screenings and Pap follow-up tests
- culturally appropriate breast and cervical cancer education to 20,500 women, friends and family members
Community and Global Grants

Community grants

To advance our bold goal of a 40% reduction in cancer deaths by the year 2035, the Foundation has funded 12 former grantees (2007–2021) to complete projects utilizing best practices for increasing awareness, cancer screening and cancer risk reduction behaviors. This year’s grantees represent rural and urban communities across the U.S., from Eugene, Oregon to New York, New York.

**EQUAL HOPE/DBA METROPOLITAN CHICAGO BREAST CANCER TASK FORCE**
Chicago, Ill.
Equal Hope will address breast and cervical cancer disparities in metro-Chicago, by facilitating access to timely, high-quality screenings, diagnostics and treatment. Program initiatives include community outreach, education and client navigation aimed at addressing barriers to cancer screening. Funding for this project is provided by the Stohlman Family Grant in memory of Richard Stohlman and Margaret Weigand.

**HITTING CANCER BELOW THE BELT**
Midlothian, Va.
This project aims to eliminate major barriers to colorectal cancer screening by reducing costs of care and by providing stool-based fecal immunochemical test (FIT) screening kits, educational resources and training to low-income, uninsured individuals across Virginia.

**HIV ALLIANCE**
Eugene, Ore.
By reducing barriers to hepatitis C treatment, HIV Alliance’s case management program will support Lane County, Oregon residents who are impacted by hepatitis C and are at high risk for liver cancer.

**KOREAN COMMUNITY SERVICES OF METROPOLITAN NEW YORK, INC.**
Bayside, N.Y.
The Asian American Healthy Liver Initiative aims to conduct up to 30 free screening events to identify patients with chronic hepatitis B, expand culturally competent patient navigation services in the community and raise awareness about hepatitis B and liver cancer across the tri-state region.

**MILWAUKEE CONSORTIUM FOR HMONG HEALTH**
Milwaukee, Wis.
This project will provide culturally appropriate educational workshops in the Southeast Asian community about how diet and physical activity impact cancer risk and will encourage participants to schedule appropriate cancer screenings.

**PROJECT RENEWAL, INC.**
New York, N.Y.
The ScanVan is a mobile mammography site, part of Project Renewal’s program designed to meet the need for accessible and affordable breast health care in the New York Metropolitan Area. ScanVan will provide free mammograms, clinical breast exams and patient navigation to 800 women in low-income neighborhoods. Funding for this project is provided by the Stohlman Family Grant in memory of Richard Stohlman and Margaret Weigand.

**THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR THE SUNY OF UNIV. AT BUFFALO**
Buffalo, NY.
By linking patients to mobile mammography and primary care through patient ambassadors and education, the Patient Voices Breast Cancer Program intends to increase breast cancer screening rates and engage community members currently not actively involved in the health care system.

**UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA FOUNDATION**
Tucson, Ariz.
By training and dispatching at least 15 volunteers, the University of Arizona Foundation seeks to educate at least 3,000 Southern Arizona youths about sun safety and skin cancer prevention.

West Virginia University Cancer Institute’s Mobile Lung Cancer Screening Unit

**COMADRE A COMADRE PROGRAM, THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO, ALBUQUERQUE**
Albuquerque, NM.
This culturally and linguistically designed project will provide education, information and navigation to 300 Hispanic people from counties surrounding Albuquerque. Trained peer survivors of breast and cervical cancer and an advisory council will work together to help patients navigate screening appointments.
The Foundation has provided over $1.6 million in global grant funding, supporting cancer-related projects ranging from Mexico to Poland to Tanzania. Currently, the Foundation is supporting projects in Kenya and Haiti, where cervical cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths, to tackle disparities related to cervical and breast cancer. These two-year, $150,000 projects align with the World Health Organization’s goal of eliminating cervical cancer by 2030.

**Global grants**

**KILELE HEALTH ASSOCIATION**

Kenya

The KILELE Health Association’s project has reached over 5,000 Kenyans by engaging with communities in rural regions in Kenya. They have provided nearly 400 HPV screenings and worked with cancer survivors to raise awareness and to address fears and misconceptions around screening and vaccination. These cervical cancer initiatives are intended to be replicated in other countries with hard-to-reach regions.

**HOPE FOR HAITI**

Haiti

Since January 2023, the Foundation has supported the delivery of 6,679 free cervical and breast cancer screenings and the training of 17 nurses and 46 community health workers to reduce mortality and morbidity rates across rural regions in Southern Haiti.

**VAX 2 STOP CANCER**

Birmingham, Ala.

To increase human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccination rates by 10%, this educational project will train participating pediatric and family practice health care providers in Alabama on best practices for giving effective vaccine recommendations, counseling hesitant parents and decreasing missed opportunities to give the vaccine.

**VIRGINIA HARM REDUCTION COALITION**

Roanoke, Va.

This program will consist of activities aimed at preventing, detecting and treating cancer-causing viruses, including hepatitis B, hepatitis C and HPV, which are common among people who use drugs. They will serve an underserved population in Appalachian Southwest Virginia.

**WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY**

Morgantown, W.Va.

The West Virginia University Cancer Institute’s Mobile Lung Cancer Screening Unit will partner with two existing clinic systems to identify those at high risk for lung cancer and use an evidence-based messaging campaign and patient navigation to increase lung cancer screening in the most rural parts of southern and northern West Virginia.

Lisa McGovern (left), Executive Director of the Prevent Cancer Foundation’s Congressional Families Cancer Prevention Program® with Benda Kithaka, KILELE’s executive director.
Collaboration = Better Outcomes

Prevention hasn’t always been emphasized in the cancer conversation. But today, our global community of supporters, experts and advocates all dedicated to cancer education and early detection is a testament to the vision of our founder, Carolyn “Bo” Aldigé, who sought to make cancer prevention a cornerstone of health care when she began the Foundation in 1985.

The backgrounds and skillsets of our community are diverse. Yet we are bound by one common thread—the belief that an emphasis on prevention, not just treatment, can save lives.

The Prevent Cancer Foundation knows that it takes everyone working together to enable lifestyle changes, increase cancer screening rates and find more and better prevention and early detection methods. Thank you for participating in our collective effort to forge a path to a cancer-free future for every person, every day.
In January, hundreds of thousands of people logged on around the world to watch some of the best gamers speedrun—play as fast as possible—some of the most classic video games during the annual Awesome Games Done Quick (AGDQ). The week-long, virtual event raised $2.6 million dollars from nearly 40,000 individual donations.

These funds support both national and global grants working in the cancer prevention and early detection space. The generous donations made by AGDQ donors impact the lives of people around the world as we work toward a world where cancer is preventable, detectable and beatable for all.

“Awesome Games Done Quick

In January, hundreds of thousands of people logged on around the world to watch some of the best gamers speedrun—play as fast as possible—some of the most classic video games during the annual Awesome Games Done Quick (AGDQ). The week-long, virtual event raised $2.6 million dollars from nearly 40,000 individual donations.

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As a doctoral student studying cancer treatment resistance, this marathon directly funds the grants and make research like mine possible. The generosity of this community continues to astound me and I’m humbled to know that so many care so deeply about this important work.”

Lenny

“GDQ always makes my week. I love showcases of skill, positivity, and inclusivity, and all for a good cause. My father died from a cancer that he may have had a better chance against with early detection. Cheers to all the runners and to the community for another great event!”

Sukara
A bipartisan, bicameral audience of congressional members and spouses and other cancer champions gathered for two major Congressional Families Cancer Prevention Program® events on Capitol Hill, showcasing the educational work being done by the congressional community year-round.

As part of the Biden Administration’s Cancer Moonshot, First Lady Jill Biden joined the Program’s spring reception on April 19 to hear from a bipartisan group, including Rep. Nikema Williams (D-Ga.) and congressional spouses Charlie Capito (W.Va.), Martha McKenzie Hill (Ark.), Mary Himes (Conn.) and LeeAnn Johnson (Ohio), about their work in their home states and districts. Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.) presented the inaugural Carolyn “Bo” Aldigé Visionary Award to Rep. Doris Matsui (D-Calif.) for her leadership as a congressional spouse in 1991, when she co-created the Congressional Families Program with Prevent Cancer’s Founder, Bo Aldigé.

The Program held its 30th Annual Action for Cancer Awareness Awards luncheon on September 14, honoring those who have made significant contributions in educating the public about cancer prevention and early detection. The event honored TODAY’s Al Roker for Distinguished Service in Journalism and congressional spouses Patricia Garamendi (Calif) and Martha McKenzie Hill for Congressional Leadership. Rep. Jamie Raskin (D-Md.) was awarded a Special Recognition by former Republican Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan in a show of bipartisanship.
Quantitative Imaging Workshop XX:
Annual chest CT screening – visualizing the full impact of 20-plus years of smoking

November 2-3, 2023 | Virtual

The Quantitative Imaging Workshop (QIW) is a virtual, multi-disciplinary forum for the advancement of quantitative CT imaging biomarkers for early thoracic disease management. Attendees explore exciting new biomedical opportunities that arise with the use of these transformational imaging technologies. The Workshop convenes leading stakeholders from industry, academia, professional societies, government and patient advocacy groups to discuss progress and make recommendations about next steps.

Quantitative analysis of thoracic CT scans has the ability to reliably detect and potentially characterize progression of three of the four leading causes of premature death: lung cancer, coronary artery disease and parenchymal lung diseases, such as chronic obstructive lung disease (COPD). Participants discussed how to responsibly integrate the medical information available from annual chest CT screening to optimally improve individual health outcomes.

Learn more about this year’s event and access session recordings and resource materials.

Professor Matthijs Oudkerk
2023 James L. Mulshine, M.D., International Leadership Award
Prevent Cancer Annual Gala
Jordan: Pillar of Wonder

RAISED
The Prevent Cancer Annual Gala raised over $2 million.

HONORED
Her Royal Highness, Princess Ghida Talal of Jordan and Her Excellency, Ambassador Dina Kawar attended the event that celebrated the wonders of Jordan. The Foundation continued the tradition of honoring a country that shares its commitment to fighting cancer.

AWARDED
The Foundation recognized two “Cancer Champions” for their significant contributions in cancer prevention and other cancer-related issues. Sen. Tom Carper (D-Del.) and Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WVa) were were recognized as Cancer Champions during the festivities.

CO-CHAIRS
Our sincerest thanks to Gala Co-Chairs Anna Griffin, Jennifer Griffin and Ted Okon for their hard work to make this event happen.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Cancer survivor, Foundation board member and FOX News Channel’s chief national security correspondent Jennifer Griffin was transcendent as master of ceremonies.

LIGHTING THE WAY TO PREVENTION
FOX 5 DC’s Ayesha Khan shared her story of surviving breast cancer and delivered a message of the importance of detecting cancer early to achieve better outcomes. Our annual fund drive, Lighting the Way to Prevention drive raised over $130,000 in just 10 minutes. The Gala’s featured auctioneers were Gala Co-Chair Ted Okon, who also is the executive director of the Community Oncology Alliance, and Tommy McFly, NBC4 (Washington) SCENE correspondent and host of “Walk a Mile” with Tommy McFly.

“Fighting cancer is not an option—it is a moral obligation.”

Her Royal Highness, Princess Ghida Talal of Jordan
The beautiful gala décor was personally designed by weddings and celebrations expert David Tutera, who is a member of the Foundation’s board.

Prevent Cancer Foundation board members Susan Ahlquist (left) and Shabnam Kazmi with Prevent Cancer Foundation’s Founder, Carolyn “Bo” Aldigé and the Executive Director of Mayo Clinic Cancer Programs, Dr. Cheryl Willman.

HRH Prince Talal bin Muhammad (left) with this year’s honorary patron, Her Excellency, Ambassador Dina Kawar. CIA Director William J. Burns, honorary chair HRH Princess Ghida Talal, and Prevent Cancer Foundation board member and Gala master of ceremonies Jennifer Griffin.

Annie Nuño (left) and Prevent Cancer Foundation board member David Tutera with fellow board member Dr. James Mulshine and Dr. Pamela Mulshine.

Prevent Cancer Foundation board member Gary Lytle (center) with Sue Lytle and Gala guests.

Gala Co-Chairs Anna Griffin, Jennifer Griffin and Ted Okon joined Prevent Cancer Foundation’s Founder, Carolyn ‘Bo’ Aldigé in honoring Sens. Tom Carper (D-Del.) and Shelley Moore Capito (R-W Va.) for their significant contributions to increasing access to prevention and early detection.

Prevent Cancer Foundation CEO Jody Hoyos (left) with Prevent Cancer Foundation Board Chair Bill Magner and Vice Chair Joann Piccolo.

HRH Prince Talal bin Muhammad (left) with Representative Kay Granger (R-Texas), Her Excellency Ambassador Dina Kawar and Ala’a Mhaisen.

Did you miss the event? Check out these highlights from this special night.
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Director, Melanoma Surveillance Clinic
Mount Sinai Icahn School of Medicine
Consultant Dermatologist, Cooper Clinic
We are excited to welcome Electa D. Paskett, Ph.D., to serve as the new co-chair of the Foundation’s Scientific Review Panel, joining current co-chair James L. Mulshine, M.D., and replacing longtime leader in the cancer prevention community, Bernard Levin, M.D., FACP.
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Take Back Your Day

For anyone who’s ever lost a loved one to cancer, the date of their passing can be a difficult reminder of that loss. For Chris, it’s the day he lost his mother, telling us that, “June 19th is my least favorite day of the year … [In] previous years, I spiraled into being an anxious and depressed mess, stuck in a loop reliving the day she died.” Three years ago, he decided to do something different on that day. He chose to transform his grief into something positive and meaningful. Chris put together a charity compilation on his label of cover songs to benefit the Prevent Cancer Foundation, something that he’s continued to do each year since.

Chris’ story is one we hear all too often. For those impacted by cancer, whether by your own diagnosis or that of a loved one, the date of diagnosis or loss can feel hard to face. Taking back your day with a new, positive memory can be an uplifting way to channel those difficult feelings and associations. By organizing a fundraiser to benefit the Prevent Cancer Foundation, you can find a meaningful way to commemorate that date and turn one of your hardest days into something that can help others. Fundraisers like Chris’ charity compilation are critical to helping the Foundation continue its work to empower people to stay ahead of cancer through prevention and early detection. When you dedicate your gift in honor, memory or celebration of someone, their legacy will be toward a world where no one dies of cancer.

Our team is here to support you and ensure your fundraiser is a success. Together, let us turn the pain of loss into a force for good!

Learn more about how to take back your day by donating or creating a fundraiser in honor of your loved one.

The 2023 financial statement and 990 for the Foundation will be posted on preventcancer.org in summer 2024.
The Prevent Cancer Foundation’s mission is to empower people to stay ahead of cancer through prevention and early detection.