ANNUAL REPORT 2024

NATIONAL COALITION FOR CANCER SURVIVORSHIP

NCCS
NATIONAL COALITION
FOR CANCER SURVIVORSHIP

'24

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OUR MISSION IS TO ADVOCATE FOR QUALITY CANCER CARE FOR ALL PEOPLE TOUCHED BY CANCER.

> WE EMPOWER SURVIVORS AND ADVANCE POLICY TO TRANSFORM HEALTH CARE FOR ALL PEOPLE TOUCHED BY CANCER.

Dear Friends,

As we reflect on another remarkable year, I am proud to share the significant advancements in cancer policy and advocacy that NCCS achieved in 2024. Within this report, you'll discover our impactful Cancer Policy Roundtable meetings, our strategic policy initiatives, and the revealing insights from our State of Survivorship Survey.

After nearly a decade of outstanding leadership at NCCS, our valued colleague and dear friend Elena Jeannotte embarked on a new journey to lead a nonprofit organization dedicated to children with cancer and their families. While her daily presence is deeply missed, we enthusiastically support her in this new role. Elena remains an integral part of the NCCS family.

I often share that the highlight of my position is accompanying cancer survivors and caregivers to meetings with their Members of Congress, especially when it's their first Capitol Hill experience. As a self-professed policy wonk who grew up with Schoolhouse Rock's "I'm Just a Bill," I cherish witnessing our democratic process in action. There's nothing quite like seeing that transformative moment when advocates realize their voices truly matter and that elected officials are genuinely eager to hear their stories.

During our annual Hill Day, I attend as many advocate meetings as possible. One particularly moving encounter was with our Georgia contingent and Representative Sanford Bishop. The Congressman joined us, shared his personal journey as a cancer survivor, and committed on the spot to co-sponsor both bills we were advocating for. Monique Wilson, Rep. Bishop's constituent, later described the meeting as "very inspiring and empowering."

Equally memorable was our meeting with Representative Veronica Escobar from El Paso, alongside cancer survivor Rebecca Muñoz and Texas Tech El Paso medical student Elizabeth Penner. Demonstrating extraordinary commitment, the Congresswoman stepped out of an active hearing to meet with us. She shared that her husband is a cancer survivor and expressed her deep passion for our mission to improve cancer survivorship.

The advocacy skills and confidence gained from these congressional meetings extend far beyond Capitol Hill. Our advocates go on to speak at community events, testify at state legislative hearings, and engage more deeply in civic life. While NCCS remains nonpartisan, some advocates have channeled their personal advocacy into broader civic engagement. One advocate recently wrote to me: "I am canvassing in Pennsylvania today. I was nervous but then I remembered all of the training from NCCS and how many members of Congress I have talked to. Forever thankful for all the support you and NCCS has given me."

I am profoundly grateful for the privilege of helping cancer survivors, caregivers, and healthcare professionals find their voices and engage meaningfully in the democratic process. My heartfelt appreciation extends to our extraordinary team of staff, board members, volunteers, and donors who make our work possible. Your contributions — whether through time, expertise, resources, or advocacy — are essential to our mission's success. Without your dedicated support, none of our achievements would be possible, and we eagerly anticipate our continued collaboration in the years ahead.

With deep gratitude,

Shelley

Shelley Fuld Nasso, MPP | Chief Executive Officer

THE STATE OF SURVIVORSHIP:

2024 Findings & Insights

At the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship (NCCS), we believe that cancer survivors deserve a health care system that supports them beyond diagnosis and treatment. The 2024 State of Survivorship Survey—a comprehensive, national study—provides critical insights into the experiences of cancer survivors and caregivers, helping to shape NCCS's policy and advocacy efforts.

This year, NCCS expanded the survey to oversample younger survivors (ages 18-39), providing a deeper understanding of their unique challenges. Additionally, new topics explored included clinical trial participation barriers, second opinions, and post-treatment care trends.

Key Takeaways from the 2024 State of Survivorship Survey

1. The Growing Need for Post-Treatment Care

+ Two-thirds of patients within five years of completing treatment are receiving post-treatment care, while only one-third of those five years or more out continue to receive follow-up care.
+ The primary reason for discontinuation? Doctors telling patients post-treatment care was unnecessary.
+ There has been a significant decline in primary care provider (PCP) involvement in survivorship care—dropping from 40% to just under 20% over the past three years.

2. Disparities in Care Persist. Survivors from historically marginalized communities continue to face greater challenges in accessing quality cancer care:

+ Black patients (59%), younger survivors (56%), and Hispanic patients (48%) were far more likely to feel they had to advocate for themselves to get the best care.
+ Only 29% of patients sought a second opinion, but younger patients (47%) and Hispanic survivors (43%) were significantly more likely to seek one.
+ Patients who were Black, Hispanic, younger, LGBTQ+, or living with Stage IV cancer were more likely to experience financial hardship, with over 40% reporting financial difficulties due to cancer care costs.

3. Barriers to Clinical Trial Participation

- 74% of survivors who did not participate in a clinical trial said they were never asked about the opportunity.
- Younger survivors, Black patients, and those receiving palliative care were more likely to consider clinical trials, yet they still faced significant barriers to enrollment.
- When survivors did participate, the doctor's recommendation (51%) was the leading factor in their decision, followed by the desire to contribute to science (41%).

4. The Long-Term Effects of Cancer Treatment

- 92% of survivors experience ongoing side effects from treatment, with fatigue (46%) and fear of recurrence (42%) having the biggest impact on quality of life.
- Mental health challenges remain a major concern, with younger survivors and LGBTQ+ survivors reporting significantly higher levels of anxiety and depression.
- Neuropathy, pain, and body image concerns were among the most frequently cited ongoing struggles.

5. Employment and Financial Hardship Among Survivors

- More than half of working survivors said cancer treatment affected their job performance, with many missing work, reducing hours, or experiencing wage loss.
- One-third of caregivers had to continue working during their loved one's treatment, with half reporting that they felt they had no choice.
- The cost of cancer treatment remains a burden, with survivors expressing growing interest in monthly prescription payment plans to spread out costs over time.

Through these programs, NCCS continues to elevate survivor voices and equip health care professionals with the knowledge and tools to advance quality survivorship care nationwide.

What This Means for Survivorship Policy & Advocacy

These findings underscore the urgent need for more comprehensive and equitable survivorship care. Survivors need:

- Expanded access to post-treatment care, including more involvement from primary care providers in survivorship care.
- Better communication and education around clinical trial opportunities to ensure patients are given the chance to participate.
- Targeted financial assistance and insurance reforms to alleviate the long-term financial burdens of cancer treatment.
- Increased mental health and peer support resources to help survivors navigate the emotional and psychological challenges of life after cancer.

NCCS remains committed to using these insights to advocate for policies that ensure every cancer survivor receives the care and support they need to thrive.

FOR FULL SURVEY FINDINGS, VISIT: canceradvocacy.org/survey

ADVANCING POLICY & ADVOCACY:

Championing Cancer Survivorship at Every Level

At the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship (NCCS), we believe that every cancer survivor deserves access to quality, coordinated care throughout their cancer journey and beyond. Through our policy and advocacy efforts, we continue to push for legislative and regulatory changes that prioritize survivorship, protect patient rights, and improve access to affordable, high-quality care.

In 2024, NCCS built on our longstanding advocacy efforts by advancing key federal legislation, engaging with policymakers through our Cancer Policy and Advocacy Team (CPAT) and Cancer Policy Roundtable (CPR), and submitting policy recommendations to federal agencies on issues that directly impact cancer survivors.

Championing Survivorship Legislation

Comprehensive Cancer Survivorship Act (CCSA)

- NCCS continued to advocate for the Comprehensive Cancer Survivorship Act (CCSA) (H.R. 4363 / S. 2213), bipartisan legislation aimed at improving long-term survivorship care, care planning, employment protections, and access to navigation services.
- Over 90 CPAT advocates met with 124 Congressional offices during Hill Day 2024, urging lawmakers to co-sponsor and advance this vital legislation.

Cancer Care Planning and Communications Act (CCPCA)

- NCCS also pushed for passage of the Cancer Care Planning and Communications Act (H.R. 5183), which would establish a Medicare service for cancer care planning to ensure that all patients receive a comprehensive, written plan for their treatment and survivorship care.
- The bill remains a top policy priority, as survivorship care planning remains inconsistent and underutilized, despite evidence that it improves patient outcomes, satisfaction, and long-term follow-up care.

Regulatory Advocacy: Shaping Policies That Impact Survivors

In addition to legislative advocacy, NCCS actively engages in regulatory policy—ensuring that federal agencies adopt policies that promote affordable, accessible, and high-quality care for cancer survivors.

In 2024, we submitted formal comments on several key policy issues:

Protecting Innovation While Ensuring Drug Access: March-In Rights Comments

- NCCS submitted comments to the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) on March-In Rights, cautioning against policies that could discourage innovation in cancer drug development while emphasizing the need for affordable access to lifesaving therapies. We urged policymakers to balance intellectual property protections with equitable drug pricing mechanisms, ensuring that cancer patients can access breakthrough treatments without financial hardship.

Making Cancer Drugs More Affordable: Medicare Prescription Payment Plan Comments

- NCCS submitted comments to CMS on its Medicare Prescription Payment Plan guidance, advocating for cancer patients to have the flexibility to spread out drug costs over time.
- We stressed the stance of ensuring that cost-spreading programs do not create administrative barriers that delay patient access to medications.

Advocating for Survivorship Care in Medicare: Proposed 2025 Physician Fee Schedule Comments

- NCCS provided input on the Proposed 2025 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule, urging stronger reimbursement for survivorship care services, patient navigation, and care coordination.
- We supported CMS's proposal to enhance payment for cancer care planning services, but called for greater incentives to encourage physicians to deliver comprehensive, patient-centered survivorship care.

Strengthening Survivorship Protections Through Coalition Efforts

Beyond our direct policy work, NCCS continues to collaborate with coalitions and partner organizations to advocate for policies that impact cancer survivors:

- Ensuring access to Medicaid and ACA marketplace coverage, which remain critical for survivors managing late and long-term effects of treatment.
- Supporting protections against surprise medical billing, particularly for out-of-network oncology services.
- Advocating for expanded paid family and medical leave policies, so that survivors and caregivers do not face job loss or financial hardship due to a cancer diagnosis.

Looking Ahead: Prioritizing Survivorship in National Policy

In 2024, NCCS strengthened its role as a leading voice in cancer survivorship advocacy, working alongside policymakers, patient advocates, and health care experts to drive meaningful policy change.

As we look ahead, NCCS will continue to:

- Push for passage of the Comprehensive Cancer Survivorship Act and Cancer Care Planning and Communications Act.
- Advocate for stronger Medicare policies that expand access to survivorship care, navigation, and planning services.
- Engage with regulatory agencies to ensure that drug pricing policies protect cancer patients from financial toxicity.
- Empower cancer survivors and caregivers to be effective policy advocates through CPAT training and Hill Days.

Together, we are making survivorship a policy priority—ensuring that all cancer survivors receive the care, support, and protections they need to thrive.

CANCER POLICY ROUNDTABLE:

Driving Policy, Shaping Survivorship

For more than two decades, the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship (NCCS) has convened the Cancer Policy Roundtable (CPR)—a biannual gathering of policymakers, researchers, advocates, health care providers, and industry leaders—to discuss critical issues in cancer care and survivorship. The 2024 Spring and Fall CPR meetings continued this tradition, tackling pressing policy challenges and advancing solutions that prioritize quality, accessibility, and equity in cancer care.

Spring 2024 CPR: Addressing Emerging Challenges in Cancer Survivorship

Held on March 28, 2024, the Spring CPR focused on the growing incidence of early-onset cancers, financial toxicity, and policy solutions for patient affordability.

Key Discussions and Takeaways:

The Promise of Cancer Vaccines

- Keynote speaker Kristen Dahlgren, co-founder of The Pink Eraser Project, shared advancements in vaccine development for breast cancer treatment and prevention, emphasizing the potential of immunotherapy to revolutionize survivorship.

Cancer is Getting Younger: Implications for Research & Treatment

- Dr. Otis Brawley (Johns Hopkins) presented data showing a rise in early-onset cancer diagnoses and disparities in outcomes based on age, race, and socioeconomic factors.
- Survivor advocate Andrea Hans highlighted the financial burden faced by young cancer patients, sharing that many forgo treatment due to cost.
- The American Cancer Society's Dr. Robin Yabroff presented research on financial toxicity in young adult survivors and how insurance policies can exacerbate disparities.

State Prescription Drug Affordability Boards: A New Approach to Drug Pricing

- Experts discussed state-led prescription drug affordability boards, which aim to control costs while maintaining patient access to lifesaving medications.
- Andrew York, Executive Director of Maryland's Prescription Drug Affordability Board, shared lessons from Maryland's model, while representatives from BIO and the Arthritis Foundation debated the potential impact on innovation.

Providing Every Cancer Patient a Navigator

- The new Medicare Physician Fee Schedule codes for 2024 include payment for patient navigation and caregiver training—a significant step forward for improving survivorship support.
- The White House's Cancer Moonshot Initiative underscored the importance of ensuring that every survivor has access to a trained navigator to help with post-treatment care.
- Peer support groups, emphasizing that peer support can improve patient activation and long-term survivorship outcomes.

Fall 2024 CPR: Advancing Survivorship Through Policy and Innovation

The Fall CPR, held on November 13, 2024, built upon the discussions from the spring session, with a renewed focus on post-treatment survivorship care, drug pricing reforms, and patient advocacy.

Key Discussions and Takeaways:

Keynote: "Further, Faster: Working Together to End Cancer"

- Dr. Kimryn Rathmell, Director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), delivered a compelling keynote on the need to modernize clinical trials, increase cancer vaccine research, and expand survivorship care.
- She highlighted a finding from the 2024 State of Survivorship Survey—74% of cancer patients who don't participate in clinical trials were never asked—and called for greater efforts to expand trial enrollment.

State of Survivorship Survey Results: Post-Treatment Care Gaps

- NCCS CEO Shelley Fuld Nasso presented key findings from the 2024 State of Survivorship Survey, including the declining role of primary care physicians in survivorship care and the lack of long-term follow-up for many survivors.
- Survivorship care planning remains inconsistent, and younger survivors, Black patients, and those in rural areas are the least likely to receive adequate post-treatment support.

Health Policy Outlook for 2025

- Policy experts analyzed the future of federal health policies, particularly under the evolving political landscape.
- Emily Mace, a former House staffer, emphasized that advocacy efforts should focus on engaging policymakers early in the legislative process.
- The National Urban League's Dr. Lydia Isaac reinforced the importance of holding elected officials accountable for health equity initiatives.

Medicare Drug Price Negotiation: Impact on Cancer Survivors

- CMS officials reported a 22% reduction in costs for negotiated drugs under Medicare's new pricing framework, projecting $6 billion in savings.
- Industry leaders debated the potential consequences, with oncologist Dr. Aaron Mitchell raising ethical concerns about the "buy-and-bill" drug pricing model in community oncology practices.

The Role of Peer Support in Survivorship

- AYA cancer survivor and wellness coach Stephanie Gayhart shared her work in developing trauma-informed

CANCER POLICY & ADVOCACY TEAM:

Empowering Advocates, Driving Change

The Cancer Policy and Advocacy Team (CPAT) is NCCS's premier advocacy training program, equipping cancer survivors, caregivers, and advocates with the tools to influence public policy and improve cancer care. With more than 1,100 active members nationwide, CPAT continues to be a powerful force for change, ensuring that the survivor perspective is heard in legislative and regulatory decision-making.

In 2024, CPAT members engaged in policy advocacy at the national and local levels, participated in the CPAT Symposium and Hill Day, and expanded their skills in legislative advocacy, storytelling, and survivorship policy.

CPAT Symposium 2024: Training Survivors to be Policy Leaders

Held from June 26–28, 2024, in Arlington, VA, the CPAT Symposium brought together nearly 100 cancer survivors, caregivers, medical professionals, and students for an intensive three-day training on cancer policy, advocacy, and education.

This year's agenda focused on legislative priorities, survivorship care, and practical advocacy strategies to help participants advance federal and state-level survivorship policies.

Key Sessions and Takeaways:

Advocacy in the Digital Age: Social Media Training

- NCCS Marketing & Communications Manager, Kara Kenan, trained participants on how to use social media to amplify their advocacy.
- Elevate Ambassador Tamron Little shared strategies for leveraging online platforms to spread awareness about survivorship issues.

Building Effective Advocacy Strategies

- CPAT members participated in Hill Day Preparation workshops, where NCCS staff guided them in crafting compelling personal narratives to support the Comprehensive Cancer Survivorship Act (CCSA) and Cancer Care Planning and Communications Act (CCPCA).
- Role-playing exercises helped advocates refine their message for meetings with congressional offices, ensuring they could confidently communicate the urgency of survivorship policy reforms.

Hill Day 2024: Advocates in Action

- On June 27, 2024, CPAT members took their advocacy to Capitol Hill, where they met with 124 congressional offices, urging lawmakers to support:
- The Comprehensive Cancer Survivorship Act (H.R. 4363 / S. 2213)
- The Cancer Care Planning and Communications Act (H.R. 5183)
- Their efforts had immediate impact—following the meetings, six members of Congress signed on as co-sponsors of one or both bills.

Supportive Care Panels

- Dr. C. Robert Bennett (Mayo Clinic) debunked myths about palliative care, emphasizing the importance of integrating supportive care early in the cancer journey.
- Dr. Georgia Anderson (University of Cincinnati) led a critical discussion on sexual health and intimacy in survivorship, an often-overlooked aspect of post-treatment care.

Keynote: Survivorship at the Center

- Mrs. Samantha and Samuel Siegel, both cancer survivors and physicians, shared their personal journey and professional insights on the challenges of navigating survivorship while working in medicine. Because of their personal cancer experiences, they are passionate about cancer

Bridging the Gap Between Patients and Heath Care Team

- Medical students from the CUPID Program (Johns Hopkins, Indiana University, Ohio State University) engaged in role-play exercises with CPAT members, to learn how to deliver difficult news and to understand the patient's perspective.
- This session reinforced the need for cancer survivors to cultivate their own health care team, to establish strong patient-doctor communication and to advocate for the quality of survivorship care.

Expanding Advocacy Beyond the Symposium

CPAT members remain engaged throughout the year, advocating for survivorship care policies and influencing decision-makers at all levels. In 2024, CPAT members:

- Testified at legislative hearings on the need for comprehensive survivorship care and financial protections for cancer patients.
- Submitted public comments to federal agencies, ensuring that survivor voices were represented in CMS and NIH policy decisions.
- Led state and local advocacy efforts, working to improve cancer care access in their communities.
- Amplified their impact through media and social platforms, using their personal stories to educate the public and policymakers about the realities of cancer survivorship.

Looking Ahead: Strengthening the Survivor Voice in Policy

The CPAT program continues to grow, attracting new advocates who are passionate about driving policy change. In 2025, NCCS will:

- Expand CPAT advocacy resources, including online tools for engaging with policymakers.
- Continue training new advocates through virtual and in-person workshops.
- Strengthen partnerships with medical and policy organizations, ensuring that survivorship remains a national policy priority.

Through CPAT, cancer survivors and caregivers are shaping the future of survivorship policy—one story, one meeting, and one legislative victory at a time.


I am a Survivor
Cancer Sucks
I AM A SURVIVOR
I ♥ cancer survivor
Choose Hope
NCCS
CancerAdvocacy.org


NCCS
NATIONAL COALITION FOR CANCER SURVIVORSHIP


NCCS

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHTS:

Elevating Survivorship & Survivorship Champions

At NCCS, we empower survivors and health care professionals to improve survivorship care through two key programs: Elevating Survivorship and Survivorship Champions. These initiatives provide training, resources, and a national network to drive meaningful change in survivorship care.

Elevating Survivorship: Advocates Creating Change

The Elevating Survivorship program equips cancer survivors and health care professionals with the skills and support to develop community-based survivorship programs that address unmet needs. Since its launch in 2018, the program has trained over 40 Elevate Ambassadors, leading to 30+ survivorship initiatives nationwide.

NCCS
NATIONAL COALITION FOR CANCER SURVIVORSHIP

VIRTUAL CPAT SYMPOSIUM

Elevating Survivorship: Focusing on Quality of Life

Friday, Sept 6

1:30 PM EDT

@CancerAdvocacy

Sandra Calloway Fields
NCCS Elevate Ambassador
Birmingham, AL

Louis Lanza, Jr.
NCCS Elevate Ambassador
Turnersville, NJ

Tamron Little, MAC
NCCS Elevate Ambassador
Orange Park, FL

NCCS
NATIONAL COALITION FOR CANCER SURVIVORSHIP

VIRTUAL CPAT SYMPOSIUM
Elevating Survivorship: Survivorship in Health Care Systems

Friday, September 6
1:05PM EDT
@CancerAdvocacy

Laurie Christensen, RN, OCN
NCCS Elevate Ambassador
Vancouver, WA

Gianna Durocher, RN, MSN, OCN
NCCS Elevate Ambassador
Fullerton, CA

In 2024, Elevate Ambassadors showcased their projects at the CPAT Virtual Symposium, highlighting their innovative survivorship initiatives:

- **Survivorship in Health Care Systems:** Ambassadors Gianna Durocher and Laurie Christensen discussed how they built survivorship programs within hospital systems, addressing patient needs and overcoming institutional barriers.
- **Focusing on Quality of Life:** Tamron Little, Lou Lanza, and Sandra Calloway-Fields shared how they developed local and virtual community programs, ensuring no survivor navigates post-treatment life alone.

With ongoing mentorship and operational support, Elevate Ambassadors continue to expand and diversify survivorship care in their neighborhoods in service of the cancer community.

Survivorship Champions: Engaging Health Care Professionals

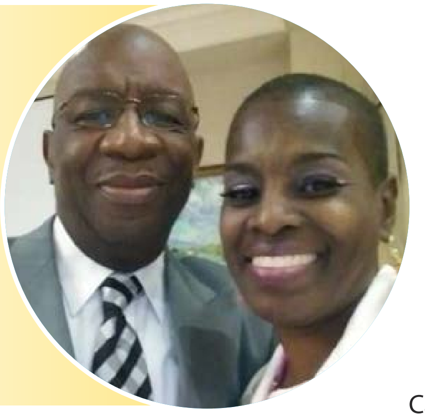
The Survivorship Champions program connects oncologists, nurses, patient navigators, and researchers with education, networking, and advocacy resources to enhance survivorship care. Through webinars, newsletters, and a LinkedIn community, Champions stay informed on best practices and emerging issues in survivorship.

In 2024, Survivorship Champions webinars explored multi-cancer early detection with Dr. Otis Brawley and Stacey Tinianov, integrative oncology research with Dr. Alyssa McManamon and Terri Crudup compassionate oncology practices with Dr. Michael Crain and Claudio Pannunzio, and oral health in cancer care with Jill Meyer-Lippert, RDH featuring expert speakers such as, and. These sessions educate health care providers on how to integrate evidence-based survivorship care into clinical practice.

Through these programs, NCCS continues to elevate survivor voices and equip health care professionals with the knowledge and tools to advance quality survivorship care nationwide.

STORIES OF SURVIVORSHIP & ADVOCACY

Every survivor carries a story that shapes the future of cancer care. Through the voices of our advocates, we elevate lived experiences into action—driving policy, improving support systems, and forging a path toward equitable survivorship care. In 2024, we're proud to spotlight two advocates who embody the spirit of resilience and the power of patient advocacy.



Yvonne McLean Florence

Caregiver, Survivor Advocate, Health Equity Champion

Yvonne McLean Florence's advocacy is fueled by profound personal experience—as a caregiver, patient, and health equity leader. A breast cancer survivor, Yvonne has long been a voice for the often-overlooked emotional and logistical struggles patients face. Her policy engagement began after the loss of her husband to pancreatic cancer, and her advocacy has deepened through her involvement in NCCS's Cancer Policy and Advocacy Team (CPAT).

In 2024, Yvonne joined CPAT Hill Day meetings, where she shared her story to champion the Comprehensive Cancer Survivorship Act. She is especially passionate about improving care transitions and access to mental health support for survivors and caregivers. Yvonne's leadership is grounded in community: "I've found purpose in connecting people to the resources they need to navigate life after cancer," she says. Her work ensures that survivorship includes dignity, equity, and support at every stage.

> "I've found purpose in connecting people to the resources they need to navigate life after cancer."

CLICK HERE TO READ YVONNE'S FULL SPOTLIGHT

> “Young adults face a unique set of challenges… we’re planning our futures while still trying to heal.”

Alyssa Fischer Reeder

Young Adult Survivor, Peer Support Leader, Legislative Advocate

Diagnosed with breast cancer at just 32 years old, Alyssa Fischer Reeder turned her personal crisis into public impact. A participant in the 2024 CPAT Symposium and Hill Day, Alyssa uses her voice to advocate for young adult cancer survivors—especially around issues like financial toxicity, fertility preservation, and the need for trauma-informed peer support.

At CPAT, Alyssa met with lawmakers to urge support for policies like the Cancer Care Planning and Communications Act, emphasizing the need for better survivorship care plans and smoother transitions after treatment. “Young adults face a unique set of challenges—many of us are trying to work, raise families, and plan futures while navigating side effects, medical bills, and fear of recurrence,” she shared.

Alyssa also leads peer support groups in her local community, offering others the safe space she once longed for. Her lived experience fuels her vision: a world where every survivor is seen, heard, and supported.

CLICK HERE TO READ ALYSSA’S FULL SPOTLIGHT

DONOR SPOTLIGHT:

A Systems Thinker, Supporting Systemic Change

Sandy Welton

For longtime donor and former board member Sandy Welton, supporting the National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship (NCCS) is an expression of his belief in long-term, systemic solutions. His connection to NCCS was sparked through a chance encounter with a board member—one that ultimately more than a decade of involvement, including serving on the board of directors and as Chair of the board.

Though not a cancer survivor himself, Sandy has been deeply impacted by cancer. His mother, two brothers, and sister have all faced cancer; his mother died after her second bought with cancer, and his sister Shelley died during the COVID-19 pandemic after a three years of cancer treatment. The experience of watching loved ones navigate cancer care left a lasting imprint. Now in his 80s, Sandy often reflects on the personal likelihood of a future diagnosis—and on how cancer has shaped his understanding of mortality, legacy, and what it means to live meaningfully.

His time on the NCCS board provided a close look at the organization's mission and impact. It also deepened his awareness of the gaps survivors face—particularly after treatment ends. He came to see NCCS not just as an advocacy group, but as a vital force in pushing the health care system toward a more thoughtful, equitable, and person-centered approach to survivorship.

Over the years, Sandy's involvement evolved from leadership to philanthropy. As a donor, he sees his support as an investment in the systems-level work that NCCS champions: federal policy, survivor-centered advocacy education, and structural reform that improves care for all people facing cancer. He remains particularly proud of NCCS's role in convening diverse perspectives through initiatives like the Cancer Policy Roundtable—spaces where difficult, overdue conversations about care, equity, and quality of life are given the attention they deserve.

Sandy's enduring support of NCCS is rooted in a simple truth: he believes in the mission to advocate for quality cancer care for all people touched by cancer—and knows that supporting NCCS means advancing that vision for future generations.

> “I am a strong systems person. None of us alone can do much about cancer survivorship. If we pool our energies collectively, we can do a huge amount about cancer survivorship. It needs a systemic approach. NCCS is part of that systemic response.”

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS!

There are so many ways to give.

- + **HONOR OR IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE**
- + **MAKE A MONTHLY GIFT**
- + **GIVE THROUGH YOUR DONOR-ADVISED FUND**
- + **LEAVE A GIFT IN YOUR WILL**
- + **CREATE YOUR OWN FUNDRAISER**

VISIT: canceradvocacy.org/donate

EACH AND EVERY GIFT SUPPORTS CANCER SURVIVORS

Abbvie Inc.
Agilent Technologies Foundation
Amgen PAC Match
Astrazeneca Pharmaceuticals Inc.
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
Charities Aid Foundation America
Daiichi Sankyo Inc.
David Katz Foundation Inc
Eisai Inc.
Eli Lilly And Company Foundation Inc.
Exact Sciences
Exelixis
Genentech Inc.
Genmab
Gilead Science Inc.
GRAIL
Jewish Communal Fund
Johnson & Johnson
Merck
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation
Pfizer Oncology
Pharmaceutical Research & Manufacturers Of America (PhRMA)
Sanofi US Services Inc.
Stupid Cancer Inc
The Anna Fuller Fund
The Brooks Group and Associates Inc.
Terrah Alexander
Christie Allred
Hillary Andrews Ph.D.
John Anduri
Andrea Becker
Samira Beckwith
Marcia Bettigole
Cynthia Blair
Alexander Bologna
Donna Boss
Otis Brawley
Randall Broad
Brenda Brown
James Brown
Suanna Bruinooge
Jane and Jeffrey Bulman
Stuart and Jamie Butler
Cary Cain
Thomas and Marj Callinan
Earnest Calloway
Darcy Lynn Campbell
Renata C Cangussu

Vino Cherian

Cindy Cisneros

Karolyn Coleman

LaSandra Conner

Nikki Copas

Michael Cunningham

Yogi Dada

Eric Davis

Amelia Dawson

Bobbi de Córdova-Hanks

Carla De Landri and Fred Volpacchio

Davida Deutsch

Kate and Hugh Ditzler

Gianna Durocher

Robert Easton

Gregg Paul Epstein

Sharon W. Farber

Sarah Farnam

Elaine Feidelman

Hope Felling

Taylor Ferrell

Peter Fields

Benjamin and Julie Fishman

Elizabeth Frank

Steve & Jan Fuld

Shelley Fuld Nasso and Michael Nasso

Patricia Ganz

Matt Goldman

David Goldsmith

Valerie Goldstein

Elizabeth Goss

Harriet Granger

Dwanna Green

Jada Green

Kathleen Green

Philip Green

Jane and David Greene

Larrie and Joyce Greenberg

Gwendolyn Hardnett

Joe Harris

Patricia Hatridge

Belinda Hecht

Diane Heditsian

R. Scott and Craig Ann Heflinger

Sarah Hersey

Mark Hicks

Latasha Hill

Jason Hinchcliff

Barbara Hoffman

Nancy Howe

Lea Hurley

Laurie Isenberg and Joel Roos

Elena Jeannotte and Angela Shetler

Patricia Jewell

Debra Johnson

Heather Johnson

Hartley Jones

Michael and Kimberly Kappel

Maria Kenny

Barbara Kerxton

Justin Kirschner

Robin Kornhaber

Kate and James Knudson

Katharine Kropp

David and Nancy Lacey

Tanya and Albert Lampert

Marci Landsmann

Scott Leader

Simon Craddock Lee

Susan Leigh

Lynn Liston

Ana Maria Lopez

Peggy Lundquist

Craig Lustig

Jennifer Malin

Phyllis Mark

Carmen Marshall

Mary McCabe

Peter Mccarthy

Keisa McPartland

Neil and Laura Mitchell

Wyatt and Nancy Moe

Ahmad Molavi

Lisa Montez

Gael Mooney

Bruce Morton

Lacey Music

Michael D Myers

Sheila Namir

Max Nasso

Jilda Nettleton

Melinda Nunery

Kirstin Nussgruber

Rena Odette

Riccardo Olivieri

Frances Penan

Carol Penta

Linda G Piker

Clare Poulose

John and Connie Rakoske

Tracie Ransom

Tarn Ream

Brennan and Helena Reilly

Peter Rez

Julia Rowland PhD

Wanda Rusiecki

Hilda Ryniker

Sally Sachar

Cheryl Sacks

Robert Schaper

Elizabeth Schiff

Steven Schurkman and Judith Gische

Jerome Seidenfeld

Leslie Seeman

Joan Seidel

Catherine and David Sevier

Denise Seyranian

Michele Seyranian

Sameena Shinwari

Mark Shostak

Tobyanne and Arnold Sidman

Susan Siegel

Steven Sloan

Thomas Smith

Alicia Soller

Mark Solomon

Melissa Stegun

Michelle Strollo

Deborah Stroud

Kerry G Stubbs

Cornelius Sullivan

Stuart and Frances Taylor

Laurel Thirnton

Rosa N Tinsler

Samuel Turner

Vail Tyler

Nancy Van Antwerp

David van Hoogstraten and Michelle Kayon

Cicily Waeger

Eddie Webb

Susan Weiner

Jessica Weinstein

Sandy G. Welton

Crystal White

Kimberly Whitefield

Eleanor Winter and Dan Backo

Lisa and Charles Wise

Stephen Lewis and Alison Wylegala

Paul Christian Yarberry

Jody Yen

Robert Young MD

Barbara and Steven Zimmerman

NCCS LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

BOARD OF DIRECTORS


Samira K. Beckwith 🎗


Otis W. Brawley, MD


Philip Dufour


Taylor Ferrell 🎗
Finance Committee


Ben Fishman 🎗


Laurie Isenberg 🎗
Board Chair


Michael L. Kappel 🎗
Finance Committee Chair


Ana Maria Lopez, MPH MD


Lisa D. T. Rice, SM 🎗
Vice Chair


Julia Rowland, PhD
Secretary


Eleanor Winter 🎗

🎗 **Cancer Survivor**

STAFF

Zach Biondo
Digital Media & Web Development Manager

Nadine Dorvelus
Operations & Events Associate

Elena Jeannotte
Vice President of External Relations

Kara Kenan 🎗
Communications & Marketing Manager

Shelley Fuld Nasso, MPP
Chief Executive Officer

Veronika Panagiotou, PhD 🎗
Advocacy & Programs Manager

Woulita Seyoum
Senior Director of Finance & Operations

Haley Smoot
Director of Public Policy

Etsegenet Tekeste
Senior Accountant

Karen Wilson
Development Manager


NCCS


NCCS


NCCS


NCCS
NATIONAL COALITION
FOR CANCER SURVIVORSHIP


NCCS


Senator
Kyrsten Sinema
Arizona
SH317


NCCS
NATIONAL COALITION
FOR CANCER SURVIVORSHIP


CPAT
Empowering those touched by cancer to
CHANGE CANCER CARE

NCCS

NATIONAL COALITION
FOR CANCER SURVIVORSHIP

8455 Colesville Road, Suite 930
Silver Spring, MD 20910

(877) 622-7937

info@canceradvocacy.org

canceradvocacy.org