



AUSTIN
BUSINESS GROUP
— ON HEALTH —

Welcome! The meeting will begin shortly.



The Cost of Cancer: A Guide for Employers

Announcements

- Thanks for joining us today! We're HYBRID
- Mayor's Worksite Certification & Awards program is now accepting applications!
- Virtual participants, please remain muted during the presentation
- Questions will be answered at the end of the presentation

Moderators for today's meeting include:



Susan Thompson
ABGOH Co-Chair



Cloe Butler
ABGOH Co-Chair

Agenda

Topics Covered

- Announcements & Introductions
- Speakers:
 - Hannah Harless
 - Kristen Rombach
- Questions & Answers
- Resource Spotlight
- Closing Remarks



Please join us in welcoming our speakers!



Hannah Harless

American Cancer Society



Kristen Rombach

American Cancer Society



The Costs of Cancer: A Guide for Employers



Every cancer. Every life.™

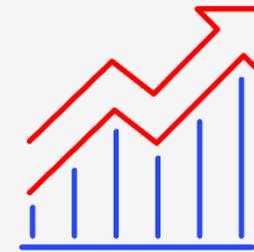


Cancer is relentless.

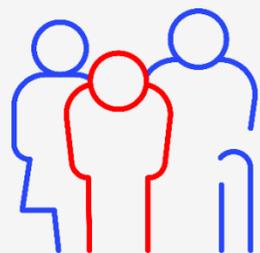
While science has made extraordinary progress, the reality is sobering.



Every **15 seconds** someone is diagnosed with cancer



More than **2 million** new diagnoses this year



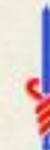
1 in 3 Americans will face a diagnosis in their lifetime



The burden is not **shared equally**

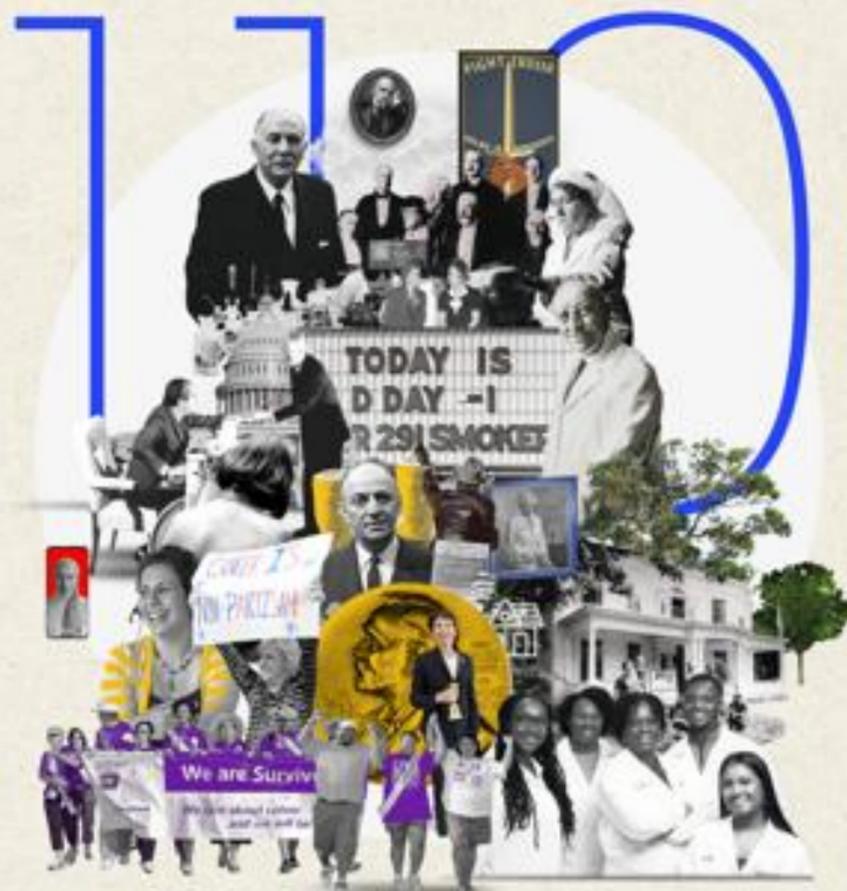
Behind every statistic is a parent, a child, a friend, a future, and **we must act now to change the story for them.**

The Leading Cancer-Fighting Organization



THE
#1

TRUSTED SOURCE OF
CANCER INFORMATION



MORE THAN
110 YEARS

LEADING THE FIGHT
AGAINST CANCER



PRESENT IN
22,000+

COMMUNITIES IN THE
U.S. & TERRITORIES



Every Cancer.
Every Life.
**Every Step of
the Way.**

ACS is the only organization that supports people with cancer at every stage in their journey, from prevention to survivorship.



PATIENT SUPPORT

DISCOVERY

ADVOCACY

HEALTH EQUITY



The ACS Approach

DISCOVERY

Largest private, non-profit funder of cancer research in the US, with **\$517M invested in 2025**

ADVOCACY

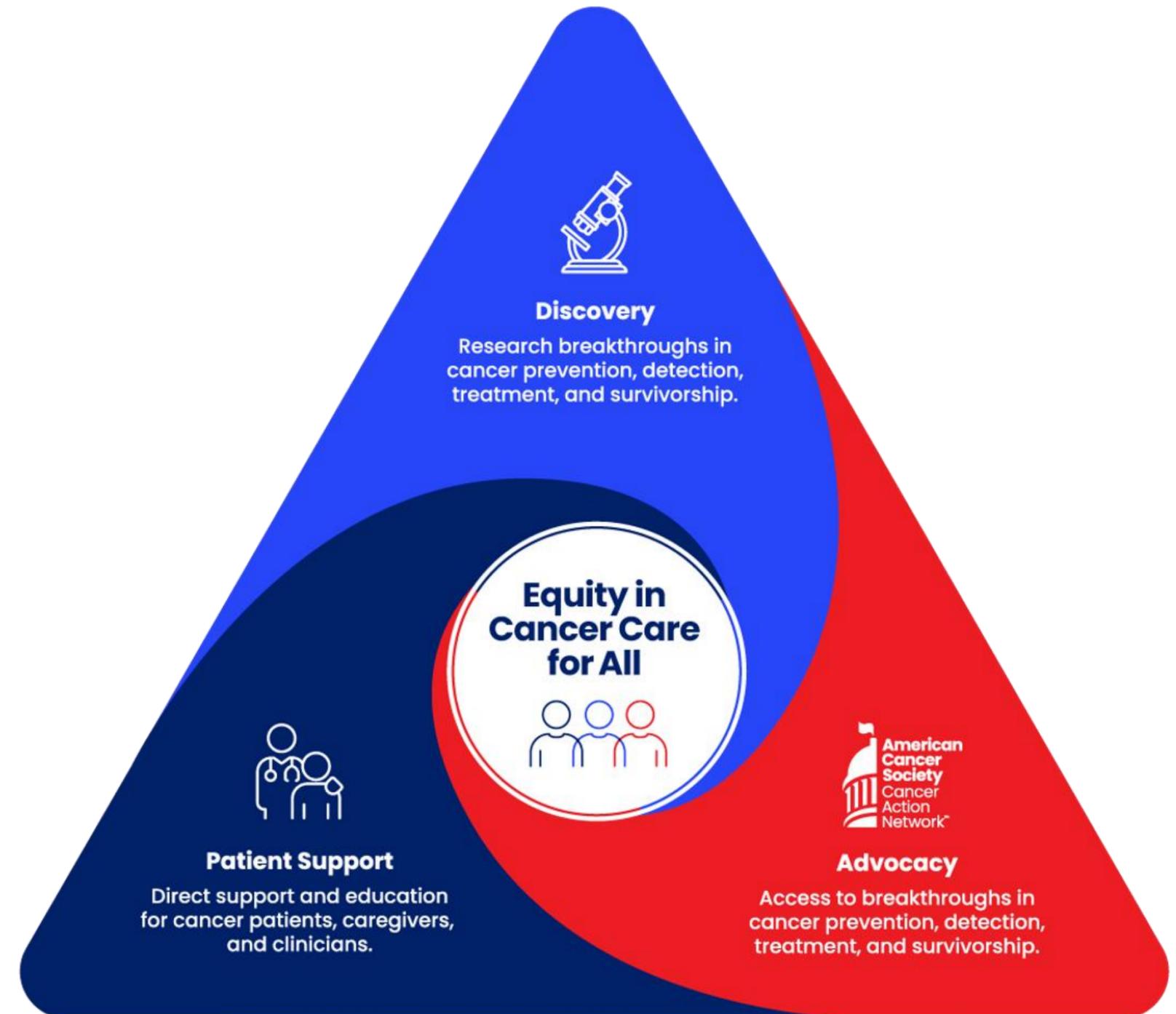
Advocacy presence at every level of government in **all 50 states and Puerto Rico**

PATIENT SUPPORT

Direct patient support in prevention, screening, lodging, transportation, navigation, survivorship, and education across **20,000+ communities**

EQUITY IN CANCER CARE

Driving impact across every cancer, every life, reaching **140.5M people in 2024**





Every Cancer.
Every Life.
Every Step of
the Way.

Ensuring no one has
to face a cancer
journey alone.





Cost of Cancer by the Numbers

83%

of employers say cancer is one of the top three conditions driving their health care costs.

74%

of patients/survivors missed work due to a cancer diagnosis, with 69% missing 4+ weeks.

40%

of survivors can experience long-term psychological effects impacting productivity and social interaction.

Cost of care for most common cancer types in the US is around

\$156.2B

for privately insured adults <65 years.



Addressing Modifiable Risk Factors

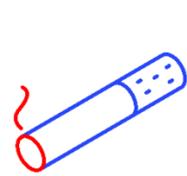




40% of cancer diagnoses could be avoided

Helping people reduce their risk of cancer is one of the most urgent and impactful actions we can take for future generations. While some cancer risks are beyond our control, more than **800,000 diagnoses in 2025 could be prevented** by modifying lifestyle behaviors.

Modifiable Risk Factors



Tobacco Use



Excess Body Weight



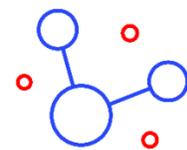
Physical Inactivity



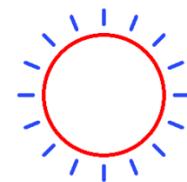
Diet



Alcohol Consumption

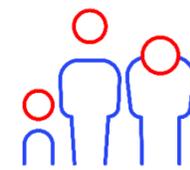


Infectious Agents

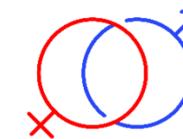


UV, Sun & Radon Exposure

Non-Modifiable Risk Factors



Age



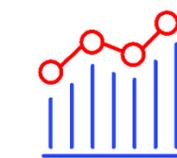
Sex at Birth



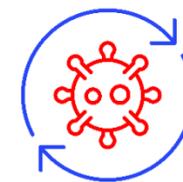
Genetic Factors



Race & Ethnicity



Family History



Previous & Personal Health History

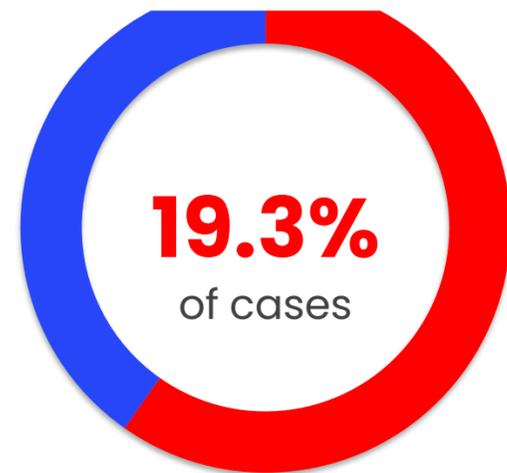
We can't change every risk factor, but **we have a powerful opportunity to confront those within our reach**, which is where our focus begins.



Everyday actions shape your cancer risk

Among the behaviors that influence cancer risk, three stand out, tobacco use, poor diet and physical inactivity, and alcohol consumption. These behaviors comprise **32.3%** of the **40% of potentially avoidable cancer diagnoses**.

Tobacco Use:



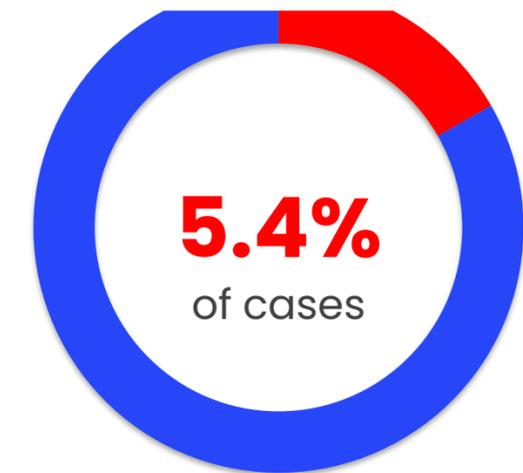
#1 preventable cause of cancer and death

Poor Diet & Physical Inactivity:



causes obesity and excess body weight

Alcohol Use:



even moderate use increases cancer risk

Without intervention, cancer incidence will continue to rise, especially in under resourced communities. **Prevention isn't optional, it's urgent.**



Influences that shape lives

A wide range of modifiable factors play a significant role in cancer diagnoses and death. Behind these numbers are real lives, families, friends, and communities impacted by cancers that could be prevented.

92%

of melanoma cases are attributable to ultraviolet ray exposure

53%

of uterine diagnoses and deaths are attributed to excess body weight

80%

of lung cancer deaths are caused by cigarette smoking

50%

of oral cavity cancers in men are attributable to alcohol consumption

Understanding modifiable cancer risks as well as the impact of systemic barriers and environmental effects **gives us the power to take action**, make healthier choices, and reduce the burden of cancer.

Movement that matters

Regular physical activity can significantly lower the risk of several cancers.

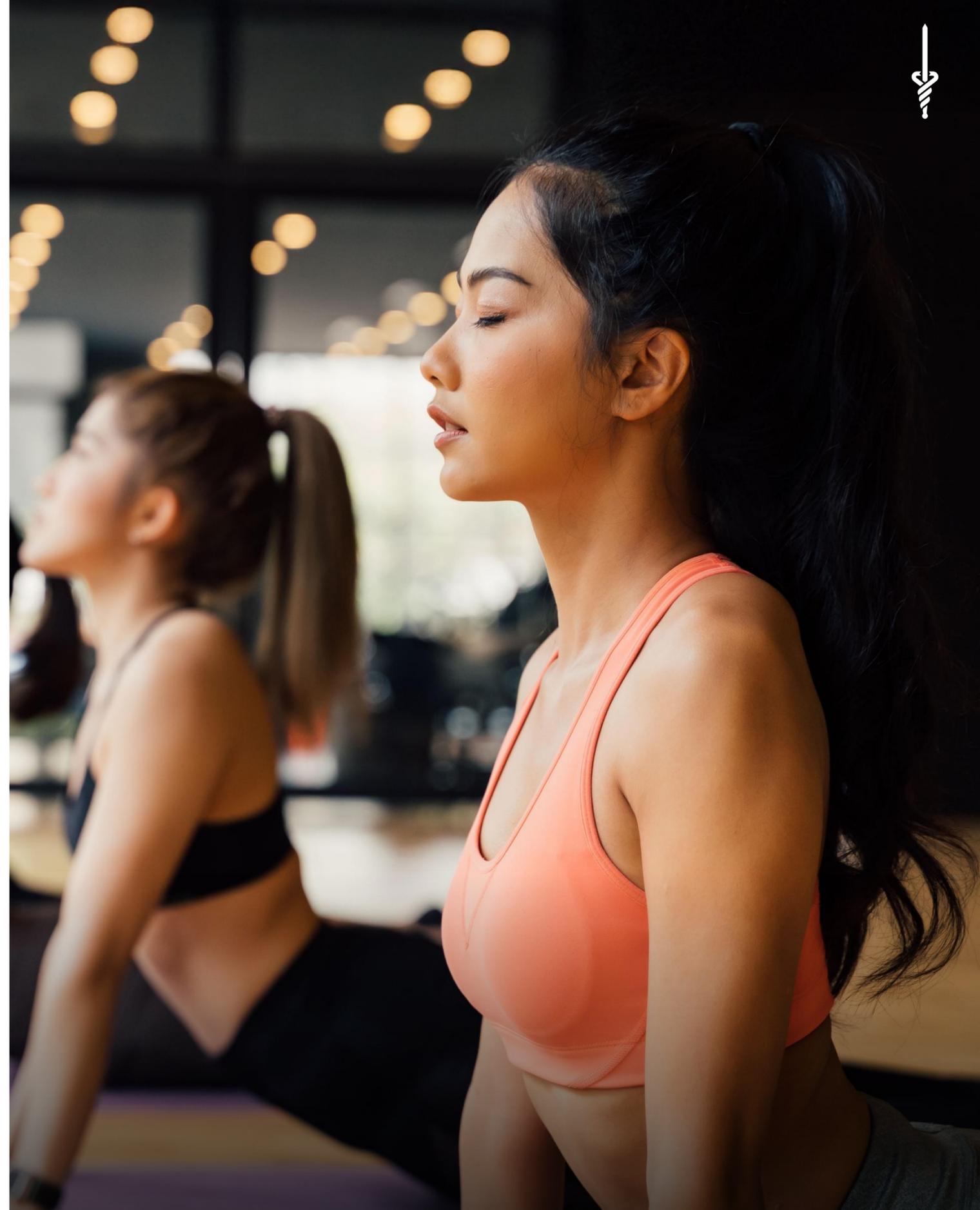
An estimated 3% of all cancer cases in the US are attributed to physical inactivity, and extended periods of sitting have been linked to increased cancer mortality.

Physical activity can help maintain a healthy weight which is a critical factor in cancer prevention.

Unfortunately, for many, opportunities to move are limited by environment, access, and time.

30

**extra minutes of
physical activity can
reduce risk of cancer
death by 8%**





Awareness of and Adherence to Screening





An essential step can save your life

Since 1991, early detection and better treatment have helped prevent over 3 million cancer deaths.

Approximately 31% of adults are overdue for recommended screenings, missing a critical opportunity to catch cancer early.

Expert screening guidelines empowers people to take control of their health and dramatically reduce their risk of dying from certain cancers.

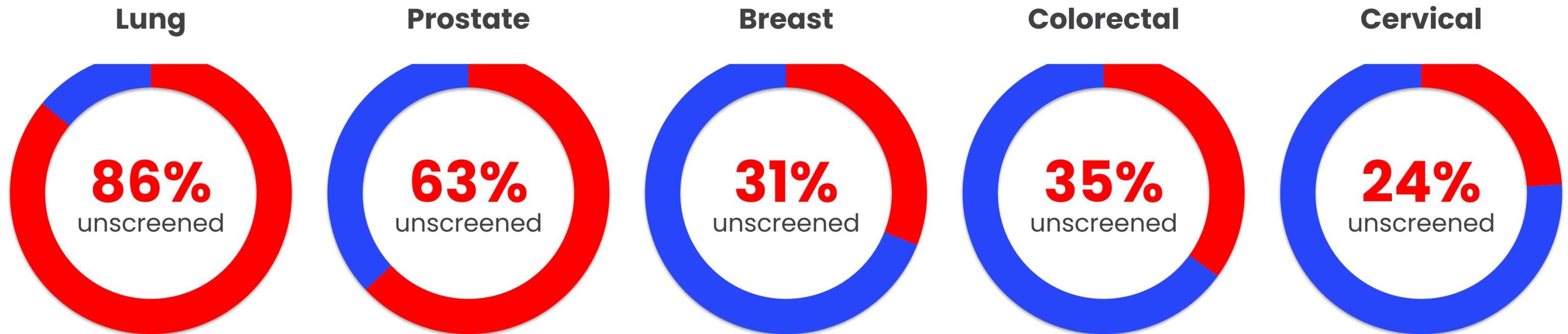
Cancer screening is one of our most powerful tools to reduce the burden of cancer across all communities.





Screening is Power

Regular screening and early detection is often the difference between life and death. **Five cancers have screening recommendations** from ACS – yet millions of eligible patients remain unscreened*:



Cancer incidence is rising in specific groups, especially colorectal in adults under 50 and cervical in women aged 30–44. These trends underscore the vital role of screening in detecting cancer early and reducing mortality.

While screening rates tell part of the story, understanding why people do not get screened reveals deeper challenges.



Obstacles that cost lives

Despite the benefits of early detection with regular screenings, many in the US face obstacles to getting screened, from cost and lack of knowledge, to cultural factors, and system navigation.

55%

avoid screening
due to concerns about
getting a bad test result

53%

adults 45+ cite
out-of-pocket costs
as the top barrier
to screening

31%

need approval
from their insurance before
scheduling routine screening

53%

do not receive assistance
from their provider with
key tasks related
to screening

What we do now to accelerate screening efforts will impact generations to come helping to ensure that **no one is left behind in their cancer journey.**



Changing the course of cancer

We have the expertise, infrastructure, partnerships and mission-driven focus to drive improvements in cancer screening awareness and adherence.

With decades of trusted guidance around guidelines and local support, ACS helps people understand when and why to get screened and works to remove barriers that stand in the way.

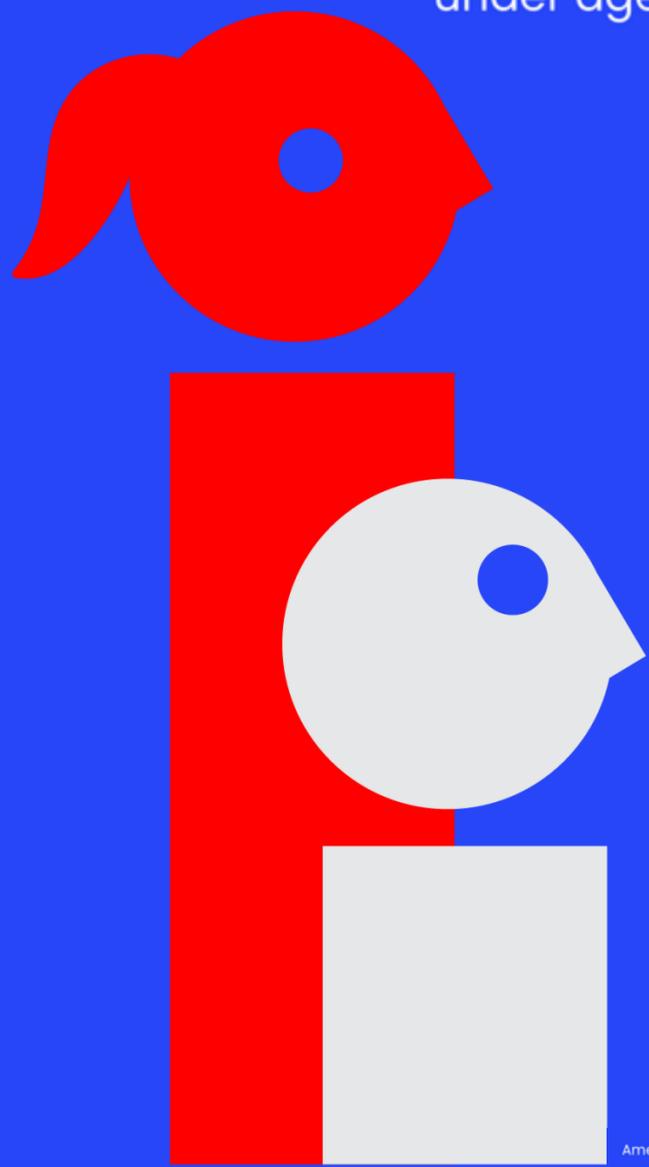
Through targeted interventions, strategic partnerships, and bold advocacy, ACS is driving early detection initiatives that improve cancer screening adherence, expand access, and advance equity, delivering life-saving impact.





Cancer incidence rises in women and decreases in men.

Rates **82% higher in women** than in men under age 50 in 2021.



Surveillance, Prevention, & Health Service Research

The ACS Surveillance, Prevention, & Health Service Research (SPHeRe) team conducts groundbreaking interdisciplinary research on cancer surveillance, health services, and disparities. The SPHeRe team expertly **delivers crucial insights on cancer** through a robust portfolio of nine comprehensive Cancer Facts and Figures reports and nearly 100 peer-reviewed journal articles every year.

The SHPeRe research portfolio focuses on the following priority areas:



Cancer Surveillance



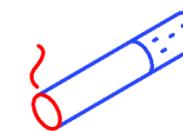
Economic Burden of Cancer



Cancer Disparities



Prevention & Screening



Tobacco Control

SHPeRe research **creates scientific evidence that drives decision-making** in cancer care, prevention strategies, and public health policies that will ultimately save more lives from cancer.



CancerRisk360™

Many people do not fully understand their personal risk factors for cancer or the steps they can take to lower their risk. ACS CancerRisk360™ is a tool that allows users to check, know and reduce their risk of getting cancer. This virtual tool analyzes information about the user's health history, daily habits, and screening status to guide timely, personalized cancer prevention guidance.



**~5 minute
assessment on
cancer.org**



**Key risk
areas
identified**



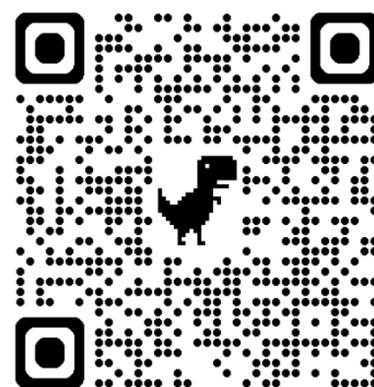
**Personalized
action plan**



**Questions
to ask your
doctor**



**Links to
educational
resources**



CancerRisk360

Greater awareness and urgent action can help turn the tide against potentially preventable cancers, ultimately saving lives.



The Cost of Cancer to Employers

From 2021 to 2022, the **average employer contribution to health accounts increased 30%** while contributions to plan premiums grew 2%. Early detection and prevention can save lives and reduce the burden and cost of cancer. An estimated **4.1 million cancer deaths in the US have been averted since 1991** because of improvements in early detection and treatment, as well as reductions in smoking.



Invest in the Health of Your Employees

Prevention and Wellness Programs Deliver Benefits and ROI

About 18% of cancer cases and 16% of cancer deaths can be attributed to a combination of excess body weight, physical inactivity, unhealthy diet, and alcohol intake.

Wellness programs incorporating interventions that target healthy eating and physical activity, tobacco use, alcohol consumption, and other key risk factors can improve health and health care costs.





Benefits of Investing in Preventive Care and Wellness

Lower Cost:

Absenteeism costs fall around

\$2.73

for every dollar spent on wellness programs.

Improved Retention:

79%

of employees say benefits are an important factor in deciding whether to remain with their current company.

Return on Investment:

For every dollar an employer spends on workforce health, they earn back

\$1.47

Partnering for Employee Health



As the only organization that integrates advocacy, research, and patient support to address the cancer burden, the American Cancer Society (ACS) is the partner of choice to help your organization address health issues your employees care about. Your partnership can lead to a healthier workforce and help impact the lives of people with cancer.

ACS Resources for Employers, Employees, and Customers



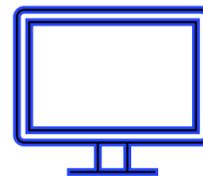
24/7 cancer helpline:

Support from caring cancer information specialists

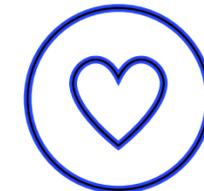


Free

transportation and lodging programs



Employer **cancer awareness** toolkits and **screening** resources



ACS CARES™

patient navigation support program

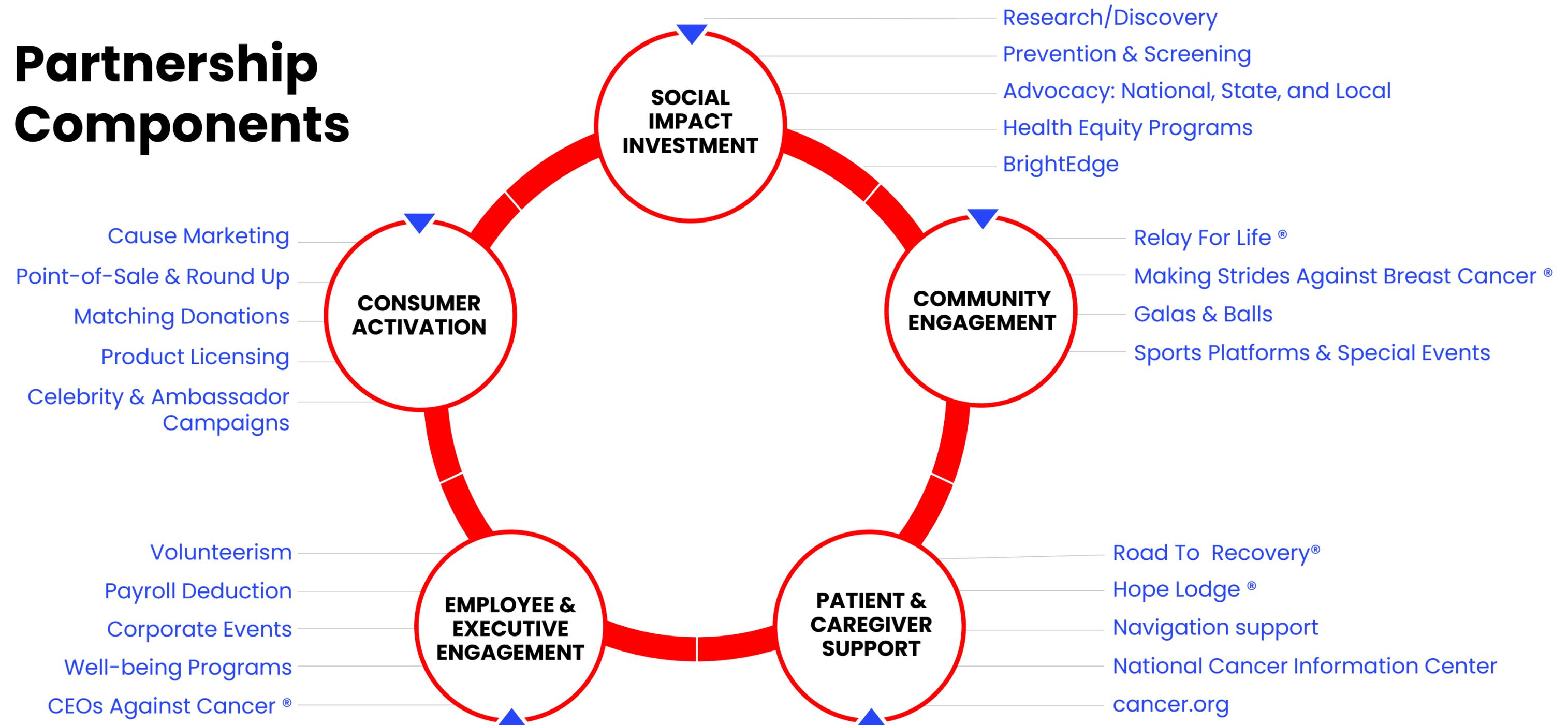


Employee engagement opportunities



How We Partner With Corporations

Partnership Components





Mission Impact Giving

When a company drives social impact, audiences respond. Corporate giving demonstrates social responsibility and delivers meaningful impact.

86% 86% of consumers expect companies to take action on social issues¹

\$5B Approximately \$5 billion is raised annually through workplace giving, with more than 50% coming from matching programs²

40% Companies with strong social impact programs have 40% higher employee retention³

¹Edelman Trust Barometer, 2023

²Nonprofit Source, 2022.

³Cone/Porter Novelli Purpose Study, 2022.

Ways to Give:



Grants & Sponsorships



Employee Giving Campaigns



Matching Gift Programs



Payroll Deductions



Volunteer Grants



Employee Engagement

Resources like the **Employer Toolkit** can empower your company to address the cancer prevention needs of your employees.

83% 83% of employers say cancer is Top 3 conditions driving their health care costs

\$156B Cost of care for most common cancer types in US ~\$156.2B for privately insured adults <65 years

62% 62% of employees and 82% of c-suite executives would be more likely to stay with their company if it better supported their well-being¹

¹ "The C-Suite's role in well-being", Deloitte, 2022

Employer Toolkits Include:



Ideas for Awareness and Action



Suite of Communications **Messaging**



Educational **Materials and Videos**



Resources for People with Cancer



Employee Engagement **Opportunities**

Fit2Be Cancer Free

cancer.org/fit2be

American Cancer Society Fit2Be Cancer Free is a virtual employee engagement challenge promoting cancer prevention in the workplace. Participants navigate an interactive map that includes impact milestones and a live chat feature to connect with and motivate colleagues..

2025 Fit2Be Cancer Free:

\$1.2M RAISED **1.7B** STEPS **746K+** MILES **18,200** PARTICIPANTS

2025 Employee Challenge Winners:

MCKESSON
National Employee
Winner
159,584 miles

Freestone
Mission Impact
Winner
\$60,025 raised

ACQUIS
Highest Average
Participation
6.23 mi per participant per day



Become a Volunteer

Volunteerism boosts morale, engagement, and job satisfaction while also strengthening your company's reputation and brand with customers, employees, and investors.

77%

77% of employees believe company-sponsored volunteer activities are essential to well-being.*

90%

90% of consumers around the globe would likely switch brands to choose one that they see as supporting a good cause.*

147%

Organizations with highly engaged employees outperform competitors by 147%.*

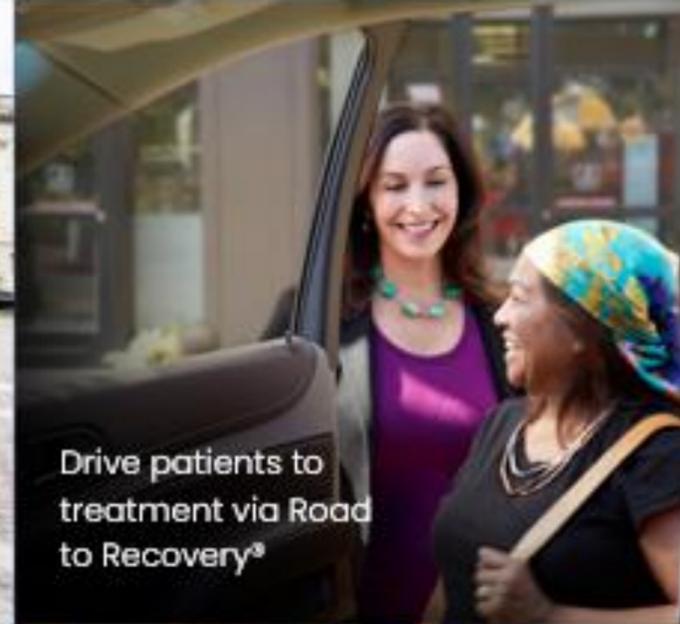
**"20 Stats Proving Corporate Volunteerism's Value", VolunteerHub, 2024*



Ways to Get Involved:



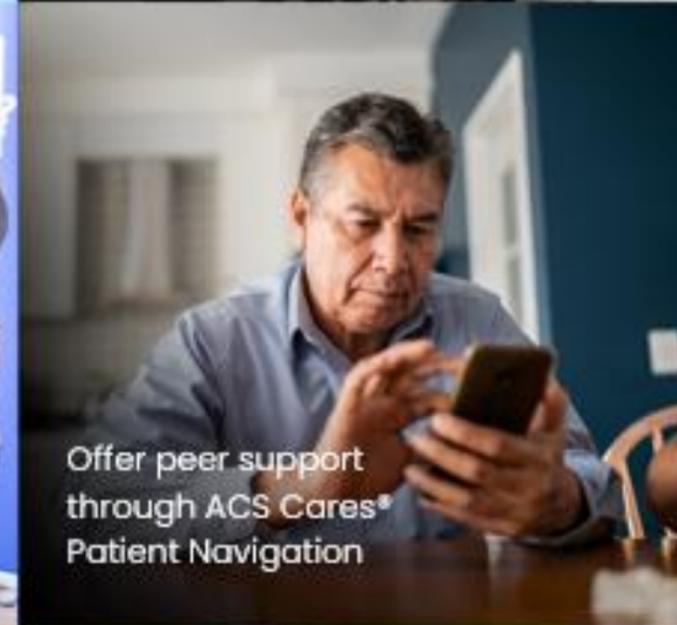
Advocate for Policy Change with ACS Cancer Action NetworkSM



Drive patients to treatment via Road to Recovery[®]



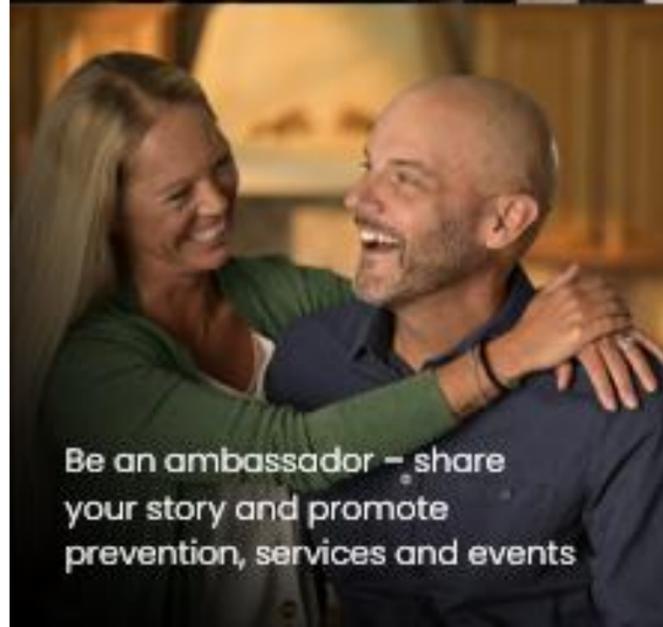
Support patients & caregivers at Hope Lodge[®]



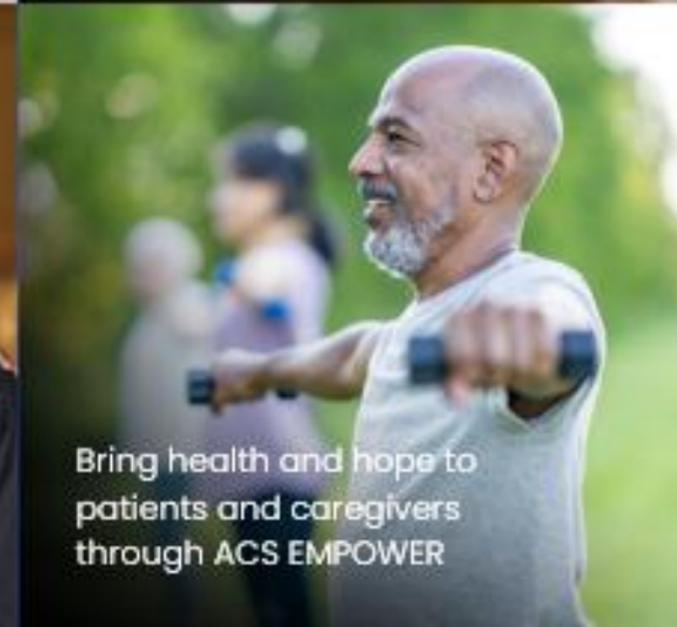
Offer peer support through ACS Cares[®] Patient Navigation



Bring events to life as a Day-of-Event volunteer



Be an ambassador – share your story and promote prevention, services and events



Bring health and hope to patients and caregivers through ACS EMPOWER



Build Your Corporate Volunteer Program

Volunteerism boosts morale, engagement, and job satisfaction while also strengthening your company's reputation and brand with customers, employees, and investors.

Companies that offer opportunities for both giving and volunteering experienced significantly higher employee engagement.*

Explore 150+ Volunteer Opportunities with the American Cancer Society. Let us help you find the opportunity that is right for your workforce.

- Day of Service activations
- Volunteer Grant program integration
- Personalized engagement & activation through ERGs
- Concierge experiences for top partners

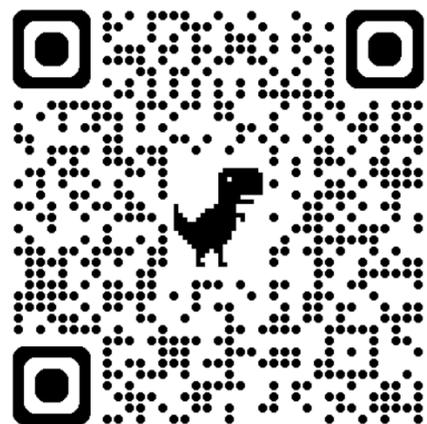
*"2025 CSR Industry Review", Your Cause, 2025



Thank You

Hannah Harless
Corporate Relations, Sr. Manager
Hannah.Harless@Cancer.org

Kristen Rombach
Associate Director, State Partnerships
Kristen.Rombach@Cancer.org

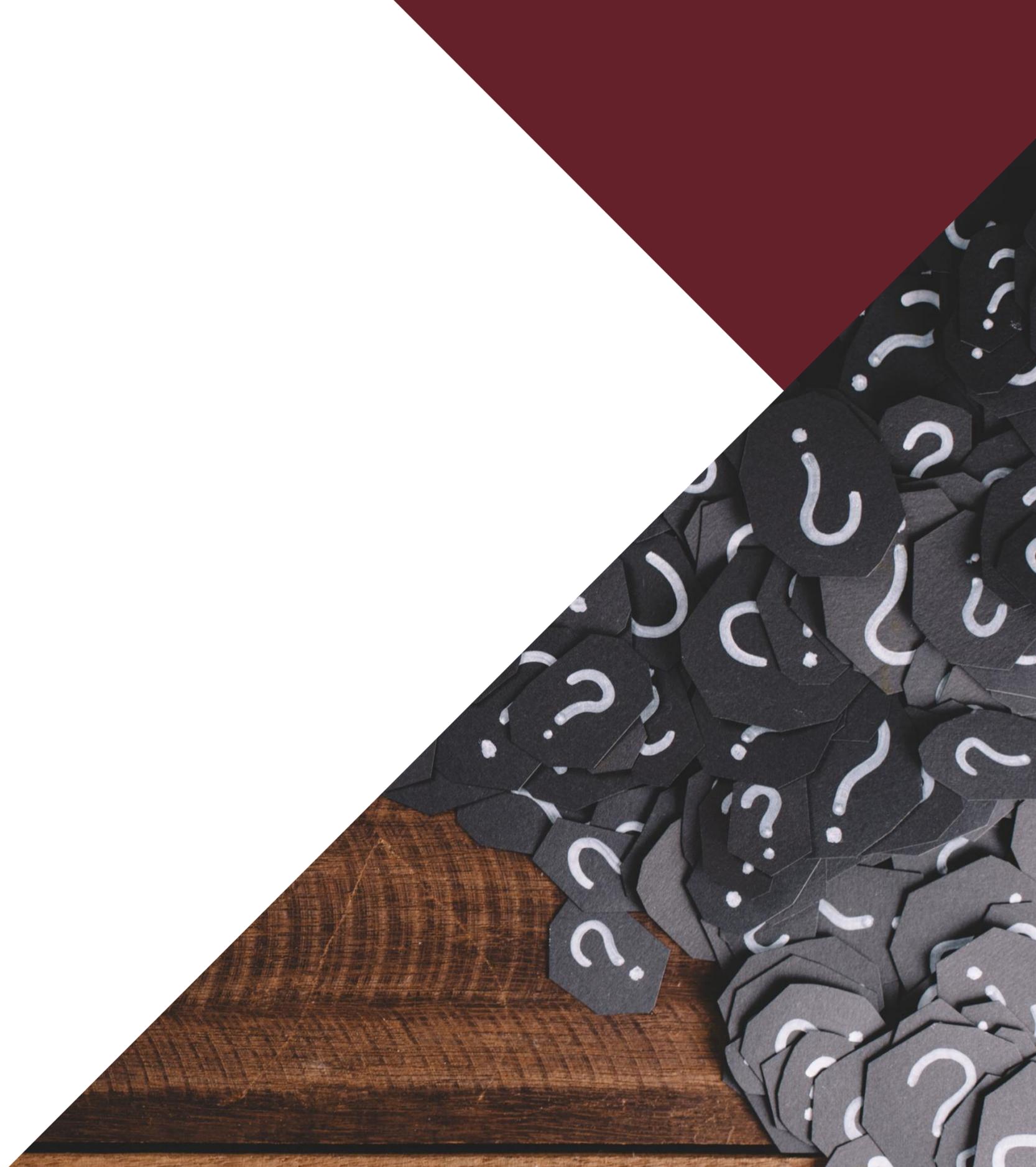


Scan to access free
corporate resources
or visit cancer.org

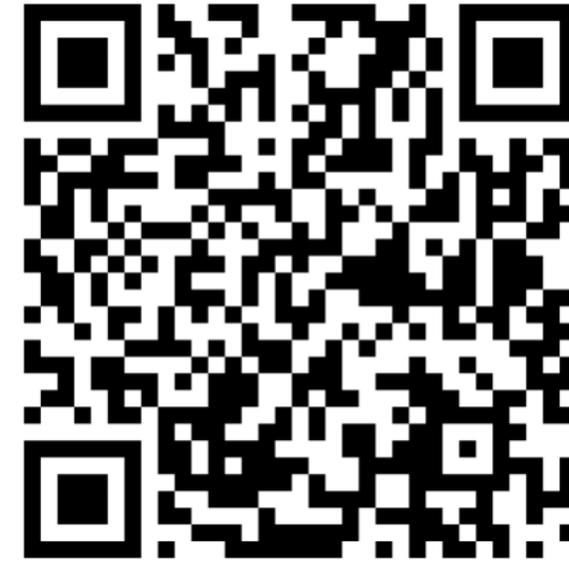


Questions & Answers

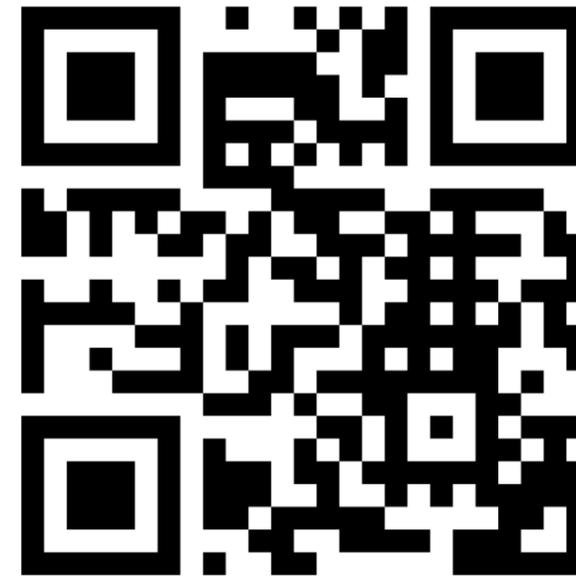
- Use the chat box to share what you learned in the breakout session or to send your questions to our panelists.
- A moderator will read questions as they are submitted.



Resource Spotlight



HealthCode- Million Mile
Month



American Cancer Society

Closing

Announcements

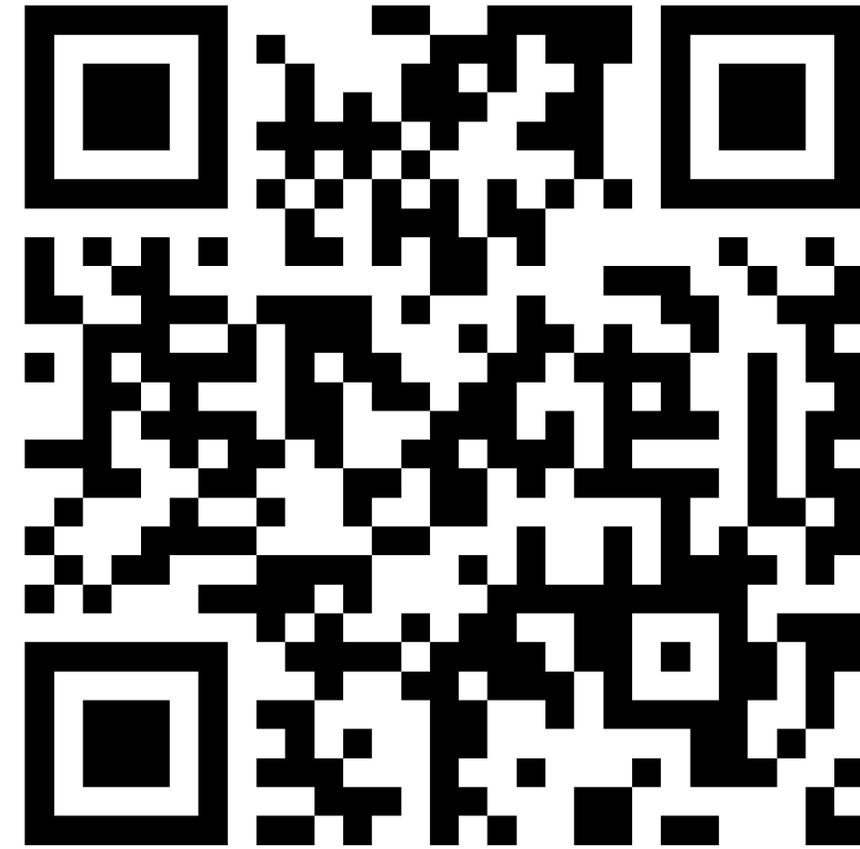
- Thank you to our speakers Heather and Kristen!
- Today's presentation will be posted to the MHWC website.
- Session evaluation in the chat box & on next slide.
- Don't forget to submit a 2025 Employer Commitment Form – link to online form can be found in the chat box & on next slide.

See you at our next meeting on May 6, 2026!

Closing Announcements



Session Evaluation



**2026 Employer
Commitment Form**

See you at our next meeting on May 6th, 2026!