



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

NCI Council of Research Advocates

September 18, 2024

“ I committed to this fight when I was Vice President. It’s one of the reasons why, quite frankly, I ran for President. Let there be no doubt: Now that I am President, this is a presidential White House priority- period. ”

President Biden, February 2, 2022



February 2nd Cancer Moonshot Reignition at the White House



Reignition of the Cancer Moonshot

The Cancer Moonshot is mobilizing towards two clear goals:

- To reduce the death rate from cancer by at least **50 percent over the next 25 years**, to prevent more than million lives and
- Improve the experience of people and their families living with and surviving cancer – and, by doing this and more, **end cancer as we know it today.**



Priority Actions

1. Expand Access to Cancer Screenings
2. Understand and Prevent Toxic and Environmental Exposures
3. Prevent More Cancers Before They Start
4. Drive New Innovation and Deliver the Latest Progress to Patients and Communities
5. Support and Center Patients and Caregivers



“And I believe we can usher in the same unwillingness to postpone, the same national purpose that will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills to end cancer as we know it and even cure cancers once and for all.

President Biden, September 12, 2022 ”



September 12th Cancer Moonshot Remarks at JFK Library, Boston



Cancer Cabinet

- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
- Department of Defense (DOD)
- Department of Labor (DOL)
- Department of Commerce (DOC)
- Department of Energy (DOE)
- Department of Agriculture (USDA),
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- National Institutes of Health (NIH)
- National Cancer Institute (NCI)
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)
- Domestic Policy Council (DPC)
- Office of the First Lady (OFL)
- Office of the Vice President (OVP)
- Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
- Office of Legislative Affairs (OLA)
- Office of Public Engagement (OPE)
- NASA
- Gender Policy Council



March 16th Cancer Cabinet meeting at the White House



Expanding Access to Cancer Screenings

COVID-19 disrupted cancer care, leading to 10 million missed screenings.

We responded (a snapshot):

- \$1 billion committed to expanding cancer screening in underserved communities.
- Veterans Affairs expanded lung cancer screenings and at-home colorectal screenings for over 1 million veterans.
- No-cost screenings for tens of millions of Americans for lung, colorectal, and breast cancer.



Understanding and Preventing Toxic and Environmental Exposures

Focus on prevention and clean environment

- \$3B invested in cleaning 50 toxic Superfund sites
- \$20B for clean water access
- First-ever national PFAS drinking water standard established



Prevent More Cancers Before They Start

- HHS has introduced a framework focused on accelerating smoking cessation efforts, particularly addressing disparities in populations heavily impacted by smoking.
- The IHS, in partnership with NCI's Smokefree.gov, has launched a text-based support program called SmokefreeNATIVE to help American Indians and Alaska Natives quit smoking.
- The USDA has launched a virtual center to accelerate research on nutrition and chronic diseases, including cancer, as part of the Cancer Moonshot's prevention goals. This initiative is also tied to the National Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health.
- NCI has partnered with public and private entities to launch a clinical trial network that focuses on HPV self-collection methods to improve cervical cancer prevention and identification of at-risk populations.



Supporting and Centering Patients & Families

Navigating the Cancer Journey with Compassion

- Expanded Medicare coverage for cancer patient navigation services which cover more than 150 million Americans, and 50 cancer centers now providing these services.
- PACT Act: Historic legislation providing expanded benefits for veterans exposed to toxic substances, including those facing cancer.



Drive New Innovation

Driving Research and Innovation Forward

- \$25 billion invested in the National Cancer Institute (NCI).
- Creation of the Cancer Moonshot Scholars program to mentor the next generation of innovators.
- President Biden and Congress worked together on a bipartisan basis to deliver the President's vision for a new biomedical research agency, ARPA-H or the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health, with an initial investment of \$4 billion to drive breakthroughs in cancer.
 - mRNA vaccines for cancer
 - AI tools for rare cancer mutations
 - Precision cancer surgery



Engaging with Communities from Multiple Angles

- Working together with the Office of the First Lady
- Direct line of access to the Cancer Moonshot where anyone can submit ideas, projects, commitments to us
- Calls to Action to curate commitments from the public and private sectors
- Encourage and catalyze public-private partnerships:
 - 100+ Federal actions and 200+ national commitments



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Expanding the Mission Globally

- In order to fully realize the bold vision of the President to end cancer as we know it, the Cancer Moonshot is committed to support and develop concrete oncology solutions to the most pressing global challenges that benefits patients from all backgrounds and geographic locations.
 - The Quad Cancer Moonshot represents an unprecedented, coordinated effort by the United States, Australia, India, and Japan to combat cervical cancer in the Indo-Pacific region.
 - The first-ever India-United States Cancer Moonshot Dialogue was held in New Delhi on August 5 & 6, 2024, marking a significant advancement in the bilateral relationship between the two nations in the realm of cancer research
 - Biden Cancer Moonshot also recently hosted the White House Africa Cancer Forum in July, which brought together ministerial level leadership from ten African nations (Benin, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Zambia) to assess national priorities in cancer care, as part of their comprehensive national strategy for improving health care systems and population health outcomes.
 - The Biden Cancer Moonshot also announced more than \$100 million in new announcements and commitments by the USG and private sector to help reduce the burden of cancer in Africa during the event.



Parting Words

“60 years ago, President Kennedy said that America chose to go to the moon not because it was easy, but because it was hard. Because that challenge is one we were unwilling to postpone. Today, our moonshot is ending cancer as we know it. And it's something we can do together.”

President Biden, September 12, 2022



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