

# HALTING PANCREATIC CANCER IS URGENT: INCREASE FEDERAL FUNDING FOR LIFESAVING RESEARCH



## PANCREATIC CANCER NUMBERS DON'T LIE

- 1** It is one of the deadliest major cancers with the **lowest survival rate at just 9 percent.**
- 2** It is expected to rise to the **2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of cancer-related deaths** in the U.S. around 2020.
- 3** It is **currently** the **3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of cancer-related deaths** in the U.S.

**No early detection tests for pancreatic cancer exist and few effective treatment options are available.**

## CONGRESSIONAL ACTION IS NEEDED TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES

The pancreatic cancer community is grateful for congressional support that has increased research funding through the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI). However pancreatic cancer's statistics tell us it's not enough. (See chart.)

Innovative discoveries are being made in the lab due to the increases in research funding, but with extremely limited treatment options and no early detection method, additional funding and focused efforts are urgently needed to quickly advance these discoveries into meaningful solutions for patients and their families.

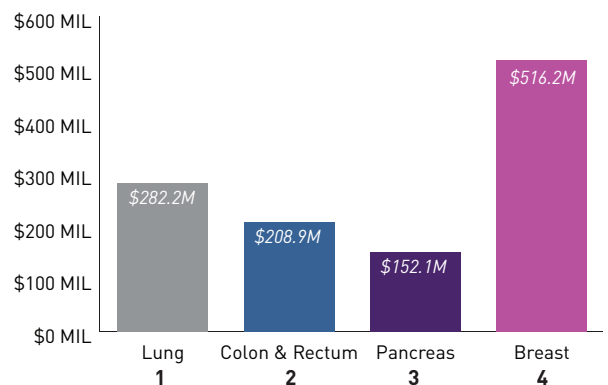
**“When we all focus our resources, talents and time on a common issue, even a problem as devastating as this insidious disease can be overcome.”**

—Eight-Year Pancreatic Cancer Survivor

## IMPACT OF NIH FUNDING

Eighty percent of all pancreatic cancer research funding is provided via federal sources, most of it through the the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This funding has resulted in basic understanding about differences between pancreatic cancer and healthy cells, which is paving the way toward early detection and treatments.

### 2016 NCI Annual Funding - Top Four Cancer Killers<sup>1</sup>



1. NCI Funded Research Portfolio [<http://fundedresearch.cancer.gov/nciportfolio/>]. Accessed April 2018.

## THE PANCREATIC CANCER ACTION NETWORK CALLS ON THE 115TH CONGRESS TO DEMAND BETTER BY:

- Supporting **\$39.3 billion for the NIH in FY 2019**, including **\$6.375 billion for the NCI** and full funding provided from the 21st Century Cures Act.
- **Supporting pancreatic cancer research** in the **Department of Defense's Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program** and provide a **funding increase** for the program.
- **Supporting the implementation of the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act** — legislation that created a scientific framework for pancreatic cancer and outlined priorities for making progress in the disease.
- Joining the **Congressional Caucus on the Deadliest Cancers** to support and raise awareness about the nation's deadliest cancers, defined by the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act as those with a five-year survival rate below 50 percent.