

You're Our Hero Making An Impact In Our 20th Year



PANCREATIC
CANCER
ACTION
NETWORK

You are an essential part of our nationwide network of heroes dedicated to working together to advance research, support patients and create hope for everyone affected by pancreatic cancer.



“You, our hero, made the last 20 years possible.”

We can hardly believe that it has been 20 years since PanCAN opened its doors and dedicated itself to fighting the world’s toughest cancer.

A lot has happened over the past 20 years. Our scientific strategy has led to a pancreatic cancer research field that didn’t exist, a better understanding about how to tackle early detection and new treatment strategies that benefit patients. Through our advocacy, we’ve changed the way the government looks at and funds pancreatic cancer. Our Patient Services program is the gold standard. And most importantly, our research and clinical initiatives have improved patient outcomes.

We have thousands of stories that highlight the work that has been done since our founding in 1999, **but the real story is about you.**

You, our hero, made the last 20 years possible. Your support, action and foresight created a movement so powerful that it can’t be ignored.

You demanded better for patients and their loved ones. You changed the conversation—patients who were told their only option upon diagnosis was to get their affairs in order now have various treatment plans to choose from.

You are relentless trailblazers.

In our 20th year, your generosity gave us the power to push boundaries, invest in new treatments and give patients the personal attention they deserve. You showed up for us—attending Advocacy Day in Washington D.C., PurpleStride events that broke records and conferences attended by the best scientific minds in the nation. You made your voice heard. You replaced helplessness with hope for so many.

We can’t wait to see what the next 20 years bring us.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

Julie Fleshman
Julie Fleshman, JD, MBA
President and Chief Executive Officer

Pamela Acosta Marquardt
Pamela Acosta Marquardt
Founder

You're Working to Make the Fight a Fair One

15 Ways **You** Made an Impact This Year



15 Ways You Made an Impact This Year

- 1** You made sure that patients, caregivers and healthcare professionals had somewhere to turn for resources and support — 40,249 times. 13,321 were brand new contacts.
- 2** You helped us invest more than \$15 million in promising research projects and larger clinical initiatives — leading us to early detection tools and treatment options to improve patient outcomes.
- 3** You funded six innovative researchers and provided five grant extensions to projects that deepen our understanding of the disease and aim to better treat, detect and fight it.
- 4** More than 90,000 participants joined 55 PurpleStride events in the U.S. — spreading awareness about the disease across the country and raising more than \$14 million.
- 5** Dedicated volunteers like you made PurpleStride Washington, D.C., the first PurpleStride event to raise \$1 million — that's more funding to help more people.
- 6** 650 constituents, including 110 pancreatic cancer survivors, registered for National Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C., to urge their members of Congress in every state to increase federal funding for pancreatic cancer research.



- 7** Your support means more patients learned about treatments and therapies for their specific tumor type. This year we delivered our 1,000th Know Your Tumor[®] molecular profiling report since the service launched in 2014.

- 8** We turned 20 because of you! Your generosity over 20 years has allowed us to help patients one-on-one, fund research and boost federal funding to make pancreatic cancer a priority.



9 On National Call Congress Day, you made 1,900 calls to congressional offices in Washington, D.C., demanding an increase in federal funding—a nearly 100 percent surge over last year.

10 Thanks to your relentless advocacy efforts, the National Cancer Institute's pancreatic cancer research investment increased again this year, resulting in a 900 percent increase since our founding.

11 You helped PanCAN's Precision PromiseSM Supportive Care committee establish best practices through research results. We published a paper characterizing types of pancreatic cancer-associated weight loss and set best practices to prevent and treat this debilitating condition.

12 Your support allowed us to create a Community for Progress of pancreatic cancer researchers and clinicians worldwide. Now, the best scientific minds collaborate, mentor and support one another's research.

13 Your generosity allowed us to provide more than 14,000 clinical trials searches, bringing patients the possibility of more treatment options.

14 Data from the Patient Registry you supported identified best practices for use of pancreatic enzymes.

15 You helped convene top researchers and clinicians to share progress, best practices, innovative ideas and address the challenges ahead at our Scientific Summit.



“I want to make a difference so that one day, no one ever has to hear the words, ‘Go home and put your house in order,’ ever again.”

Roberta Luna
Survivor and Volunteer

Karen Got a New Lease on Life

Karen Kiernan thought her back pain was from a previous injury. She thought her recent weight loss was due to her just starting a paleo diet, which she thought would ease the digestive issues that had been bothering her for months.

The cause of these symptoms was something much more severe: stage IV pancreatic cancer.

Around Christmas 2016, Karen Kiernan was enjoying the holidays at her family home in Truckee, Calif., when she began to experience back pain. Karen, who had retired from her 32-year career as a registered nurse only six months previously, originally chalked the pain up to an earlier fall or a strain from shoveling snow. At the same time, she had already begun a special diet that she thought would help relieve the digestive issues that had been bothering her for several months. She attributed her weight loss to this new clean-eating lifestyle.

Unfortunately, the cause for these symptoms was something much more severe: stage IV pancreatic cancer. She received the news in March 2017. Her doctor told her immunotherapy would not be an option for her type of cancer. He never mentioned reaching out to PanCAN to have her tumor profiled.



Karen enjoying treasured time with her husband, Mike.

“Without the help of PanCAN and their dedicated staff, my journey as a pancreatic cancer patient would have been very different.”

“PanCAN gave me the hope I needed to persevere.”



Having fun with her granddaughter Lily and dog Lucy.

“I never dreamed I would ever get cancer,” Karen said. “I always took care of myself, and there was no history of cancer in my family. The diagnosis came as a complete shock.”

Karen knew she needed to start doing some research to learn more about her options, but with the overwhelming diagnosis, she found herself feeling anxious and depressed. Her sister stepped in to support her and found information about PanCAN in the materials shared by Karen’s hospital.

“Within a day, my sister called me telling me all about molecular profiling through Know Your Tumor,” Karen said.

She understood that learning the molecular profile of her tumor could help inform the best treatment decisions. During the fall, when going in for a stent replacement surgery, Karen had her doctors collect a tissue sample from her tumor that could be utilized for molecular profiling.

Everything changed in early 2018. Karen received a call from her sister with the tumor profiling results.

“My sister was laughing and crying,” Karen said. “I had given her permission to receive information from PanCAN, so she saw the email first.”

The molecular profiling results of Karen’s tumor showed that she had a rare mutation found in only about 1-3 percent of pancreatic cancer

patients. This specific characteristic is known to respond well to an immunotherapy drug that had been approved a year or so earlier, called Keytruda®. This treatment option may have never been considered if Karen had not participated in our Know Your Tumor program.

Karen began treatment with Keytruda in April 2018 and within a week, she says she began feeling like herself again. Her back pain subsided and when she stepped on the scale, she noticed she had gained two pounds. To date, Karen’s scans continue to be stable.

With this new lease on life, she is looking forward to more happy moments with her husband, three children and seven grandchildren, including baby Charley who was born in early 2019.

“I know I’ll always be on treatment. But because I’m feeling better, I’ll get to do more of the things I love,” Karen said.

More than anything, she wants to continue to share her story so others can learn about resources like the Know Your Tumor service offered by PanCAN.

“There are some days I wake up and I don’t feel as strong as I want to be,” Karen said. “But I have to reach down there, somewhere, to find the strength to keep going, because this disease isn’t going to stop me.” ■



From a young age, Dr. Yao knew she wanted to dedicate her life to finding a cure for cancer.

“I saw many cancer patients and witnessed how they suffered. My mom and her colleagues worked tirelessly to bring them comfort.”

Dr. Yao Devotes Her Life to Finding a Cure

Inspired by her mother, a doctor who worked with cancer patients, Wantong Yao, MD, PhD, knew she wanted to dedicate her life to finding a cure for cancer. Now a two-time PanCAN research grant recipient and tenure-track assistant professor at MD Anderson Cancer Center, she works diligently to move the research field forward.

The daughter of an oncologist, Wantong Yao, MD, PhD, spent much of her childhood at the hospital where her mother worked.

“I saw many cancer patients there and witnessed how they suffered. My mom and her colleagues worked tirelessly to bring them comfort. I grew to understand my mom’s commitment to her work, and to be inspired to help her and to help others.

“I remember declaring, ‘I can help you cure cancer, Mom!’” With a smile on her face, Dr. Yao’s mother encouraged her to study hard. And study she did, earning her MD and PhD before becoming a postdoctoral fellow at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

She is also a two-time PanCAN research grant recipient—receiving a 2016 Pathway to Leadership Grant and a 2019 Translational Research Grant.

Her 2016 grant, funded by PanCAN Board of Directors member Craig Rogerson and his wife

Irene, in memory of Carina Rogerson, led to her discovering that syndecan-1 (SDC1), a protein that sits on the surface of pancreatic cancer cells, could be a new potential therapeutic target. Her 2019 grant will allow her to build upon her findings.

Now running her own lab at MD Anderson, Dr. Yao and her team are working toward a potential new strategy to starve and kill the cancer cells.

“I find great fulfillment in the idea that my expertise may someday contribute to curing pancreatic cancer patients.”

When Dr. Yao’s not in the lab, she enjoys spending time with her family, especially her young daughter, Abigail.

“I hope I can influence Abigail as my mom influenced me,” she said. “I hope one day she will join the next generation of cancer clinicians and scientists.” ■

Raymond Turns His Grief into Action

"This is going to be rough," Raymond Penn said after a deep sigh, "but I tell my story to everybody." Penn lost his wife, Laura, to pancreatic cancer less than a year ago. He's been telling his story ever since.

They met when they were just 13 years old. "From the first day I met her, we started a conversation," Raymond Penn said. "Every time we were together, we would just talk." They spent the next 44 years talking—about their children (a daughter and two sons), their grandchild, their love and their shared passion for helping others.

Raymond, a Navy veteran, and Laura spent their free time supporting causes that affected their friends and loved ones, participating in many annual charity walks. Laura, a seamstress since her teen years, would make shirts for her walking teams and blankets and pillows for those going through cancer treatment.

It was at a walk that Raymond remarked how yellow Laura's eyes were. At the doctor's office that following Monday, they were shocked to learn Laura had pancreatic cancer. The doctor said to stay off the internet, a rule Raymond immediately broke.

A quick Google search led Raymond to the PanCAN website, and he called Patient Central. "I told them what was going on and they sent me a packet in the mail," Raymond said. "It had a booklet in it and so much valuable information about pancreatic cancer. They were great." He also learned about PanCAN's PurpleStride events. "We took off from there," he said.



Before she passed away, Raymond's wife, Laura, made him promise he would continue with the work they started together.



Raymond and Laura with their three children and grandson.

Raymond Turns His Grief into Action

“I’d love to prevent just one person, one family, from feeling the pain I’ve been feeling every day since Laura lost her battle against this deadly disease.”

Raymond and Laura signed up for their local PurpleStride event to connect with the pancreatic cancer community. “Everyone was so positive. Laura was able to get up (on stage) and tell everyone that she was a survivor.”

Their first year, Team Laura raised \$2,500—five times their fundraising goal. Their second year, they raised \$3,000. And while Laura wasn’t physically there for PurpleStride Jacksonville this year, her spirit and story were.

Before she passed away, Laura made Raymond promise he would continue the work they started together. He now serves as the volunteer Outreach Chair for PanCAN’s Jacksonville Affiliate, and he is a PurpleStride Team Captain, too. Spreading awareness about the disease is his life’s passion.

“She made me promise and that’s what I do now. I’m living for the promise.”

Raymond will tell his story anywhere. While waiting for a flight at the airport recently, a woman asked about the PurpleStride band he wears around his wrist. “I started to tell her

my story, and we started crying together. Then everyone around us started listening and crying. It just makes me want to tell more and more people.”

In his ideal world, he’d be carrying on the conversation he started more than 44 years ago with his best friend.

Toward the end of her life, when the disease robbed them of their most cherished pastime because she was too weak to converse, Laura would squeeze Raymond’s hand to say she loved him and encourage him to keep talking.

Raymond says that Laura would be very happy to see what he’s done. “That’s my saying: ‘I’d love to prevent just one person, one family, from feeling the pain I’ve been feeling every day since Laura lost her battle against this deadly disease.’”

Raymond credits his PanCAN volunteer work in helping him through the grieving process. Some days are better than others, but Raymond is grateful that he had PanCAN in his corner during Laura’s fight and afterward. ■

5 Key Wins **You** Made Happen Over 20 Years

You created a pancreatic cancer research field that didn't exist 20 years ago, and a PanCAN family and community whose reach and impact are immeasurable. You're helping more people than ever before. There are too many wins to list—this is just a sampling. Thank you for all you've supported over the past two decades.



1 Your support resulted in a 900 percent increase since 2007 of pancreatic cancer research advocates pushing for increased federal funding. Now Congress is more aware of the importance of federal research in accelerating pancreatic cancer discoveries.



2 Your 76,000 emails, 14,000+ phone calls and 1,351 in-person Capitol Hill visits led to the passing of the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act in 2012—now national attention is focused on pancreatic cancer and the National Cancer Institute funds important research projects.



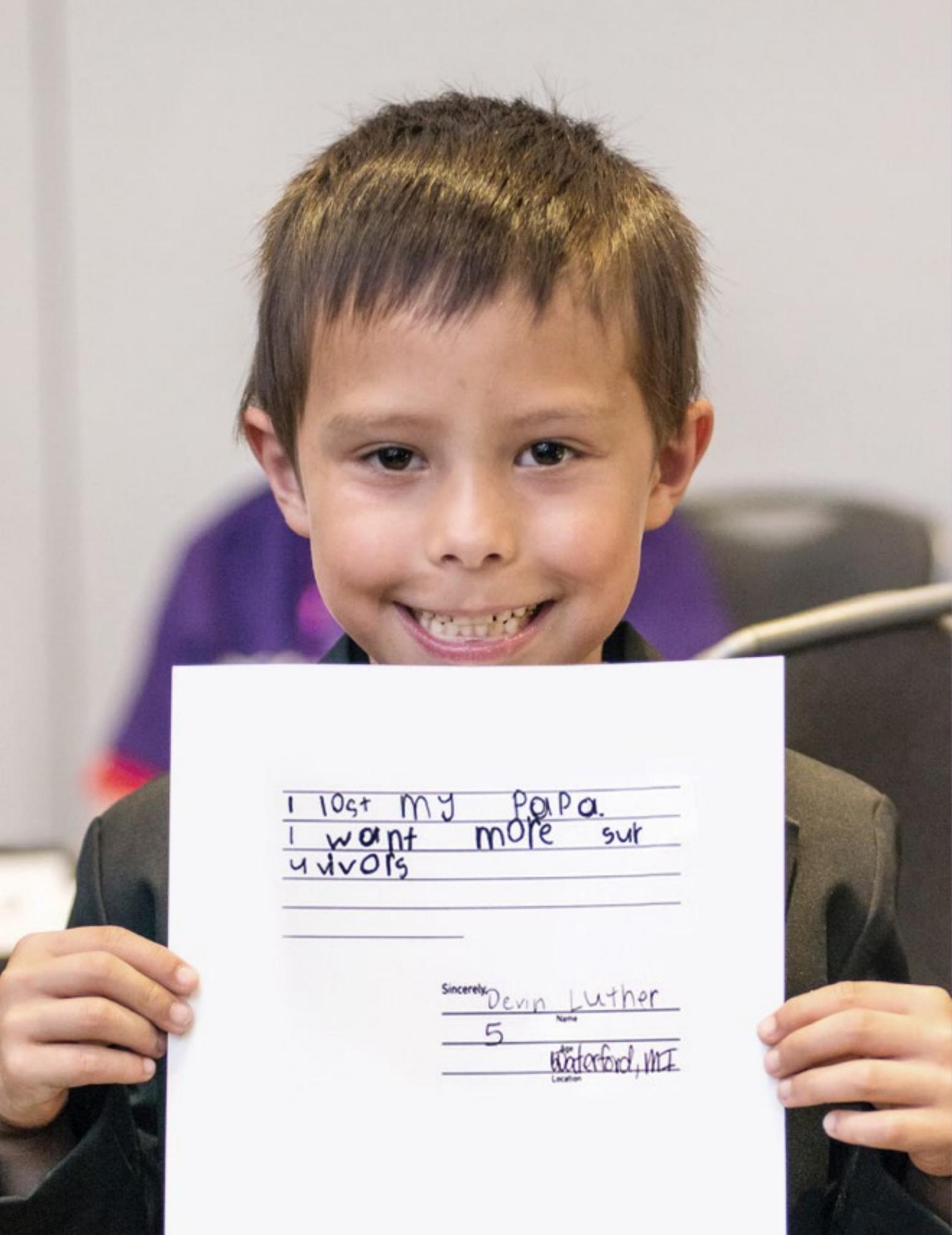
3 Because of your generosity, we cumulatively invested \$105 million in research.



4 Your support of Know Your Tumor let us prove that molecular profiling improves patient outcomes.



5 You've helped expand the pancreatic cancer research field. Since 2010, the field adopted eight new treatment options—before that, there were only two.



**“I lost my papa.
I want more survivors.”**

Devin Luther Jr.
Advocate
Age 5

You Are Part of a Special Community Putting an End to Pancreatic Cancer



Survivor Council

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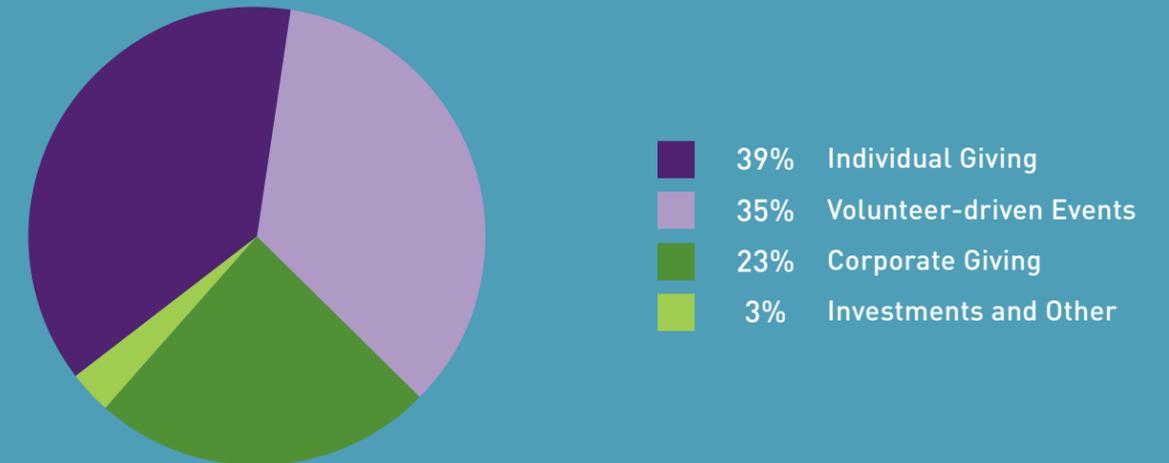
Your Dollars at Work

PanCAN is dedicated to maintaining full transparency and trust with you.

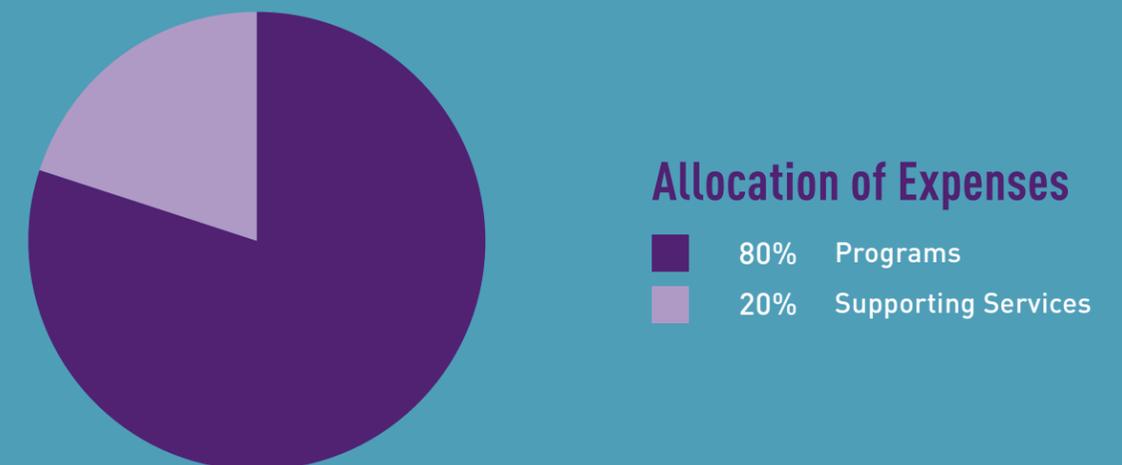
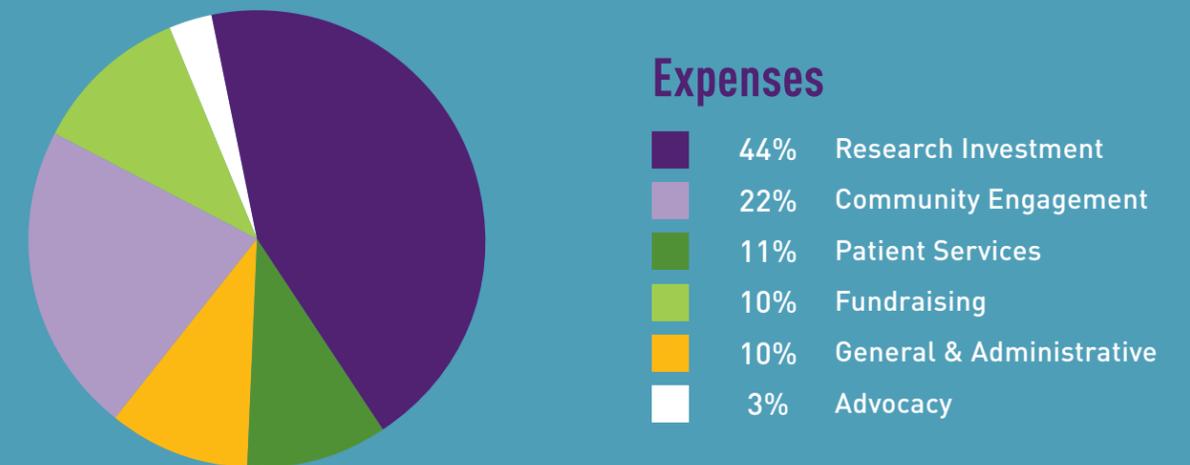
For the 15th consecutive year, PanCAN received a four-star rating from Charity Navigator — you put your trust in us and we take that very seriously. Only 23 of the 9,100 organizations rated have received this rating with the same consistency.

See how your dollars were put to work in Fiscal Year 2019.

Your Contributions

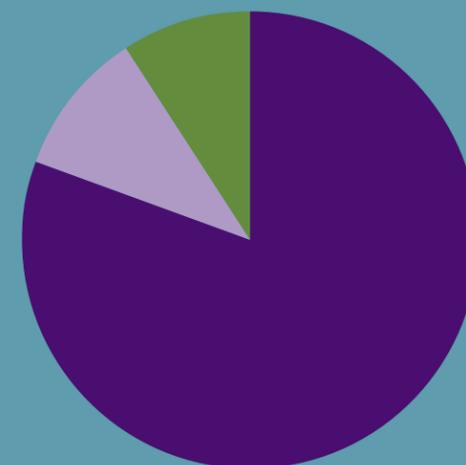


How Your Dollars Are Spent



Your Contributions & How Your Dollars Are Spent

Addendum



Total Income \$42,040,089

Total Expenses \$35,837,607

■ Program \$28,752,762

■ Fundraising \$3,709,880

■ Administrative \$3,374,965

Ending Net Assets \$65,075,415

You Never Give up and We Love You for It

There are many ways
to stay involved...



Refer people
to Patient
Central at
877-2-PANCAN.



Give
personally.



Secure your
company's or
institution's
involvement.



Participate in
PurpleStride.



Volunteer
with your
local
affiliate.



Host
your own
fundraiser.



“PanCAN made me feel like I did have control over parts of my life... You gave me hope... That was what I badly needed at the time. I will never forget it.”

Patty F.
Survivor

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Our 15th Consecutive Year