

Make funding for cancer research and prevention a top priority in FY25!

One Voice Against Cancer (OVAC) is grateful to Congress for your longstanding, bipartisan support for and investments in cancer research and prevention funding. Because of these investments, we are seeing remarkable progress in every area of discovery to improve cancer prevention, early detection, treatment, and care and over 18 million American cancer survivors are alive and active in their communities thanks to federally-funded cancer research, screening and prevention.

However, cancer is relentless and is still the nation's No. 2 killer. In just this year alone, cancer will claim the lives of an estimated 611,720 Americans in 2024, which equates to about 1,680 deaths per day. And for the first time, in 2024, the projected number of new cancer diagnoses in the United States will top two million—equivalent to about 5,480 diagnoses each day. More research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and National Cancer Institute (NCI) is needed to keep driving forward breakthroughs and advancing the cures of tomorrow. Patients with cancer are waiting, at this very moment, for innovative treatments. We cannot leave cures languishing in the lab. The Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) holds the potential for transformative breakthroughs in cancer and other diseases and is an important supplement to NIH and NCI.

Federal cancer research truly represents American government at its best—saving lives, driving innovation and international competitiveness, and fueling economic growth. Sustained investments are necessary to maintaining this progress and seizing the historic opportunity to end cancer as we know it, for everyone. The Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) holds the potential to quickly bridge the gap between the research lab and patient by focusing on bold, high potential and high impact applied research projects. Its potential for transformative breakthroughs in cancer and other diseases should be supported at least at its FY23 funding level

Research is important. But so is prevention. About 42% of newly diagnosed cancers in the U.S. are potentially preventable, and the substantial cost of treating advanced disease could be reduced, using existing evidence-based strategies, many of which are supported by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Division of Cancer Prevention and Control (DCPC).

Therefore, OVAC urges Congress to prioritize cancer research and prevention programs in FY2025 by supporting:

- \$51.3 billion for the NIH (\$4.2 billion increase over FY24)
- > \$7.934 billion for NCI (\$710 million increase over FY24)
- > \$1.5 billion for ARPA-H (same level as FY24)
- \$472.4 million for CDC's Cancer Programs (\$62.3 million increase over FY24)

One Voice Against Cancer (OVAC) is a coalition of over 50 public interest groups representing millions of cancer researchers, physicians and nurses, patients, survivors, and their families, all focused on long-term, sustained funding for cancer research and prevention at the federal level.