

# FIGHT COLORECTAL CANCER

## KEEP COLORECTAL CANCER ELIGIBLE FOR HIGH-IMPACT RESEARCH FUNDING

**ASK: Support \$120 million for the Department of Defense (DoD) Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP) and ensure colorectal cancer remains eligible.**

### What Does the PRCRP Do?

-  **HIGH-IMPACT RESEARCH** Funds innovative, high-impact medical research for cancer prevention, detection, treatment, and survivorship for 15 different cancer types, including colorectal cancer and cancer in children, adolescents, and young adults.
-  **FOCUSES ON AREAS OF NEED** PRCRP works to advance areas of research that are under-developed in cancer and lack adequate resources to make strides in clinical care.
-  **SUPPORT SERVICE MEMBERS AND BEYOND** Focused research supports service members, their families, and the American public.

### Why Is Funding Important?

-  From 2009 to 2016, the PRCRP funded over \$19 million in colorectal cancer research.
-  Explores research that complements and builds on the research being done at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI).
-  Eligibility of colorectal cancer to receive research funding under the PRCRP is not guaranteed - Congress must continue to include it each year.



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*If it were not for the efforts of Fight CRC Founder, Nancy Roach and her fellow advocates, colorectal cancer would not be eligible for funding through DoD's Peer-Reviewed Cancer Research Program. It is a great example of the critical importance of patients having a voice at the table where research decisions are being made. Without that work, the colorectal cancer community would have missed out on over \$19 million in research funding exploring important issues such as whether environmental chemicals are associated with increased risk of CRC and whether drugs for other conditions can be used to treat CRC. It is critical that we continue to fight for this funding to maintain the progress we've made.*

#### **DR. GAIL ECKHARDT**

*Chair, Department of Oncology, Dell Medical School, The University of Texas at Austin, CPRIT Scholar, Professor and Associate Dean of Cancer Programs, Director, LIVESTRONG Cancer Institutes*

# FIGHT COLORECTAL CANCER

MORE SCREENING = MORE LIVES SAVED

**ASK: Support \$70 million for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Colorectal Cancer Control Program (CRCCP)**

## What Does the CRCCP Do?

 **FOCUSES ON THE UNDERSERVED** The CRCCP seeks to increase screening among people ages 50 to 75, particularly in underserved communities.

 **EVIDENCE-BASED INTERVENTIONS** The CRCCP partners with state health departments, universities, and tribal organizations to implement evidence-based programs that have been proven effective for increasing colorectal cancer screening including:

- Implementing a system to remind both medical professionals and patients that it is time for screening
- Making it easier for patients to get screened by providing transportation and child care, extending clinic hours, simplifying paperwork, and offering patient navigators to help patients through the screening process
- Offering multiple screening options approved by the US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF)

 **DATA-DRIVEN DECISION-MAKING** Uses data to determine whether the program increases screening, and if so, by how much, where, and for which groups.

## Why Is Funding Important?

 The CRCCP has supported 30 states, universities and tribal organizations from 2015-2020 and worked with over 800 clinics across the U.S. to serve over one million patients.

 The program has increased screening rates by an average of 10.3% in the first three years, saving money and saving lives.

 Increasing funding would allow CDC to fund additional grantees and enable more widespread implementation of evidence-based interventions to increase screening rates among the nation's most vulnerable populations.



*Funding from CRCCP has helped Clínica Tepeyac focus and invest in continuous quality improvement initiatives to increase our patients' access to cancer screenings. Due to various barriers to care faced by our patient population, our colorectal cancer screening rates have been lower than national benchmarks. In 2019 we were able to meet our improvement goal and have increased our goal for 2020. With additional dollars, we could send automatic reminders to patients when their colorectal cancer screening is due, which we believe would further improve our screening rates as well as increase our number of preventive care visits.*

**GABRIELA WALTERS**

Quality Improvement & Compliance Manager, Clínica Tepeyac

# FIGHT COLORECTAL CANCER

RESEARCH SAVES LIVES!

**ASK: Support \$44.68 billion (\$38 INCREASE) for the National Institutes of Health and \$6.92 billion (\$500M INCREASE) for the National Cancer Institute.**

## What Does the National Cancer Institute Do?

-  **PRINCIPAL AGENCY FOR CANCER RESEARCH** The National Cancer Institute (NCI) works on everything from essential research to clinical trials.
-  **PREVENTION AND TREATMENT** The NCI advances scientific discovery and leads the cancer research community towards improved prevention and treatment options.

## What Does the National Institutes of Health Do?

-  **THE NATION'S PREEMINENT MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTER** The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is at the leading edge of breakthrough medical research in the United States and around the world
-  **FOUNDATIONAL RESEARCH** NIH invests in foundational research that forms the building blocks for life-saving treatments and cures.

## Why Is Funding Important?

-  Research takes time and resources. The NIH and NCI need increased and predictable federal investment to continue the development of new treatments and cures for those with colorectal cancer.
-  Research at the NIH and NCI has helped lead to better screening techniques and improved treatment options
-  Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of death for men and women combined, but colorectal cancer research funding at the NCI has been decreasing.

### NCI Research Dollars for Colorectal Cancer

FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017
\$256.3M	\$239.0M	\$223.0M	\$209.3M	\$212.2M	\$208.4M



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Getting to the NIH was important to my husband, John, and I. We called it 'the hospital in the Garden of Eden'. John was enrolled in three clinical trials at NIH, including one attempting to develop a personalized vaccine to treat John's cancer. These trials were at the cutting edge of medical research. For us, the NIH provided us both hope and options when we had exhausted the standard of care. There was no question John was in the best of hands.

**DR. ANGELA NICHOLAS**

Fight CRC Board Member & caregiver