Fight Colorectal Cancer's (Fight CRC) Catalyst State-by-State Advocacy Program aims to accelerate progress toward turning aspirational colorectal cancer screening goals into reality by increasing access and reducing barriers to colorectal cancer screening. Fight CRC provides funding and technical assistance to support grassroots activities and coalition-building that will lead to state-level legislative and policy changes to advance screening. The program includes two grant levels:

**CATALYST GRANTS** ➔ $10,000-$50,000 awarded to state-level programs that demonstrate coalition and partnership ability to activate state-level policy change to increase the screening rate for colorectal cancer

**SPARK GRANTS** ➔ up to $2,500 awarded to state-level programs to create a usable action plan to increase screening for colorectal cancer. This plan can be a stepping stone to apply for Fight CRC's Catalyst Program in future grant cycles.

The Catalyst Program supports policy efforts that may range from passing legislation at the state level to working with major payors or employers in the state to provide coverage for screening. This can include:

- Ensuring colorectal cancer screening coverage for insured populations to include 45-49-year olds, as is now recommended through American Cancer Society Guidelines
- Removing patient cost-sharing for follow-up colonoscopies following a positive first-line colorectal cancer screening exam for insured populations

Grantees receive a full-day action planning session with a strategic planner to develop their strategy for carrying out the goals of the program in their state. Fight CRC also provides resources such as state fact sheets, draft action alerts, letters to the editor, and other supporting materials through our Advocacy Portal. We work to foster a community of colorectal cancer champions across states to troubleshoot challenges and share best practices.

**CATALYST STATE-BY-STATE ADVOCACY PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The Catalyst State-by-State Advocacy Program Advisory Council serves as an outside review panel to evaluate grant applications and provide input on funding decisions. The Advisory Council also provides guidance and technical assistance throughout the grant cycle. The Advisory Council includes:

- Lisa Richardson MD, MPH, Director of the Center for Disease Prevention and Control's (CDC) Division of Cancer Prevention and Control
- Nikki Hayes, MPH, Branch Chief, CDC Comprehensive Cancer Control Branch
- Caroline Powers, Director, Federal Relations, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)
- Rachel Marcus, State and Local Campaigns Manager, ACS CAN
- Taylor Patton, Director, Advocacy & Policy, Prevent Cancer Foundation

**DISCLOSURES**

**MEDICAL ENDORSEMENTS**

Fight Colorectal Cancer does not recommend or endorse any specific physicians, products or treatments even though this information may be mentioned on this site.

**NONPARTISAN DISCLAIMER**

Fight CRC is a nonpartisan advocacy organization that promotes better policies and supports research, education, and awareness for all those touched by colorectal cancer. All employees, board members, and volunteer representatives at Fight CRC are required to maintain nonpartisanship while acting in an official capacity on behalf of the organization. The Fight CRC advocacy team determines its strategic legislative and policy priorities by working with policy experts, collaborating with coalition partners, and soliciting feedback directly from colorectal cancer patients and family members.

**FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE**

Fight CRC has received sponsorships and grants from Exact Sciences, Epigenomics, Quest, Medtronic and other screening test manufacturers. Fight CRC maintains full editorial rights to all educational content.