

FIGHT COLORECTAL CANCER™

[Events] for a Cure



SUMMER 2024 SUMMARY



CLIMB FOR A CURE 2024

Since 2016, Climb for a Cure has united relentless champions who bravely face colorectal cancer. In 2024, we mark our ninth year of raising funds and awareness by challenging ourselves and overcoming obstacles together.

Climb for a Cure is more than just a physical challenge; it stands as a powerful symbol of advocacy and change. Participants hiked diverse trails, some in pouring rain, all while raising crucial funds for colorectal cancer research.

This event has built a strong community of champions whose fundraising has fueled vital initiatives like our early-onset colorectal cancer (EOCRC) Think Tanks, the [Path to a Cure Report](#), and research grants. As Fight CRC's largest fundraising event, Climb for a Cure has raised over \$1 million for research directly impacting our community.

Nearly 100 participants convened in the Great Smoky Mountains of Gatlinburg, Tennessee, for this year's Climb. Despite a global travel crisis, they embraced their relentlessness and made it to the Smokies.

In addition, over 500 people participated in local Cure events nationwide, raising over \$60,000 in cities like Lake George, NY; Lehi, UT; Lees Summit, MO; Houston, TX; and Chicago, IL.

Our Climb for a Cure community ensures no one falls, no one is left behind, and no one fights alone.



EXPLORE THE IMPACT >>>

At Fight CRC, we urgently fund innovative research and support to improve treatment, outcomes, and quality of life for patients, with Climb for a Cure raising over \$1 million in nine years—all of which supports cancer research, grants, and leaders driving our Path to a Cure initiative.



BECAUSE OF CLIMB FOR A CURE:

\$55,000

2018

Fight CRC granted Dr. Molmenti and Heather Hampel, MS, CGC, for early-onset colorectal cancer research, highlighting vital risks and the need for prompt screening in high-risk groups.

\$50,000

2020

Fight CRC invested \$50,000 in convening an international research symposium on early-onset colorectal cancer.

\$75,000

2021

We launched our Path to a Cure report – our plan for the future of colorectal cancer. \$75,000 was allocated toward bringing together experts for a Think Tank discussion about treatment gaps.

\$30,000

2022 & 2023

With CGA-IGC, we awarded Dr. Yen \$15,000 for familial CRC communication. His pilot increased endoscopist record updates by 30%, enhancing awareness of familial risks.

\$75,000

2023

Our Early-Onset Research Think Tank aimed to transform the landscape of early-age onset colorectal cancer by setting ambitious goals to advance diagnosis, treatment, and survivorship.

\$450,000

2023

We've endowed \$150,000 yearly in a three-year Tempus fellowship, focusing on the use of biomarker testing, AI, and genomics to advance colorectal cancer care and critical cancer research.

\$30,000

2023

The CGA-IGC and Fight CRC Early Career Award was awarded to Dr. Alessandro Mannucci of the Beckman Research Institute for his work on hereditary and early-age onset gastrointestinal cancers.

\$50,000

2024

We've provided \$50,000 to enhance our clinical trial finder to feature MSS and MSI-High trials, specifically tailored for those battling metastatic colorectal cancer.

FIGHT COLORECTAL CANCER'S Climb for a Cure

GATLINBURG, TN | JULY 19-20, 2024

REI Co-op provided professional guides to lead us on three unique trails. From a brisk 5 miles on the Little River trail, to a more rigorous 8-mile trek to Ramsey Cascades, and finally a strenuous 14 miles on the very difficult Mt. LeConte Loop, participants got the challenge they sought! **Climbers braved a torrential downpour in the name of colorectal cancer awareness – with smiles on their faces (most of the time, at least!).**



★ TOP INDIVIDUAL FUNDRAISERS ★

AMY JENSEN
\$4,294 RAISED

JENNIFER FRENCH
\$2,205 RAISED

ELIZABETH HEALY
\$2,725 RAISED

KAYLA CAPOBIANCO
\$2,600 RAISED

DEANN LOVELL
\$1,671 RAISED

JIM BRIDGES
\$1,550 RAISED

JESS FOX
\$1,200 RAISED



★ CHRIS GANSER ★

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP • 2024 RECIPIENTS

The Chris Ganser Memorial Scholarship offers two colorectal cancer survivors and one caregiver covered registration, travel, and lodging expenses for Climb for a Cure. The scholarship is a tribute to Chris Ganser, one of the co-founders of the Climb, celebrating his passion for climbing and defeating colorectal cancer. Meet this year's recipients!



Terence Pollard STAGE III RECTAL CANCER SURVIVOR

"I'm passionate about raising awareness, and I can do that through Climb for a Cure. I have friends that got screened for colorectal cancer when it was too late. I had to watch one of my fellow soldiers get buried (with honors) because of this disease. So my message is very simple: cancer is a game of life and death, literally."



Nick Jensen STAGE III RECTAL CANCER CAREGIVER

"I climb for my wife Amy, who has been battling stage IV rectal cancer for over three years now. She is my hero I want to show her my love and admiration by putting my body through a challenge nowhere near what she has had to contend with."



Kimberly Holiday-Coleman STAGE II RECTAL CANCER SURVIVOR

"To climb with Nicholas, my husband of 25 years, the one who cried, cheered, advocated, loved, encouraged, and sacrificed so much for me and our family is a gift...to climb hand-in-hand, and say thank you to him and, in spirit, to everyone who journeyed with me. For we do not journey alone."

Getting Creative for a Cure

This year, we launched [Event] for a Cure, encouraging our community to get creative with their fundraising events. They did not disappoint us! **From handmade bracelets sold at the Houston Pride Festival and a colorectal-themed drag show to a SoulCycle ride and a cornhole tournament, there was a little bit of everything!**

TOGETHER, WE RAISED MORE THAN

★ **\$165,000** ★

FOR COLORECTAL CANCER RESEARCH

★ SUMMER 2024 EVENTS FOR A CURE ★

SOULCYCLE FOR A CURE
HARRISON STREET REAL ESTATE | \$30,000

CLIMB & CORNHOLE FOR A CURE
WENDY HARPP | \$25,000

ROCK CLIMBING FOR A CURE
MOMENTUM GYM | \$2,000

DRAG FOR A CURE
OLIVIA & KRISTEN HENSWEL | \$4,000

PRIDE FOR A CURE
PAULA & LARA CHAMBERS-RANEY | \$500

WENDY HARPP'S

Climb & Cornhole for a Cure

LAKE GEORGE, NY | AUGUST 3, 2024

Fight CRC Ambassador and stage III colon cancer survivor Wendy Harpp hosted her fifth annual event in Lake George, New York, on August 3. **More than 200 supporters joined her for a morning hike at Shelving Rock Falls, followed by a cornhole tournament hosted by Upstate NY Cornhole and a silent auction at Common Roots Brewery in South Glens Falls.**

PARTICIPANTS

200

WENDY AND PARTICIPANTS RAISED

\$25,000

THANK YOU, WENDY & LAKE GEORGE COMMUNITY!



MOMENTUM GYM'S

Rock Climbing for a Cure

LEHI, UT | JULY 20-21, 2024

FIGHT CRC STAFF: ADVOCATES FOR LIFE!

Former Climb Manager Mel Harris hosted a Climb at Momentum Climbing Gym, where she now serves as assistant manager. **Mel and her climbing crew donated proceeds from day passes sold during the weekend of July 20, raising awareness all weekend!** Volunteers provided resources and education on screening and support for attendees.

PARTICIPANTS

150

MEL & CLIMBERS RAISED

\$2,000

THANK YOU, MEL & LEHI CLIMBING COMMUNITY!





OLIVIA & KRISTEN HENSWEL'S
Drag for a Cure

LEE'S SUMMIT, MO | JULY 26, 2024

Fight CRC Senior Program Manager Olivia Henswel and her wife Kristen organized the first Drag for a Cure. With the LGBTQ+ community often facing unique barriers to healthcare, this event helped to bridge that gap by raising awareness and creating a safe space for education and support. **Drag for a Cure is a powerful reminder that everyone, regardless of gender identity, has a role in advocating for better health outcomes.**

PARTICIPANTS

100

OLIVIA, KRISTEN, & THE QUEENS RAISED

\$4,000

THANK YOU, HENSWELS & LEE'S SUMMIT COMMUNITY!



HARRISON STREET'S SoulCycle for a Cure

CHICAGO, IL | AUGUST 15, 2024

Harrison Street, a Chicago-based real estate firm, dedicated its annual volunteer and philanthropy event to fighting colorectal cancer, raising \$30,000, including a \$5,000 match from the firm. **Led by Sergio Barbosa in honor of his late coworker Britt Stallings, the event united the community as participants rode in a SoulCycle class followed by a happy hour celebration – all in Britt's memory to support life-saving research and advocacy.**

PARTICIPANTS

150

PARTICIPANTS RAISED

\$30,000

THANK YOU, HARRISON STREET & SUPPORTERS!



PAULA & LARA CHAMBERS-RANEY'S

Pride for a Cure

HOUSTON, TX | JUNE 29, 2024

Fight CRC Hope Coordinator Paula Chambers-Raney and her wife Lara hosted a booth at the 2024 Houston Pride Celebration® to raise awareness in a community disproportionately impacted by colorectal cancer. **At the booth, Lara sold handmade Pride bracelets while Paula distributed free colorectal cancer screening and support materials, ensuring the community had access to crucial resources. They convinced four people to schedule colonoscopies!**

PARTICIPANTS

800

PAULA & LARA RAISED

\$500

THANK YOU, PAULA, LARA, & THE HOUSTON COMMUNITY!





THANK YOU FOR YOUR RELENTLESS SUPPORT!

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