

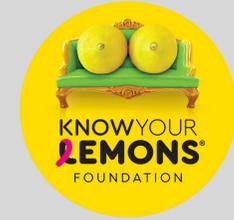


CDMRP

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Independent Patient Advocate

AACR Scientist Survivor Program 2022



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Research Advocacy

Department of Defense, Breast Cancer Research Program Mission

The BCRP challenges the scientific community to design research that will address the urgency of ending breast cancer. Specifically, the BCRP seeks to accelerate high-impact research with clinical relevance, encourage innovation and stimulate creativity, and facilitate productive collaborations.

Research Advocacy Activities

- Served as a consumer reviewer for the 2020, 2021, and 2022 DOD, BCRP
- Served as a mentor for the 2021 and 2022 DOD, BCRP

Research Advocacy Goals

- Continue to serve as a consumer reviewer and a mentor on the DOD, BCRP panel
- Build a network of research advocates in Northeast Ohio
- Create relationships between research advocates and major cancer centers in Northeast Ohio to provide educational trainings for research advocates
- Create relationships between research advocates and major cancer centers in Northeast Ohio to provide research activities for research advocates such as
 - ❖ Involving advocates in clinical trails from design to recruitment
 - ❖ Increasing the number of advocates sitting on review panels
 - ❖ Involving advocates in clinical trial community outreach

My Why

Advancements in treatments increased my chances of reaching the 5-year survival rate from 50% to 90-95%. Advancements in procedures greatly reduced my risk of developing lymphedema, thus increasing my quality of life. Giving back to this program is my way of helping to eliminate breast cancer.

Legislative Advocacy

Legislative Advocacy Mission

To work with members of Congress and the Ohio Legislature for the passage of bills and the allocation of funds to support prevention, research, and treatments for breast cancer and the impacts of breast cancer

Legislative Advocacy Activities

Participated in:

- NBCC Advocacy Leadership Summits (2020, 2021)
- NBCC Lobby Days (2020, 2021)
- American Cancer Society, Ohio Cancer Action Day (2020)

Advocated for the following:

- Metastatic Breast Cancer Access to Care Act
- Lymphedema Treatment Act
- Department of Defense, Breast Cancer Research Program
- Ohio: Prohibit tanning beds for 18 & under
- Ohio: Increase funding for tobacco cessation

Legislative Advocacy Goals

- Continued support for the Department of Defense, Breast Cancer Research Program
- Passage of the Metastatic Breast Cancer Access to Care Act and the Lymphedema Treatment Act
- Create a Breast Cancer Report Card for each member of Congress

My Why

It won't matter if we 'find the cure for cancers' if there isn't equal access for all to advancements in research. Federal and state policies dictate who has access to treatments and screenings. In order to reduce health disparities, we must enact policies that ensure everyone has equal access to life saving treatments and screenings.

Educational Advocacy

Know Your Lemons® Mission

To improve early detection for breast cancer worldwide through creative and empowering education

My Advocacy Activities

Provide annual Know Your Lemons® presentations for young women and Women of Color in Northeast Ohio

My Educational Advocacy Goals

- Continue to provide Know Your Lemons® presentations
- Recruit breast cancer survivors (specifically young women and Women of Color) to give presentations
- Empower young women and Women of Color to advocate for themselves in health care settings

My Why

Young women and Women of Color are two groups that experience health disparities when it comes to breast cancer. Both groups are often dismissed by healthcare professionals (which is where the true advocacy work should lie). Although the reasons vary, both groups also lack access to screenings. Early prevention is key and reaching out to these groups is key if we want to reduce breast cancer deaths.

My AACR SSP Goals

Increase my knowledge of the science behind cancer in order to better understand the proposals that I review for the BCRP so I can more effectively communicate the impact that the research would have on breast cancer survivors.

Network with fellow advocates and scientists and collaborate with those who have shared advocacy objectives.