



[cancer.org](http://cancer.org) | 1.800.227.2345

---

# Facts About the American Cancer Society

## About your American Cancer Society

The American Cancer Society is the leading cancer-fighting organization with a vision of ending cancer as we know it, for everyone. We are the only organization working to improve the lives of people with cancer and their families through advocacy, research, and patient support, to ensure everyone has an opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer.

We provide the support and guidance people impacted by cancer need at every step – from increasing access to screening at the local, state, and federal levels and advocating for more affordable health care to guiding patients and caregivers through our free 24/7 helpline and helping them get the treatment they need by offering free transportation and lodging. In addition, we fund and conduct research so people in every community have the opportunity to prevent, detect, treat and survive cancer.

## How the American Cancer Society is organized

The American Cancer Society, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation governed by a single Board of Directors that is responsible for setting policy, establishing long-term goals, monitoring general operations, and approving the organizational outcomes and allocation of resources. The Board is composed entirely of volunteers from the medical and lay communities.

With a presence in more than 5,000 communities, the American Cancer Society is working to support people facing all types of cancer, in every community. Our regional and local offices mobilize communities in the cancer fight, delivering potentially lifesaving programs and services and raising crucial funds to support our mission.

## How donations help fight cancer

The American Cancer Society is committed to our obligation to spend donor dollars wisely. Here's a year-end glimpse at how your donations helped impact millions of lives – by the numbers. The most recent data is from the year ended December 2022.

### Fulfilling our mission

Overall, in 2022, 81% of American Cancer Society resources were invested in patient support, discovery, and advocacy. The other 19% of resources were used to fund our management and general expenses, and fundraising expenses.

### Resources allocated to program services (totaling 81% of American Cancer Society resources) include:

- \$354 million invested in patient support - We provide the latest, evidence-based cancer information; equip people to make healthy choices that can help reduce their cancer risk like eating right, staying active, and avoiding alcohol and tobacco; and develop guidelines for screening that can help detect certain cancers early and save lives. We are available 24/7 to help people find answers and resources, whether they want to understand their diagnosis and treatment options, learn how to cope with side effects, or find transportation or a place to stay when treatment is far from home. We provide information and support to cancer patients, caregivers, and survivors through online communities and one-on-one support.
- \$166 million invested in discovery - The American Cancer Society launches innovative, high-impact research to find more – and better – treatments, uncover

**Society resources) include:**

- \$26 million used to fund management and general expenses (executive, financial, and administrative services needed to direct the efforts of the American Cancer Society)
- \$107 million spent on fundraising expenses (securing charitable financial support for American Cancer Society programs and services)

**Volunteers**

As a global grassroots force, the American Cancer Society relies on the strength of millions of dedicated volunteers. From leadership volunteers who set strategy and policy to community volunteers who organize special events and patient support programs, our volunteers, supported by professional staff, drive every part of our mission. Our diverse volunteer opportunities empower people from every community to play a role in



To learn more about our Board of Directors and how we use our donor dollars to move our mission forward, download our Annual Report and other available financial statements and forms.

## Financial information for the American Cancer Society

### Annual Report

Available online at:

<https://www.cancer.org/about-us/financial-governance-information/stewardship-report.html>

You can also call us to have a copy of the report sent to you free of charge.

### Making a difference

The American Cancer Society directly and measurably improves the lives of people with cancer and their families. Thanks to those who generously invest in our mission, we are working to end cancer as we know it for everyone, by ensuring that all people have a fair and just opportunity to prevent, find, treat, and survive cancer.

Learn about the impact we are making on the cancer burden, and on the lives of those impacted by the disease. We are dedicated to using every single donor dollar wisely to fund and provide the critical programs and services that people count on every day.

<https://www.cancer.org/about-us/what-we-do.html>

### Other resources

- The American Cancer Society's current [Combined Financial Statements](#)
- [IRS Form 990s](#)
- Information about our [BBB Wise Giving Alliance Seal](#)

**cancer.org | 1.800.227.2345**