

Action to Cure Kidney Cancer



December 2018

Dear Friend,

ACKC established 2002 – Why?

Some years ago, after having surveyed the cancer funding landscape, a group of patients and caregivers realized that kidney cancer research was underfunded, not only with respect to other cancers, but was not provided adequate funding to develop therapies that would have an effect on the long-term survival of those people stricken with this disease. Therefore, in 2002, we established Action to Cure Kidney Cancer, whose primary mission was to raise funding for basic research into kidney cancer.

Kidney Cancer Research Finally Federally Funded

After 13 years of lobbying, we achieved a major breakthrough in 2017, when Congress appropriated \$10 million to establish the new Kidney Cancer Research Program (KCRP) under the aegis of the Department of Defense's medical research programs. This \$10 million represented the largest annual appropriation ever in federally-funded kidney cancer research! To implement the KCRP, the DoD assembled 30 of the top kidney cancer researchers in the country to evaluate the gaps in the science and to recommend the areas this new funding should address. Earlier this year, a Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued and over 200 applications were received by qualified scientists, of which 18 were funded - see our website <http://www.ackc.org/fy2017-10-million-kcrp-program-awardees/>.

Research Projects Funded – Who Decides?

DoD's programs encourage innovative solutions, and the KCRP is no exception. ACKC believes that the funded projects are of very high quality and will, in the coming years, significantly contribute to our understanding of the biology of kidney cancer and eventually in therapy and preventative care for this disease. I was a member of the KCRP 10-member committee that made the final recommendations as to which projects to fund, and I was very impressed not only with the expertise of the research members of the committee but also their commitment to making the program successful and relevant to the advancement of knowledge of kidney cancer.

Federal Funding Continues – for the Near Future

The Kidney Cancer Research Program not only sought experienced researchers in kidney cancer but also encouraged scientists who have developed advances in other cancer types to apply their knowledge to kidney cancer. The committee also designated an award mechanism designed to attract young researchers to the kidney cancer field in order to build up a cadre of scientists committed to dedicating their research time and effort to this disease. Even with our initial success in obtaining funding for the KCRP, ACKC continues to advocate for additional funding and, Congress has in fact, increased funding for the KCRP to \$15 million for Fiscal 2018 and to \$20 million for Fiscal 2019.

ACKC Funds Kidney Cancer Research – Thanks to You

In addition to our advocacy for government funds, ACKC itself has granted over \$427,000 to individual researchers and will continue to support young investigators to encourage them to enter and remain in the kidney cancer research field. We seek a cure

for all types of kidney cancer as well as promoting early detection, prevention, and epidemiological research (close relatives of those stricken with kidney cancer are twice as likely to get the disease than the general population).

The Price of New Therapies

ACKC also continues to address an issue that will be increasingly relevant in the coming years to those stricken by kidney cancer: the price of therapies. If patients cannot afford to pay for newly developed therapies that promise long-term survival, they will then be deprived of their right to obtain adequate health care.

Meeting our Mission with your Continued Help

ACKC is extremely grateful for the contributions many of you have made to us in the past. The progress in research support is significant. Advances are saving lives, but other cancers still continue to receive the lion's share of the funding. Since ACKC doesn't accept funding from drug companies, your continued support is critical to our ongoing mission to save more patients affected by this deadly disease. We thank you for your kind contribution.

Sincerely yours,



President

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NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE _____ EMAIL: _____

DONATION

I WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER, PLEASE CONTACT ME, CIRCLE: YES

Action To Cure Kidney Cancer is a qualified 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Your gift may be tax deductible for federal income tax purposes to the extent allowed under applicable law. A copy of our latest financial report may be obtained by writing to Action To Cure Kidney Cancer (ACKC), 150 West 75th Street, Suite 4, New York, NY 10023, or calling 212-714-5341. If you are a resident of New York State, you may obtain financial information directly from the New York State Attorney General's Bureau by writing Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10271.