



2025 ANNUAL REPORT



DEAR FRIENDS,

Since our founding, our North Star has remained unwavering: elevating the distinct voices and lived experiences of AYAs so we can address the unique challenges confronting this population.

2025 was a landmark year of reflection, growth, and expansive outreach. We took a strategic step back to realign on the urgent needs and emerging opportunities within the AYA space, setting the stage for meaningful change in future years.

This year, we turned insight into action through groundbreaking initiatives:

The State of AYA Survivorship: We released this definitive report to spotlight the modern realities of navigating life after diagnosis as a young person with cancer.

Access to Care Initiative: Alongside our survivorship research, this initiative allowed us to map critical gaps in care, ensuring young people face fewer barriers from active treatment through long-term survivorship.

Community-Led Leadership: We proudly launched our first-ever Junior Board, composed of patients, survivors, and caregivers - and expanded our CancerCon Advisory Board. By embedding the community directly into our leadership structure, we ensure every program we build is designed by AYAs, for AYAs.

Our efforts to elevate AYA voices resonated on a national scale. Stupid Cancer's work was recognized across mainstream news media, peer-reviewed journals, and premier professional spaces, including *CURE Magazine*, *Business Insider*, *The Journal of Adolescent and Young Adult Oncology*, and the *ASCO Quality Care Symposium*. By breaking out of the traditional "cancer bubble," we are forcing the broader healthcare landscape to acknowledge and accommodate our community.

As we look back on 2025, we are celebrating milestones and building a launchpad. As we embark on the next decade of Stupid Cancer, we do it with drive and fierce optimism for the future.

Thank you for your partnership in making cancer suck less. We could not do this without you!

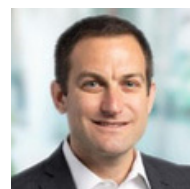
With gratitude,



Alison Silberman

Alison Silberman

Chief Executive
Officer



B. Klein

Barry Klein

Chairperson,
Board of Directors



OUR MISSION & VISION

Mission

Stupid Cancer is the leader in building the adolescent and young adult (AYA) cancer community, ending isolation, and making cancer suck less.

Vision

Our vision is that everyone affected by AYA cancer can Get Busy Living.

“

It was nice to be able to openly talk about having cancer with people who know what it's like to have cancer and how much it truly changes and affects your life.

This weekend (CancerCon) was an amazing experience where I got to make friends and meet new people. It gave me the chance to be more social and confident and not be nervous to talk to people and reflect on our lives together.”

Myalee, 24
Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia

OUR VALUES

We believe that all people should receive equal access to quality, holistic cancer care no matter their diagnosis, location, means, age, race, ethnicity, ability, sexuality, or gender.

We believe that creating space for young people with cancer to connect and build community is the most powerful antidote to the isolation that often defines the AYA cancer experience.

We believe that adolescents and young adults with cancer deserve targeted resources that address the specific challenges they face — and bold advocacy where traditional systems fall short.

We believe in the value of connecting with our community in an honest, unapologetic voice.

We believe in putting young people first by partnering with others to address the gaps in diagnosis, treatment, and research for the adolescent and young adult (AYA) cancer community.

We believe cancer for an AYA isn't just a medical issue—it's a life issue.

We believe in the AYA Bill of Rights.

We believe in flipping cancer the bird.



OUR GOALS

Stupid Cancer reaches thousands of AYA patients, survivors, caregivers, and professionals each year through 100+ digital and in-person programs. Our flagship event, **CancerCon** - the nation's largest AYA cancer gathering - anchors our three programmatic pillars: building community, addressing life-stage challenges, and driving systemic change:

#1 Building Community

CancerCon: A life-changing weekend for hundreds in the AYA community

Meetups: Peer connection and personal healing through live and virtual events.

Stupid Cancer Stories & Open Mic Nights: Amplifying real voices from the AYA community through our Story Library and intimate in-person Open Mic events

Stupid Cancer Social: A hyper-vibrant dialogue we host across social media platforms

#2 Supporting AYA Needs

Discussion Series: Programs on critical topics specifically impacting the AYA community

On-Demand Resources: A curated online hub of trusted resources and educational content available on our website.

#3 Driving Systemic Change

Health Equity Initiative: Organization-wide commitment to closing gaps for marginalized AYAs

Access to Care Initiative: Addressing real-world barriers to treatment and equipping healthcare professionals to better serve AYA patients

Partner Collaboration Calls: Convenings to strengthen the broader AYA support ecosystem

Advocacy: Leading and supporting national advocacy efforts to elevate the state of AYA survivorship and expand equitable access to quality, age-appropriate cancer care



WHO WE SERVED

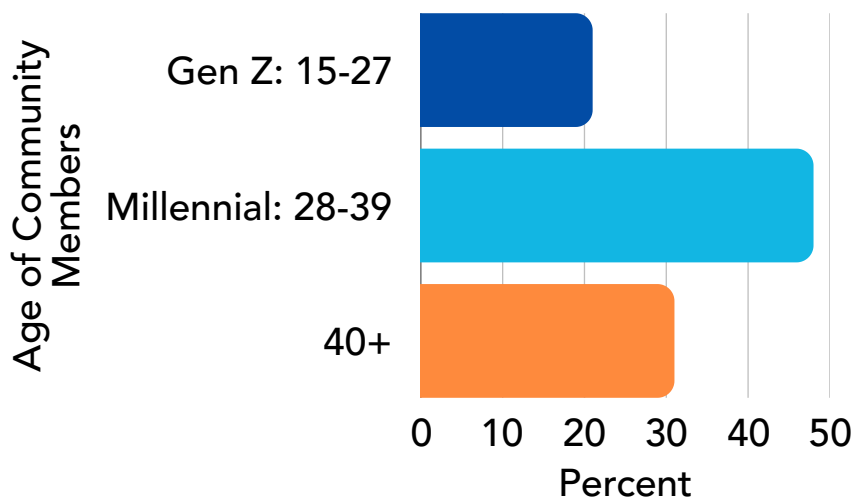
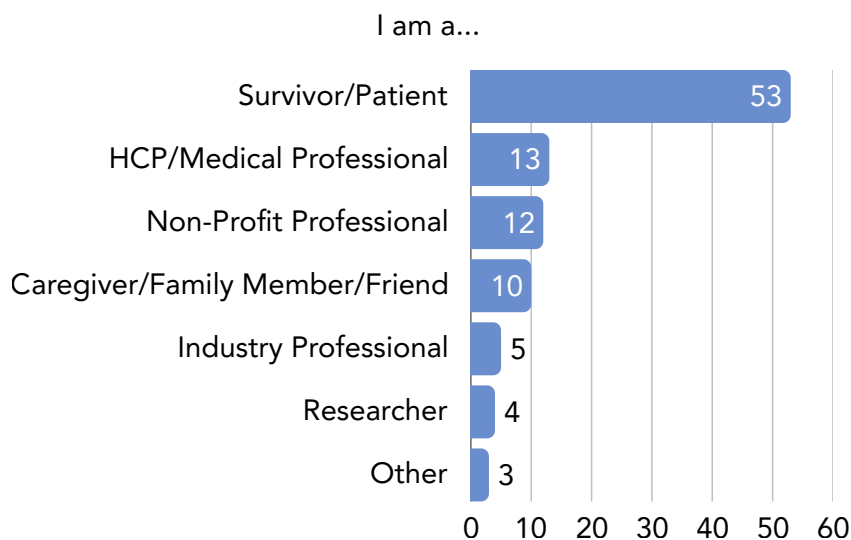
Stupid Cancer's adolescent and young adult audience reached a broad audience of patients, survivors, caregivers, and professionals with strong engagement among 28 - 35 year olds.

Reflecting consistent trends across the sector, our organization continues to see powerful engagement from women, who represent a 77% majority of our growing audience. Our male representation continues to grow each year (21%). BIPOC participants make up 35% of program participants, and 16% identify as LGBTQ+.

Our interconnected community brings together patients, survivors, caregivers, and everyone whose life has been affected by AYA cancer.

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

Our annual programs reach thousands of AYA patients, survivors, caregivers and professionals each year through three programmatic pillars: building community, addressing life-stage challenges, and driving systemic change.



TOP FIVE CANCER TYPES

14% Breast Cancer
11% Two or More Cancers
10% Hodgkin Lymphoma
9% Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma
7% Brain/CNS

PEDIATRIC & METASTATIC

24% Pediatric Cancer
Survivors
16% Metastatic Cancer
Patients



WHY STUPID CANCER MATTERS

For nearly two decades, Stupid Cancer has been the leading voice for AYAs affected by cancer. By creating community and ending isolation, we ensure that no adolescent or young adult faces cancer alone.

We meet AYAs where they are and talk about cancer like it is: we speak honestly, authentically, and with urgency.

We also lead the way to bring together the AYA cancer nonprofit community. At our AYA Collaborative Quarterly Calls, we convene over 60 member organizations that support AYAs. At these important meetings, we provide opportunities for professional collaboration, discuss the most pressing issues facing AYAs with cancer, and work together for maximum impact for our community.

stupidcancer[®]

2025 IMPACT

1,177 Total program participants

104 Events, both live and digital

93% of CancerCon attendees and Discussion Session participants report gaining valuable resources and learning relevant information they can apply to their daily lives.

89% of participants report an increase in feelings of connection after participating in a Stupid Cancer program.

73% of participants report meeting 2+ friends they plan to stay in touch with at a Stupid Cancer program.

Top States Represented

New York - 13%

California - 12%

Maryland - 6%

Washington, DC and Virginia - 8%

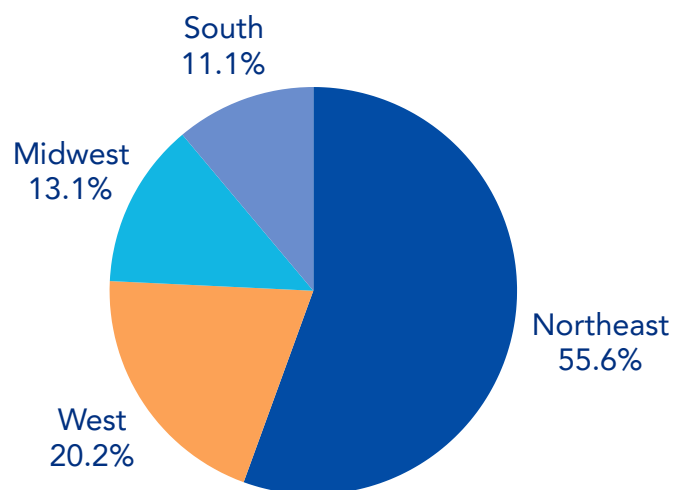
Florida and New Jersey - 5%



Stupid Cancer Has Been Published!

1. An abstract featuring data from our Access to Care initiative, *Providers and patients report on the quality of AYA cancer care and resources*, was included at the 2025 ASCO Quality Care Symposium and accepted at the APOS Annual Conference.
2. A whitepaper about our Health Equity Initiative, *A Community-Led Approach to Addressing Health Disparities among Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Survivors*, was published in the *Journal of Adolescent and Young Adult Oncology*.

Regional Representation



stupidcancer®

SOCIAL MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

2025 was a year of exceptional growth across our social media channels. We exceeded every key benchmark set in 2024 and surpassed all industry standard engagement rates.

Our community interactions reached new heights on social media, where we centered voices from the Stupid Cancer community, shared resources, and platformed AYA cancer advocacy.



3 million+
Impressions across
Channels

160% increase
In reach across channels



Our Channels



305.5k followers



59.6k followers



5.3k followers



1.4k followers



“

With my current financial situation, the scholarship was the only way I was able to attend, and CancerCon genuinely changed my life for the better.

Breezy, 29
Breast Cancer

CANCERCON

2025

Aug 21-24
Washington, DC

317 Attendees
32 Exhibitors
30 Breakout Sessions
23 Social Activities

TOP 2025

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

1. Chemo Brain, Chronic Fatigue, & Other Long-Term Side Effects
2. Meet Your Peers: AYA Professionals Networking
3. Reaching All AYAs: Models for Successful Outreach
4. Cancer in the Bedroom: Sex and Intimacy
5. The Long Road of AYA Survivorship



Attendees enjoyed an amazing weekend where they learned valuable information, gained important resources, and made lifelong friendships with other AYAs.

Stupid Cancer is committed to ensuring AYAs can get busy living, regardless of their financial situation - which is why we were proud to award over **\$30,000** in scholarships to bring 34 AYA survivors, caregivers, and HCPs to CancerCon 2025.



“

Thank you to Lurie and Stupid Cancer for bringing Delegations to CancerCon. It's been truly impactful to me. I feel like I'm a different person walking out of here.

Matteo, 24
Alveolar Soft Tissue Sarcoma

CANCERCON DELEGATION PROGRAM

The CancerCon Delegation Program continues to grow year over year with four Delegation partners in 2025.

- Stanford Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer Cancer (SYACC)
- University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center (UNM)
- Connecticut Children's Center for Cancer & Blood Disorders
- Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University



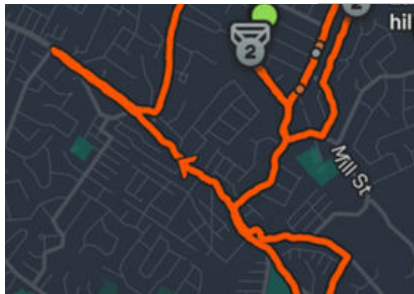
By sponsoring a CancerCon Delegation, our hospital partners offer the life-changing experience of CancerCon to their AYA patients/survivors, caregivers, and staff through access to exclusive training, community building, and networking opportunities. This collaboration fosters deep regional networks and directly strengthens the localized support system for AYAs facing cancer.

DEVELOPMENT HIGHLIGHTS

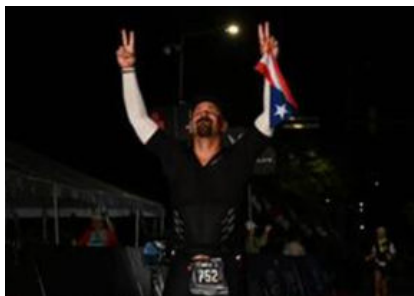
Our community continues to move Stupid Cancer's mission forward through individual fundraising efforts. From fitness challenges, to bake sales, to the over 200 Facebook fundraisers, our community showed up to Flip Cancer the Bird.

Featured Individuals

We are grateful for their leadership and dedication!



Greg Hopkins ran the Cambridge Half Marathon and raised almost \$1,000 for Stupid Cancer.



Joshua Rivera, our Board Treasurer, participated in an IRONMAN fundraiser that raised nearly \$2,500 to support our AYA cancer community.



Monica Hennings, a caregiver and Junior Board member, hosted a bake sale that brought in over \$1,100 and inspired supporters to both contribute and enjoy gourmet delights.

SPOTLIGHT ON PHILANTHROPY

Whether it's the people who celebrated their birthdays by hosting a Facebook fundraiser or joined us at one of our fundraising events, it is our community who keeps us going.

In 2025, we had 209 peer-to-peer fundraisers!



In April, COTA Healthcare hosted Sounds of Support, a special evening of live music and community engagement benefiting Stupid Cancer. With over 80 attendees, the event raised nearly \$15,000. Held at the iconic Sounds of Brazil in New York City, the event featured a performance by critically acclaimed artist Wé Ani, known for her appearance on American Idol in 2023.



Stupid Cancer hosted a Cycle Bar ride to honor our community. This fundraiser was led by two community members, Jessica Essex and Rachel Marek, raised \$1,200, and drew momentum for future NYC events!

Another Stupid Marathon

It's not just a marathon; it's Another Stupid Marathon. This year our annual, signature fundraiser was held in July and led by our newly launched Junior Board. Our Junior Board inspired many supporters across our community to donate and participate in the month-long challenge. and enjoy gourmet delights.

Raised: **\$7,632**
Marathoners: **19**

Teams: **6**
Donors: **65**

PARTNERING WITH US

TYPES OF SUPPORT

Community Fundraisers
 Employer Matching Funds
 Challenge Gift Matches
 Event Sponsorship
 Stock & Estate Contributions



Send AYAs to CancerCon

Sponsor an individual scholarship or a delegation of five (or more!) to bring patients, survivors, advocates, caregivers and health professionals to learn, share and build community!

Sponsor a CancerCon Activation

Help us make CancerCon even more unforgettable with a special activation! Makeovers, manicures, an interactive art installation, custom photo booth - let's get creative to offer a deluxe attendee experience.

Help us Tell AYA Stories

Sponsor storytelling opportunities with Stupid Cancer to lift up AYA voices and spread awareness about the unique issues this community faces.

Host a Fundraiser

Unite your network to spread awareness about the AYA community and be an ambassador for Stupid Cancer. Invite Stupid Cancer to speak at your next event, host a Lunch & Learn with your employer, or open your home or favorite restaurant to hold a fundraiser! The Stupid Cancer team is excited to support your philanthropic efforts.

FINANCIAL REPORT

What a tremendous year for Stupid Cancer! Many thanks in part to the funding of our corporate and pharma partners.

More people donated to Stupid Cancer in 2025 than the year prior, buoyed by our biggest Giving Tuesday – ever!

Stupid Cancer sounded the alarm and you answered the call. In fact, our DIY fundraisers, those folks who take it upon themselves to fundraise for Stupid Cancer or donate their birthday to us, raised over **\$35,000.**



\$1,760,847
Total Revenue

\$1,701,644
Total Expenses

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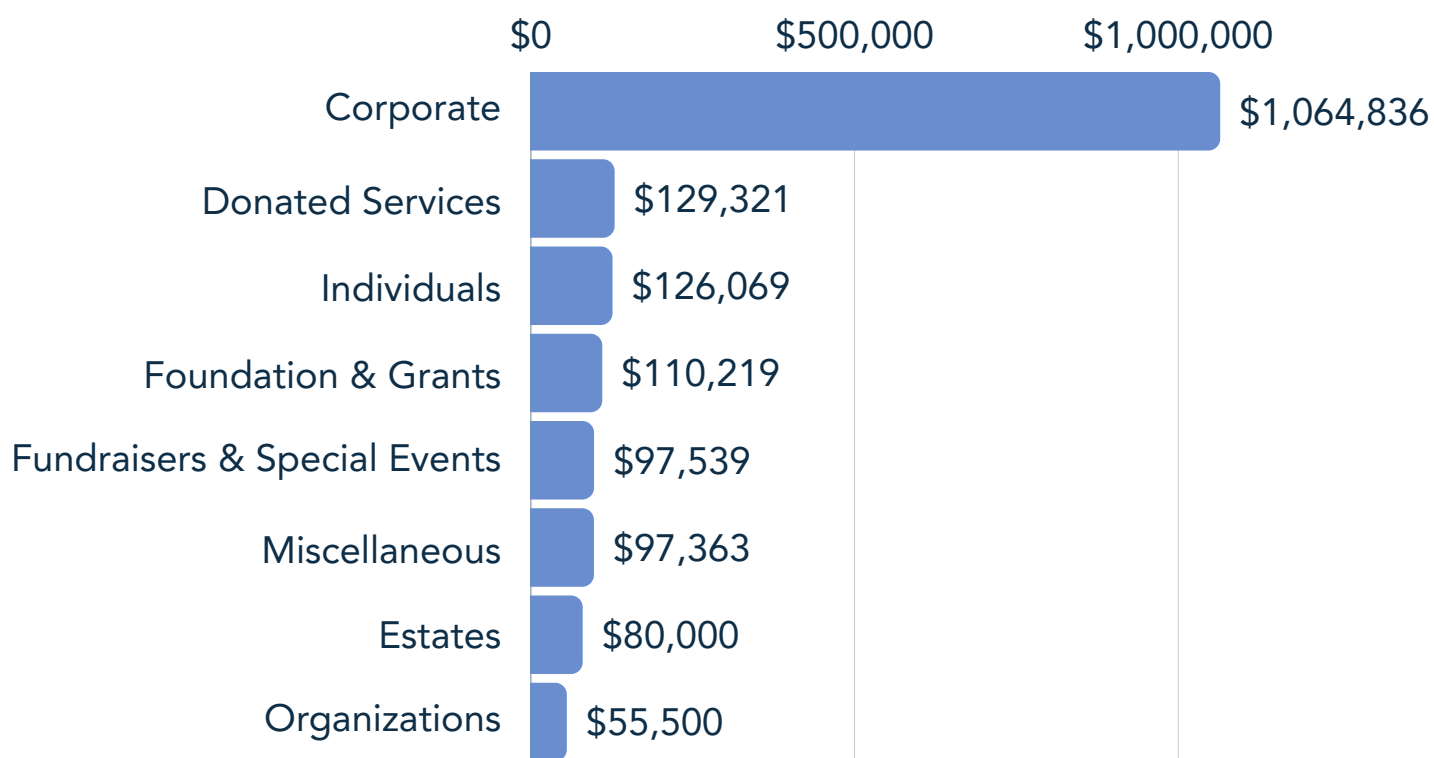
As young survivors, there's something truly magical that happens when we meet someone else who has been through it. A little light switches on inside us, an immediate connection forms - something almost impossible to explain to anyone else. That happened with Stupid Cancer. It was extraordinary, and it gave so much space for everything I needed.

Ophir, 31, Healthcare Provider & Gastrointestinal Stromal Tumor Survivor





FUNDING SOURCES



2025 CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION PARTNERS

SPENCERS[®]



MERCK

AMGEN

SERVIER^{*}



NOVARTIS

Anonymous



Bristol Myers Squibb



Jazz Pharmaceuticals[®]

Syndax



Pfizer

Genentech
A Member of the Roche Group

Adaptive
biotechnologies[™]



Eisai

sanofi



GFP
REAL ESTATE

AstraZeneca



Takeda

COTA

Walgreens

Debevoise & Plimpton

IN KIND & PRO BONO
PARTNERS

NEOM
WELLBEING | LONDON



TRIVISION[™]

OUR TEAM

Stupid Cancer staff works to ensure everyone in the AYA cancer community is supported, understood, and accepted.



Alison Silberman
Chief Executive
Officer



Juliana Cochnar
Managing Director
of Development



Chelsea Donahue
Managing Director
of Mission and
Strategy



Emma Cox
Communications
Manager



Brigid Frasquillo
Programs
Manager



Alex Hearn
Development
Coordinator



Mon Cheri Medina
Operational
Systems Design
Lead



Valentina Patarroyo
Programs &
Community
Coordinator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Barry Klein
Macquarie Group
Chairperson



Joshua Rivera
Moffit Cancer
Center
Treasurer

Stupid Cancer's expert boards provide invaluable leadership, expertise, and strategic guidance, ensuring the organization remains at the forefront of advocacy, research, and support for the AYA cancer community.



Vera Figueroa
PwC
Secretary



Cassie Beisel
PAN Foundation



Lizette Figueroa
Leukemia &
Lymphoma Society



Sue Moser
Grow Into
Greatness



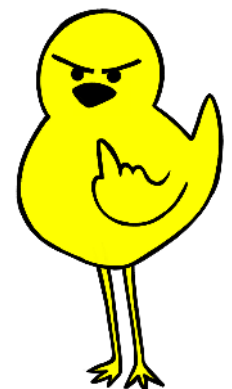
David Richman
Raymond James



Lisa Romano
JP Morgan Chase



Alique Topalian
University of
Cincinnati Cancer
Center



SCIENTIFIC MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD

**Karen Albritton,
MD**

Cook Children's

**C. Robert Bennett,
PhD, PPCNP-BC,
CPNP-AC, CCRN**

Mayo Clinic
Arizona

**Brandon Hayes-
Lattin, MD**

Oregon Health &
Science University

**Rebecca Johnson,
MD**

Mary Bridge
Children's

Brad Love, PhD

University of
Texas at Austin

**Pamela Simon,
MSN, CPNP,
CPON**

Stanford
Adolescent and
Young Adult
Cancer Program

**Catherine
Benedict, PhD**

Stanford University
School of Medicine

Lauren Ghazal

University of
Rochester

**Holly R.
Hoefgen, MD**

Washington
University School
of Medicine

**Julie Larson,
LCSW**

Private Practice

Lauren Martino

Memorial Sloan
Kettering Cancer
Center

**Bridgette Thom
PsD**

UNC Chapel Hill

JUNIOR BOARD

The Junior Board was created in 2025 and brings together leaders in the community - all impacted by cancer and driven to develop their leadership skills and gain valuable insights into the AYA cancer experience.



Jade Shelly
Co-Chair



Ranjit Steiner
Co-Chair



Monica Hennings
Community
Committee



JJ Singleton
Community
Committee



Jordan Bishop
Development
Committee



Olivia Mannion
Communications
Committee



Dominic Valdez
Programs
Committee



Perry Zimmerman
Programs
Committee

IN THE NEWS

Throughout 2025, Stupid Cancer was a part of several powerful pieces featuring our CEO and community members that raised awareness about AYA cancer, bringing our vital resources and advocacy to a broader audience.

TIME

The Race to Explain Why More Young Adults Are Getting Cancer

February 2025

BUSINESS INSIDER

Young Cancer is Rising. What does that mean for you?

November 2025

KATIE COURIC
MEDIA

How to Find the Best Breast Cancer Support Online

August 2025

OncoDaily

Jennifer Bires Shared Powerful Insights from 2025 Stupid Cancer's Gathering
April 2025

Alique Topalian: Cancer Con 2025 Might Be My Favorite One Yet
May 2025

Laura Ortiz-Ravick and Charoh Ortiz Lead CancerCon Session on Reaching Diverse AYA Communities
May 2025

cure
T O D A Y

Raising Awareness of Financial Struggles Faced by AYA Cancer Survivors
April 2025

cancer health.

Sarcoma and Bone Cancer Resources
November 2025

THANK YOU

Thank you for your support!
We are moving our mission forward
because of you!



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