



Association of American Cancer Institutes Statement on the National Cancer Plan

The Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI) commends the inspiring and comprehensive [National Cancer Plan](#) released by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and supports the goals, strategies, and call to action that it outlines. The eight goals highlighted—which include preventing cancer, reducing death, and ensuring the best quality of life for patients facing cancer—reflect what AACI cancer centers strive for each day, while the strategies provide a clear vision to achieve these goals.

The plan's framework for collaboration confronts the complexities of the National Cancer Program and its ecosystem, stressing that the traditional stakeholders of the "cancer community"—federal, state, and local governments; academic cancer centers; pharmaceutical industry laboratories; professional societies; nonprofits; patients; advocates; and caregivers—must reach beyond existing partnerships to meet the plan's goals. AACI cancer centers are committed to engaging within, and beyond, the traditional cancer community.

AACI stands with President Joe Biden, Dr. Jill Biden, Dr. Monica Bertagnolli, the NCI, and other stakeholders in our commitment to ending cancer as we know it today. The association's academic cancer centers, which include all NCI-Designated Cancer Centers and others that are seeking NCI designation, are committed to the plan's goals of preventing cancer, detecting cancers early, developing effective treatment for people facing cancer, eliminating inequities in cancer care, and delivering optimal care.

We can and must do better to engage every person with cancer or at risk for cancer and maximize data utility. Optimizing the oncology workforce is critical to ensuring productive and impactful reach in the communities we serve.

While AACI enthusiastically endorses the National Cancer Plan, the association remains firmly committed to advocating for strong investments in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the NCI. Although many cancer research champions in Congress have provided steady funding increases for the NIH and NCI over the last decade, the R01 grant application success rate for the NCI continues to lag that of other institutes.

Without a sound investment in biomedical research in general, and cancer research in particular, AACI's mission to accelerate progress against cancer, and the goals set forth in the National Cancer Plan, cannot be achieved.