

# Inclusion, Diversity & Equity in Cancer Medicine



Despite enormous progress in cancer research, prevention, and treatment over the past decade, historically marginalized populations continue to bear a disproportionate cancer burden. Black patients with cancer are likely to die sooner than white patients, and patients with financial stress at the time of their diagnosis are more likely to experience pain and depression than those who have financial reserves. At Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, we believe that skin color, income, and zip code should never determine health outcomes.

Inclusion, Diversity & Equity in Cancer Medicine is a key component of **The Dana-Farber Campaign**, our ambitious, multi-year \$2 billion fundraising effort to prevent, treat, and Defy Cancer by accelerating revolutionary science, extraordinary care, and exceptional expertise. Campaign funds will allow us to:

**Expand Access to Care:** All patients deserve access to exceptional cancer care. Visionary support can help us to grow our patient navigation and mobile health programs; increase our efforts to educate the community about cancer prevention, screening, and care; and forge new partnerships.

**Lead in Cancer Disparities Research:** Research is the foundation for transformational change. With philanthropic partnerships, we will advance research into disparities in cancer care and outcomes, expand access to and representation in clinical trials, improve health equity data collection and analysis, and more.

**Improve Access to Careers and Advancement:** A healthcare workforce that reflects the diversity of the community is key to delivering equitable cancer care. With your support, we aim to attract the best and brightest leaders, grow our pipeline programs, and cultivate the skills of our workers across every facet of oncology.

Dana-Farber is committed to improving access to care and outcomes through programs including:

## Cancer Care Equity Program (CCEP)

The CCEP places Dana-Farber at the forefront of efforts to eliminate disparities and improve health outcomes in medically vulnerable communities. Launched in 2012, the CCEP gives residents from diverse, low-income neighborhoods streamlined access to cancer prevention and treatment services as well as clinical trials. Campaign funds will allow Dana-Farber to advance these efforts, increasing access to care and improving health equity.

## Mammography Van

Dana-Farber's Mammography Van is the only mobile mammography program in Massachusetts. Launched in partnership with the City of Boston in 2002, the van partners with more than 20 community-based organizations to reduce barriers by bringing our services directly to the elderly, immigrants, non-English speakers, and low-income populations in Boston's diverse and underserved neighborhoods. With campaign support, the Institute plans to expand these programs, which represent a lifeline for patients across the region.

## Patient Navigation

Created in 2005, the Institute's patient navigation program aims to help guide patients and their families through the complexities of cancer screening and care in a culturally sensitive manner. Patient navigation promotes access to timely diagnosis and treatment of cancer by eliminating financial, insurance, and language barriers to care. Ideally, patient navigators are from or are very familiar with the communities or neighborhoods of the patients they are supporting. Dana-Farber aims to grow this program and introduce community-facing patient navigators to treatment centers across the Institute.

# Select Opportunities for Impact

Philanthropic support is critical to accomplishing our goals to advance Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity in Cancer Medicine. There are many opportunities to support these critical efforts, including the examples below. Together, with visionary philanthropic partners, we can create a future where cancer prevention, care, and outcomes are grounded in equity and justice.

## FLAGSHIP

### Expand Access to Cancer Care

- Establish the Center for Access, Equity, and Innovation to increase access to care, grow our presence in the community, expand research relevant to underrepresented communities, and advocate for new policies to improve care.
- Expand our mobile health programs—Dana-Farber’s Mammography Van and the Blum Family Resource Center Van—to bring culturally sensitive breast health and skin cancer prevention resources to more communities.

## PEOPLE

### Build a Diverse Workforce

- Establish the Center for Career Development in Nursing and Patient Care Services to attract and train larger numbers of exceptional oncology nurses from historically underrepresented communities.
- Support early career development for faculty and staff from historically underrepresented communities by providing opportunities, support, training, and satisfying career paths.
- Expand the capacity of workforce development programs that create a pipeline of diverse talent with opportunities for educational and professional development from high school through postgraduate training.

## PROGRAM

### Support Multidisciplinary Research

- Support Dana-Farber’s Presidential Priorities in Cancer Disparities Research to define and tackle the biggest cancer disparity challenges in research.
- Provide current-use funds for health disparities research focused on cancer prevention, early detection, and intervention to deepen our efforts to detect and prevent disease in communities disproportionately burdened by cancer.
- Provide current-use funds to expand access to clinical trials and bolster our efforts to ensure trial participants reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of patients diagnosed with or at risk for cancer.

The Dana-Farber Campaign  
*Defy Cancer*



To learn more, please contact:

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