

Measures of Progress

in Georgia's fight against cancer

GEORGIA
core

In 2022-23...

1

We helped bring more cutting-edge treatments to more Georgians.

2

We enabled more Georgians to get screened and counseled for hereditary breast and ovarian cancer.

3

We awarded more grants to communities to help Georgians prevent and fight cancer.

4

We increased the number of South Georgians screened for colorectal cancer.

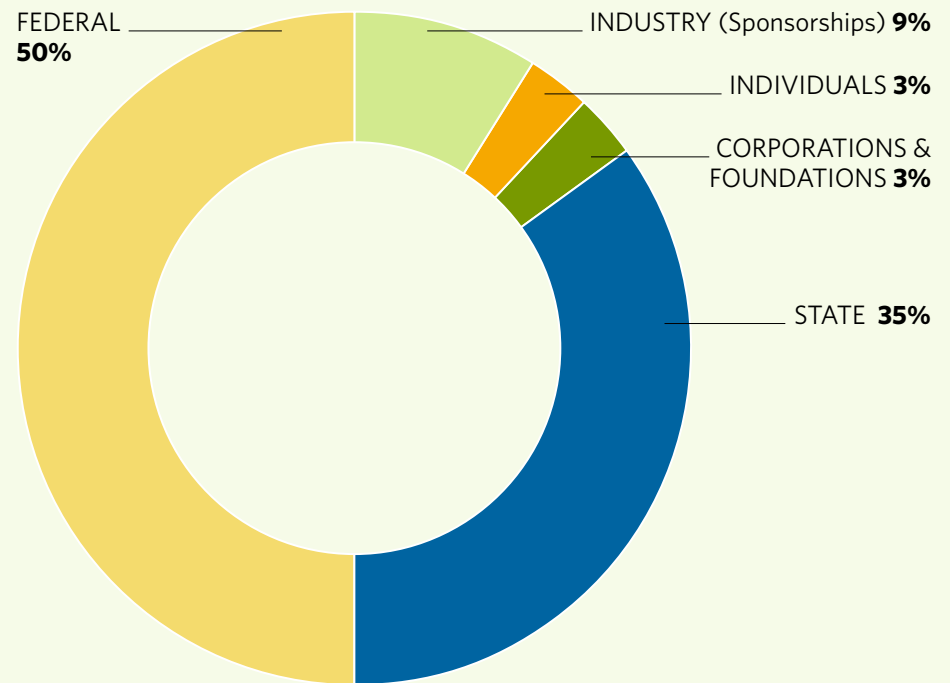
(We also upheld our commitment to good stewardship... see page 7)

5

We shared new knowledge about cancer prevention, treatment, and guidance.

The funds entrusted to us

A variety of sources makes Georgia CORE's work possible. See page 7 to see how we use these funds to benefit Georgians.



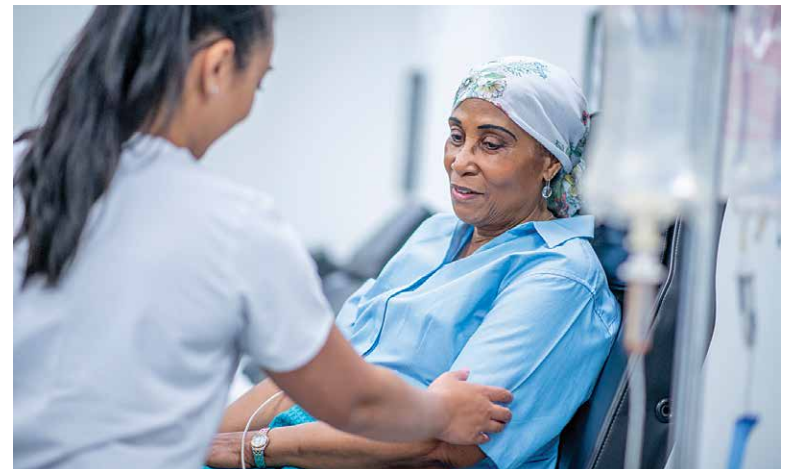
FY23 TOTAL: \$4,052,282.33
(our largest budget ever)

We helped bring more **cutting-edge treatments** to more Georgians.

HOW: By adding Tift Regional Medical Center as a new site for offering cancer clinical trials. The medical center was brought aboard as a GA NCI Community Oncology Research Program location, joining a network of seven other places providing trials.

WHY IT MATTERS: People fighting cancer in southwest Georgia now have more access to new and emerging treatments. With the addition of Tift Regional, 8 out of 10 Georgians are less than an hour away from a cancer clinical trial.

THIS HAPPENED, TOO: In 2022-23, Georgia CORE also supported efforts to recruit more participants in clinical trials. And we wrote **new guidelines** for monitoring the GA NCORP sites to ensure quality.



With the addition of Tift Regional Medical Center as a GA NCORP site for cancer clinical trials, new and emerging treatments are now within reach of 80% of Georgians.

2

We helped more Georgians get **screened and counseled** for hereditary breast and ovarian cancer (HBOC).

HOW: By teaming up with the Georgia Department of Public Health to offer BreastCancerScreening.org — and increase access to testing, counseling, and management for those who have an HBOC-related genetic mutation.

WHY IT MATTERS: Those at high risk for HBOC can take several actions to lower the risk. And Georgians who participate in screening and genetic testing share their experience with others.

GREAT RESULTS: Online screenings **jumped 57%** over last year. The number of referrals for genetic testing and counseling **increased 72%**. The number of genetic tests submitted **grew by 38%**.

ANOTHER CONTRIBUTION: We helped stage a Spanish-language convocation in Gwinnett County to explore how to engage more Latinos in genetic screenings. Georgia CORE joined Emory's Rollins School of Public Health in offering the event.

**Knowledge
is everything.**

A person at high risk for hereditary breast or ovarian cancer has several options available for finding cancer earlier or possibly preventing cancer from occurring. But the first step is getting screened and getting that knowledge."

— Cindy Snyder, DNP, ACGN, FNP-C, CBCN, Georgia CORE

3

We **awarded more grants** to communities to help Georgians prevent and fight cancer.

HOW: Through proceeds from the sale of the specialty “Fight Breast Cancer” license plate, we awarded **nearly \$200,000** in grants to seven organizations across the state.

WHY IT MATTERS: The organizations, which include Regional Cancer Coalitions, help Georgians in need prevent and fight cancer. They use the funds to conduct screenings, provide rides to chemotherapy appointments, boost awareness, and provide an array of other services.

GROWTH AND PROGRESS: The number of Georgia counties benefitting from the program **increased 57%**. Screening and diagnostic mammograms **doubled**. Educational events **tripled**. Across the board: 7 out of every 10 served were racial/ethnic minority women and men. (And next year, we’ll award our first grant from the proceeds of the new specialty “All Together, Stop Cancer” license plate.)



The YWCA of Greater Atlanta used a community grant from Georgia CORE to bring this mobile mammography unit to East Lake. The unit provided free mammograms to any who wanted them.

We **increased the number** of South Georgians screened for colorectal cancer.

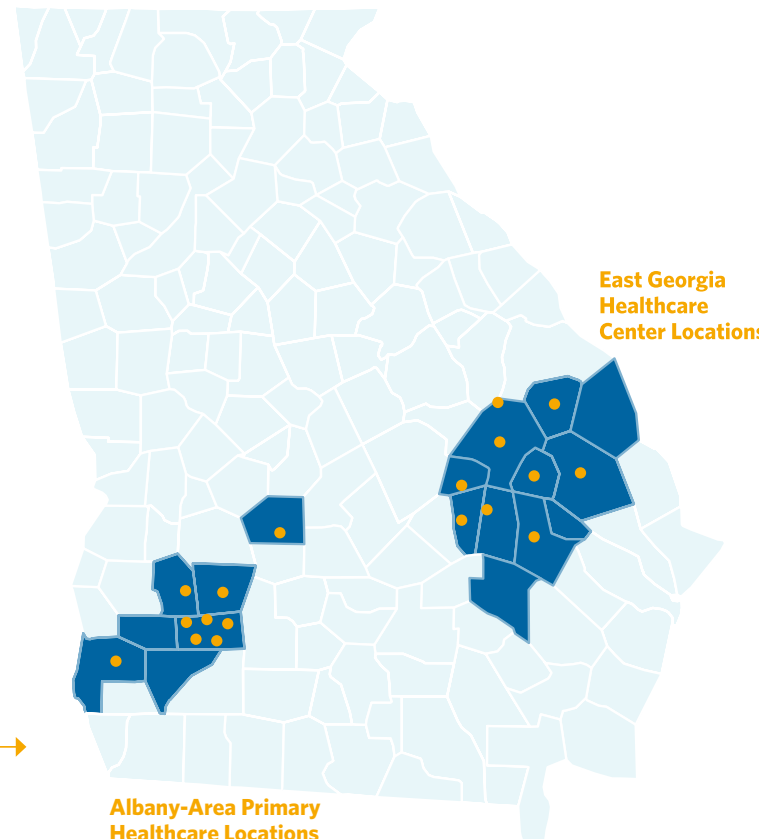
HOW: By expanding and aggressively promoting the “Stay Ahead of Colon Cancer” screening effort. Now in its fourth year, the CDC-funded initiative is our partnership with Georgia Cancer Center at Augusta University, Horizons Community Solutions, East Georgia Healthcare Center, Primary Care of Southwest Georgia, and Albany Area Primary Health Care.

WHY IT MATTERS: While 7 out of 10 eligible Georgians get screened for colorectal cancer, rates in South Georgia are much lower. Screenings have an enormous impact on catching the disease early – and successfully treating it.

IT'S WORKING: Screening rates (on average) for eligible adults in southeast Georgia climbed from 33% to **44%** (and in southwest Georgia, 57% to **60%**). Our partnership **added four** screening locations this year.

MORE SCREENING LOCATIONS WITHIN REACH

Adding three clinics and one Federally Qualified Health Center in FY23 will give South Georgia residents more options for colorectal cancer screenings, which are part of Georgia CORE's “Stay Ahead of Colon Cancer” initiative.



5

We **shared new knowledge** about cancer prevention, treatment, and guidance.

HOW: By convening and engaging Georgia's oncology community throughout the year. Some examples: We hosted a first-of-its-kind summit to reduce barriers to accessing cancer clinical trials; co-hosted the **Georgia Cancer Summit**; held webinars for patient navigators; and made personal visits to 17 Georgia hospitals accredited by the Commission on Cancer (which works to improve survival and quality of life for people with cancer).

WHY IT MATTERS: Cancer care in our state evolves when those involved in that care share ideas and knowledge. Georgia CORE plays the unique role of being **Georgia's convener** of healthcare professionals, researchers, public health experts, and others in the cancer-fighting community.

NOTABLE: Cancer Patient Navigators of Georgia established its first advisory board this year. The board brings outside perspectives to those who help Georgians make their way through the complexities of care. We also co-hosted **"Cancer Prevention Day at the Capitol"** to inform Georgia legislators about progress made through prevention, screening, research, and treatment.



Georgia CORE and partners convened a fall 2022 summit to explore how to recruit and enroll more people from rural and underrepresented groups in cancer clinical trials.

Finally: We upheld our commitment to good **stewardship**.

Georgia CORE's expenditures emphasize programmatic impact. They also reflect a commitment to seize opportunities as well as carry out planned initiatives.

HOW FUNDS WERE PUT TO WORK

PROGRAM

Research: \$962,434

Advancing research by promoting collaboration and attracting more clinical trials and research studies to Georgia

Education: \$2,071,348

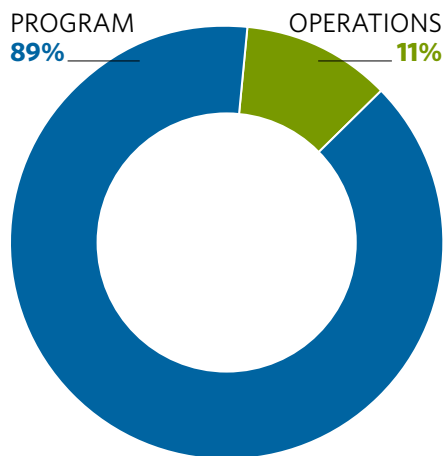
Reducing disparities among under-resourced Georgians through education, awareness, and grants for prevention and screening

Advocacy: \$57,378

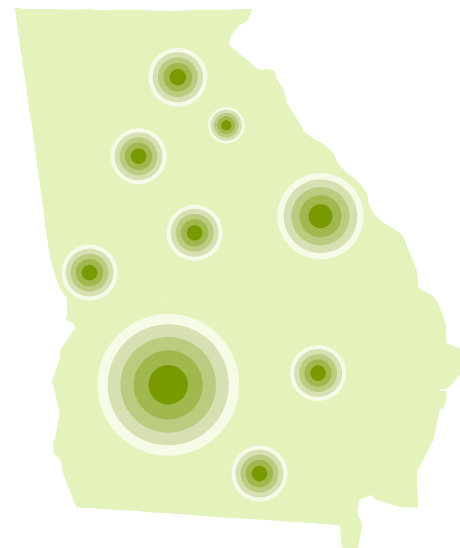
Aligning with Georgia's cancer community to advocate for policies, programs, and funding for cancer care and research

OPERATIONS

\$387,942



AREAS OF GREATEST IMPACT OF GEORGIA CORE EXPENDITURES



A cause for **celebration**

The 20th anniversary of Georgia CORE in 2023 was a joyous milestone, marked by raising a glass to the many who have worked tirelessly to strengthen cancer care in Georgia.

Our “Toast to the Trailblazers” gala in February united the state’s oncology community in celebration and raised \$70,000 for more cancer screenings. It also gave us the opportunity to pause and salute 20 past trailblazers and 20 current innovators.

TRAILBLAZERS

Dan and Kathelen Amos • The Honorable Gov. Roy Barnes • GASCO (staff and board members) • Donald Gallup, MD (posthumous) • James Hotz, MD • Anand Jillella, MD • Michael Johns, MD • Hamilton Jordan (posthumous) • Alice Kerber, MN, APRN • David Lawson, MD • Roland Matthews, MD • Matthew Mumber, MD • Ruth O’Regan, MD • Nancy Paris, FACHE • The Honorable Butch Parrish • Frederick Schnell, MD • Thomas Seay, MD (posthumous) • Tobyanne Sidman • William Todd • Kathleen Toomey, MD, MPH

TODAY’S INNOVATORS

Guilherme Cantuaria, MD, PhD • Bradley Carthon, MD, PhD • Andria ‘Angie’ Caton, MSN, RN • Jorge Cortes, MD • Melissa Dillmon, MD • Chris Draft • Lynn Durham, EdD • Laura Farless, MD • Sharad Ghamande, MD • John Henson, MD • Chirag Jani, MD • Adam Jones, MD • Sumin Kang, PhD • Eileen Kennedy, PhD • Shafiq Khan, PhD • Troy Kimsey, MD • Lauren McCullough, PhD • John McDonald, PhD • Petros Nikolinakos, MD • Samuel Ofori, MD • Andrew Pippas, MD • Suresh Ramalingam, MD • Brian Rivers, PhD, MPH • Jayanthi Srinivasiah, MD • Bradley Sumrall, MD • Amelia Zelnak, MD



Georgia CORE is the nonprofit working in many different ways to achieve one goal: **Strengthening cancer care in Georgia.**

We play a unique role by playing many roles – catalyst, convener, broker, and champion.

Our primary objectives are to:

- drive exploration of new treatments and put them within reach of more Georgians;
- prevent incidence of cancer throughout our state;
- advocate for patients and providers alike; and
- connect different sectors in the oncology community to help them stay informed and prepared to offer exceptional care.



Back row, L to R: Angelique Brooks, Shantoria Brown, Cindy Snyder. Front row, L-R Marquita Iddirisu, Sheryl Gabram, Shondolyn Richburg (consultant).



L-R: Katreena Davis, Kristina Forbes, Lynn Durham, Rebecca Wallace (consultant).

Subscribe to our e-newsletter by visiting tinyurl.com/GaCOREnews – we'll see you once a month after that! More about our work at: **GeorgiaCancerInfo.org**