ASCO's Advocacy Activities

ASCO members have numerous opportunities to advocate at the federal and state level on behalf of patients with cancer. These activities include grassroots advocacy; direct advocacy; engaging in grasstops advocacy; speaking on behalf of ASCO at Congressional briefings or hearings; and contributing to the ASCO Association Political Action Committee (PAC). We are pleased to recognize the following ASCO volunteers who exemplified cancer care advocacy in 2023.

- **Grassroots Advocacy**: Actions taken by a group to contact elected officials online, on the phone, or by mail.
- **Direct Advocacy**: Actions include face-to-face meetings with elected officials or their staff.
- **Grasstops Advocacy**: Utilizing pre-existing relationships with lawmakers to advance ASCO’s priorities.

Advocate of the Year: Jason Westin, MD, MS, FACP

Dr. Westin has served ASCO as an invaluable advocate for cancer care professionals and their patients. His run for Congress in 2017, his service on and leadership of the ASCO Government Relations Committee during the past 5 years, and his role as an inaugural member of the ASCO Association PAC Advisory Council demonstrate his dedication to advocacy. In 2023, Dr. Westin represented oncology professionals from around the country in his testimony before the Senate Finance Committee on the ongoing drug shortages crisis. He has become a trusted resource for lawmakers and their staff in communicating how policies will impact cancer patients in their districts and states. In addition to Congressional testimony, Dr. Westin contacted his lawmakers via the ACT Network, participated in the Advocacy Summit and federal agency meetings, actively engaged on social media, and contributed to the ASCO Association PAC — all underscoring his commitment to advancing cancer policies through advocacy. He currently serves as Past Chair of ASCO’s Government Relations Committee.

Dr. Westin is the Director of the Lymphoma Clinical Research Program, Section Chief for Aggressive Lymphoma, and Professor of Medicine at the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in the Department of Lymphoma and Myeloma. He earned his medical degree from the University of Florida, completed his residency at the University of North Carolina, and his fellowship at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas.
ASCO 2023 Advocacy Champions

President’s Circle
ASCO advocates who participate in 4 or more of ASCO’s advocacy activities, including the ACT Network and at least 2 activities involving meetings with lawmakers.

- R. Donald Harvey, PharmD, FCCP, FASCO, BCOP
- Marilyn Heine, MD
- Jasmine Kamboj, MD, MBBS
- Amanda Nizam, MD
- Sumanta Pal, MD, FASCO
- Banu Symington, MD, MACP
- Mark Walshauser, MD
- Robin Zon, MD, FASCO, FACP

Speaker’s Circle
ASCO advocates who participate in 3 or more of ASCO’s advocacy activities, including the ACT Network and meetings with lawmakers.

- Neeraj Agarwal, MD, FASCO
- Anas Al-Janadi, MD
- Edward Balaban, DO, FACP, FASCO
- Carolina Bernabe, MD
- Daniel Carriozosa, MD, MS
- Fumiko Chino, MD
- Mehmet Copur, MD, FACP
- John Cox, DO, MBA, MACP, FASCO
- Devika Das, MBBS
- Fernando Diaz, MD
- Emily Dressler, PhD
- Susan Escudier, MD, FACP
- Sanjay Goel, MD, MS
- Stephanie Graff, MD, FACP, FASCO
- Xylina Gregg, MD
- Jessica Hawley, MD, MS
- Arielle Heeke, MD
- Mark Henderson, MD
- Carolyn Hendricks, MD, FASCO
- Paul Hesketh, MD, FASCO
- Karan Jatwani, MD
- Lee Jones, MBA
- Sharad Khurana, MD, MSc
- Steve Lee, MD, FACP
- Noelle LoConte, MD, FASCO
- Ana Maria Lopez, MD, MPH
- Shail Maingi, MD
- Joshua Mammen, MD, PhD, FACS
- Rami Manochakian, MD, FASCO
- Bradley McGregor, MD
- Charles Miller, MD, FACP, FASCO
- Joseph Muscato, MD
- Kurt Oettel, MD, MBA, FACP, FASCO
- Ray Page, DO, PhD, FACOI, FASCO
- Martin Palmeri, MD, MBA
- Julia Parrish, MD, BS
- Manali Patel, MD
- Alejandra Perez, MD
- George Riddle, PhD
- Jerome Seid, MD
- Melanie Sheen, MD
- Heloisa Soares, MD
- Ishwaria Subbiah, MD, MS
- Latha Subramanian, MBChB
- Ashley Sumrall, MD, FACP, FASCO
- Wade Swenson, MD, MBA, MPH, ACHE, FACP
- Winston Tan, MD, FACP, MS, FASCO
- Laura Tenner, MD, MPH
- Alexandra Thomas, MD, FACP
- Ana Velazquez Manana, MD, MSc, MS
- Everett Vokes, MD, FASCO
- Jeremy Warner, MD, MS, FASCO
- Ruiling Yuan, MD
- Corrine Zarwan, MD
Senator’s Circle
ASCO advocates who participate in more than one of ASCO’s advocacy activities.

Carryn Anderson, MD
Alan Baltz, MD
Eric Bernicker, MD
Lora Black, CCRP, MPH, OCN, RN
Debra Brandt, DO
Howard “Skip” Burris, MD, FACP, FASCO
Paul Celano, MD, FASCO
Mark Chang, DO
Gary Cohen, MD, FASCO
Robert Daly, MD, MBA
Susan Dent, MD
Natalie Dickson, MD, MMHC, FACP, FASCO
Thomas George, MD, FACP
Laura Goff, MD
Richard Goldberg, MD, FASCO, FACP
Denis Hammond, MD, FASCO
Tara Henderson, MD, MPH, FASCO
Sakeer Hussain, MD
Suneel Kamath, MD
Sameer Keole, MD
Mary Klix, MD, FACP
John Knecht, MD
Miriam Knoll, MD
Michael Link, MD, FASCO
Arturo Loaiza-Bonilla, MD, Med, FACP
Gilberto Lopes, MD, MBA, FASCO
Mary Kay Makarewicz
Issam Makhoul, MD
Merry Jennifer Markham, MD, FACP, FASCO
Thomas Marsland, MD, FASCO
Khalid Matin, MD
Barbara McAneny, MD, MACP, FASCO
Therese Mulvey, MD, FASCO
Mary Muscato, MD
Kristina Novick, MD
Lauren Nye, MD
Raymond Osarogiagbon, FACP, MBBS, FASCO
David Oubre, MD
Taofeek Onwokoko, MD, PhD, FASCO, MS
Brian Persing, MD
Todd Pickard, FASCO, PA-C
Lori Pierce, MD, FASTRO, FASCO
Andrew Pierson, MD
Blase Polite, MD, MPP, FASCO
Seth Pollack, MD
Joshua Reuss, MD
Gladys Rodriguez, MD, FASCO
Joel Saltzman, MD, FASCO
Joan Schiller, MD, FASCO
Lynn Schuchter, MD, FASCO
Erin Schwab, MD, BS, MPH
Piyush Srivastava, MD, FASCO
Walter Stadler, MD
Apostolia Tsimberidou, MD, PhD, FASCO
Catherine Van Poznak, MD, FASCO
H. James Wallace, MD
Jeanna Walsh, MD
Eric Winer, MD, FASCO
Karen Winkfield, MD, PhD, FASCO
Joanna Yang, MD, MPH
Peter Yu, MD, FACP, FASCO