The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is committed to ensuring everyone has a fair and just opportunity to prevent, find, treat, and survive cancer. We know that cancer impacts everyone, but it doesn’t impact everyone equally, and that is why diversity, equity, and inclusion are vital to ending cancer as we know it, for everyone. ACS CAN is centering the lived experiences and voices of our diverse volunteer leaders through our affinity groups that influence, strengthen, and diversify communications, messaging, partnerships, policy initiatives, and volunteer recruitment, training, and engagement within their communities.

The Black Volunteer Caucus (BVC) works to decrease death and suffering from cancer, specifically in the Black community, and ensure no one is disadvantaged in the fight against cancer. The BVC engages in meaningful outreach, recruitment, advocacy, and policy work nationally and locally. BVC members give voice to the unequal burden of cancer and lift up the Black community through sharing their stories, shaping messaging, facilitating trainings, and hosting awareness and advocacy events centered on identifying disparities and policy solutions. Learn more at www.fightcancer.org/bvc.

The LGBTQ+ & Allies Engagement Group provides a learning, strategy, and idea exchange for people that are working to increase awareness and advance policies that address the unique challenges and cancer disparities LGBTQ+ communities face and provide access to safe, quality, comprehensive, and inclusive care without the fear of discrimination. The Engagement Group advises ACS CAN on initiatives that impact LGBTQ+ communities through supporting volunteer outreach and engagement strategies, increasing awareness, and providing information and resources for specific communities, volunteers, and partners. Learn more at www.fightcancer.org/lgbtqgroup.

The ACSí Se Puede Hispanic/Latino Advocacy Alliance works to reduce cancer disparities in Hispanic/Latino communities and guides ACS CAN’s initiatives and campaigns through increasing awareness, strengthening partnerships, influencing public policy priorities, diversifying messaging and materials, and recruiting and engaging volunteers that reflect the unique heritages, cultural backgrounds, and lived experiences of our diverse communities. Learn more at www.fightcancer.org/acsisepuede and www.juntoscontraelcancer.org/acsisepuede.

The Asian American & Pacific Islander Volunteer Advisory Group is engaging and involving Asian American and Pacific Islander volunteers, organizations, and companies in ACS CAN initiatives and campaigns through partnerships, policies, education, awareness, recruitment, and collaboration with similar volunteer groups to advance representation and reduce disparities in our communities.

The ACS CAN Affinity group for volunteers 18-35 years old recognizes young people have an important voice that we need to amplify in the fight against cancer. This group is looking for personal and professional development, leadership experience, and ways to contribute to important causes. ACS CAN strives to be the place to provide these opportunities. The affinity group focuses on recruitment and engagement of volunteers 18-35 years old.

For more information contact Leslie Ferreira (she/her), Director, Grassroots Alliances - Health Equity at leslie.ferreira@cancer.org.