

Colleges Against Cancer & ACS CAN Fight Childhood Cancer

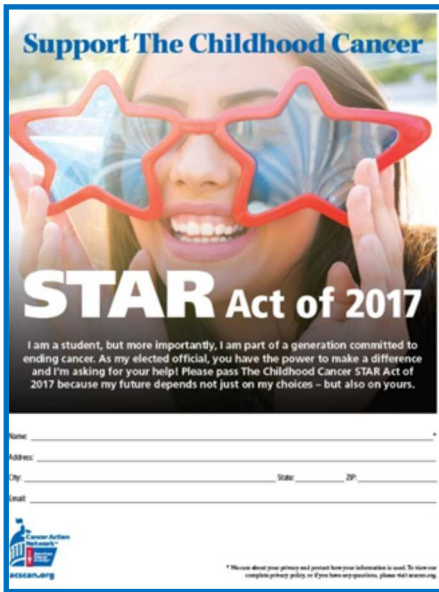
2017
ACS CAN/ CAC
Star ACT materials



Laptop stickers: This giveaway item can be used to remind students that they supported the 2017 STAR ACT. ACS CAN staff can order these on the materials website .



STAR ACT Social Media Sign: Survivors and caregivers write your name, location, type of cancer, and message to congress. Take a selfie and tag your law maker on social media.



STAR ACT petition & New CAC / ACS AN Membership form: Both can be found at acscan.org/cac . You can also take an online action at acscan.org

Supporting documents: 5 Ways to get involved , ACS CAN Childhood Cancer Accomplishments, and ACS CAN and Childhood Cancer can be found on acscan.org/cac

5 ways for CAC to Support ACS CAN's work on Childhood Cancer

- Feature stories about Childhood Cancer on Social Media
 - On your personal page's post and create share graphics, campus and community patient/survivor stories, campus event pics, and links to the childhood cancer petition
- Work with local ACS CAN staff to...
 - Visit a lawmaker's office and deliver petitions
 - Coordinate a phone call day in a lawmaker's offices
 - Email lawmakers and their staff asking them to **take action** on our legislation
 - Create an online and/or paper story bank of childhood cancer stories from your campus and community to share with a lawmaker
- While tabling on campus to promote your CAC chapter ask students and faculty to sign the childhood cancer petition
- Hand out Lap top stickers to students to raise awareness about the campaign
- Start an ACS CAN membership drive with a set recruitment goal.

ACS CAN Childhood Cancer Accomplishments

As the advocacy partner of the American Cancer Society, childhood cancer advocacy is a high priority for ACS CAN. Our staff works closely with the childhood cancer community in our efforts to develop strategies around public policy advocacy. We believe real progress in reducing the incidence of and mortality from childhood cancer will come as a result of policy change that incentivizes and supports research and the development of new therapies. Below are some of our accomplishments relating to childhood cancer:

- In 2014, the American Cancer Society prepared a special section on childhood cancer in its annual Cancer Facts and Figures publication, which highlighted the burden of disease across the childhood and adolescent communities. It also provided data that showed that childhood cancer is not just a single disease and that progress made in some areas had not been felt in many others.
- ACS CAN worked in partnership with the Alliance for Childhood Cancer, a coalition of organizations advocating on childhood cancer issues, on a Congressional briefing focused on childhood cancer issues in April 2014. We remain very involved in the Alliance's annual lobby day as sponsors and participants, and bring in several of our own volunteers to participate in the event.
- The American Cancer Society hosted a workshop in March 2015 with the National Cancer Policy Forum that examined recent trends in comprehensive care for pediatric cancer patients and their families and consider potential policy actions to improve care and outcomes.
- Through the combined efforts of ACS CAN and its partners in the Alliance for Childhood Cancer, two childhood cancer bills have been introduced in the House and Senate. The Childhood Cancer STAR Act would improve efforts to identify and track childhood cancer incidences, improve the quality of life for childhood cancer survivors, ensure publicly accessible expanded access policies that provide hope for patients who have run out of options, and identify opportunities to expand the research to develop new treatments for children living with cancer. Additionally, ACS CAN has endorsed the RACE for Children Act, which will increase the development of new drugs to treat pediatric cancers.
- In 2016, ACS CAN spearheaded the development of a landscape report, Translating Discovery into Cures for Children with Cancer, that identifies areas of need and opportunity for childhood cancers. This landscape survey includes information regarding incidence and mortality of pediatric cancers, the number of pediatric clinical trials in progress, an examination of drugs with pediatric label information, major themes in pediatric cancer research, and an explanation of the logistical, economic and regulatory features unique to pediatric cancer. ACS CAN and the Alliance for Childhood Cancer held a congressional briefing on this hearing in September 2016.

ACS CAN is committed to fighting for policies that will improve how we care for children diagnosed with cancer.

ACS CAN & Childhood Cancer

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) supports laws and policies that increase funding for cancer research, improve the quality of life for children and their families as they face cancer, and broaden access to quality health care.

Childhood Cancer Facts:

- Cancer is the leading cause of disease-related death among children ages 1-19, and more than 10,000 children will be diagnosed with cancer in 2017.
- A majority of childhood cancer survivors experience serious side effects or late effects as a result of currently available cancer-fighting treatments. This can cause significant and potentially life-threatening chronic conditions that can last a lifetime among the nearly 380,000 survivors of childhood cancer and their families living in the US today.
- Additional scientific discovery is essential to drive advances against the childhood cancers that have seen little or no progress and remain deadly, and to deliver more effective and less toxic cancer treatments to improve quality of life for these children and adolescents can both survive AND thrive.

Childhood Cancer Advocacy Initiatives
ACS CAN is actively working with the Alliance for Childhood Cancer and the Patient Quality of Life Coalition to advance key public policy proposals benefiting children and families:

Childhood Cancer Research: The priority of pediatric cancer research is conducted by the federal government, meaning federal funding is vitally important for further medical advances. This legislation reauthorizes the Carolina Prime Walker Cancer Childhood Cancer Act, which expands efforts to collect biopsies and clinical and demographic information for childhood cancer patients in clinical trials to understand the cause of pediatric cancers and the effects of treatments.

Childhood Cancer Surveillance: The Childhood Cancer STAR Act will authorize grants to state cancer registries to track incidences of cancer in children, adolescents, and young adults. Funding for these registries would be used to expand early reporting of pediatric cancer, improve electronic reporting and infrastructure, submitting data to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's national childhood cancer database, and tracking the late effects of childhood cancers.

Pediatric Expertise and Transparency at the NIH: This provision would require that at least one pediatric oncologist be included on the National Cancer Advisory Board and would enhance the reporting requirements for childhood cancer research at the NIH.

Quality of Life for Childhood Cancer Survivors: Over 60 percent of childhood cancer survivors go on to experience a chronic health condition. This bill expands research on the late effects of childhood cancer treatments, calls for a report on medical and psychosocial care for pediatric cancer survivors, creates pilot programs to evaluate model systems of care, and initiates studies on insurance coverage and payment of care for childhood cancer survivors.

ACS CAN is working to finish the fight against childhood cancer!