

At The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society® (LLS), we advocate for policies to ensure blood cancer patients have access to affordable care and the most innovative therapies.

We are the voice for blood cancer patients



APPROXIMATELY EVERY

3 MINUTES

SOMEONE IN THE U.S.
IS DIAGNOSED WITH A
BLOOD CANCER.

- While advances in blood cancer therapies are having a dramatic impact on the way patients are treated, critical challenges remain in the discovery, development and regulatory review of new therapies and in patients' ability to access care.
- At LLS, we work tirelessly not only to find cures but also to ensure patients can access the lifesaving treatments they need.
- We have an Office of Public Policy in Washington D.C. as well as regional staff throughout the U.S. These include legislative and regulatory affairs experts and advocacy professionals who are dedicated to removing barriers to care.

We are on the frontlines of the battle to lower costs for cancer patients

- Day in and day out we hear from patients and their families about their struggles to access affordable, high-quality and coordinated care.
- The cost of cancer care has been steadily rising and patients are bearing more of the financial burden, paying larger portions out of their own pockets for their care.
- We believe patients must have guaranteed access to high-quality, affordable and stable care.
- We believe every player in the healthcare system needs to work toward putting patients first.
- We are advocating for policy recommendations and new reforms to lower overall costs and financial distress for cancer patients.



THE U.S. WILL SPEND
\$158-173 BILLION
EACH YEAR ON CANCER CARE
BY 2020—A 27 TO
39 PERCENT INCREASE
SINCE 2010

You can read more about the cost of cancer at www.lls.org/cancercost.

Our advocacy work also benefits the broader cancer community

Many of the policies that we advocate for, at the state and federal levels, are universally beneficial for all cancer patients.

- LLS advances laws to ensure that health plans provide fair coverage of cancer treatments that are administered in pill form. Through our efforts, oral parity laws have been enacted in 43 states and the District of Columbia, and we're pushing to secure similar laws in more states and at the federal level.
- LLS helped pass the 21st Century Cures Act into law, ensuring reform that will enable the U.S. Food & Drug Administration to speed the review and approval of new therapies. This bipartisan bill committed nearly \$5 billion in additional funding for the National Institutes of Health over the next 10 years, funding that is critical to sustain the current momentum to advance our understanding of the treatment of cancer.

We are creating change so patients can live longer, healthier lives

LLS advocates at the state and federal level. We drive policies that accelerate new treatments to patients and ensure patients have access to quality, affordable care so that they can live longer, healthier lives.

PROGRESS TOWARD CURES

LLS works with Congress and the FDA to promote new medical discoveries and speed the development of new treatments and cures by:

- Encouraging the FDA to accelerate approval processes while still protecting patient safety
- Supporting patient-focused drug development that captures patients' needs and concerns
- Advocating for sustained research funding from the NIH and other federal agencies.

ACCESS AT STATE AND FEDERAL LEVELS

We work to enact state and federal laws and regulations that ensure patients can access the care and treatments they need. This work is focused on:

- Guaranteeing patients have access to care
- Encouraging quality insurance coverage/promoting affordable insurance coverage
- Providing stability so patients do not experience an interruption of insurance coverage
- Keeping patient out-of-pocket costs low

A KEY POLICY SUCCESS

We drove policies to ensure patients taking oral medications at home do not face higher out-of-pocket costs than patients treated in a clinic.



ORAL PARITY LAWS ADVANCED IN

43 STATES

More than
100,000

volunteer advocates
mobilized across the U.S.

A NATIONWIDE NETWORK OF EMPOWERED ADVOCATES

LLS empowers and equips blood cancer patients and their loved ones to influence change.

- We have mobilized a nationwide network of grassroots advocates.
- We empower our advocates with information and tools to protect the interests of patients and their families.
- These advocates act as a powerful voice for cancer patients and survivors by sharing their personal stories with their policymakers.

What you can do:

Any individual that has had his or her life touched by a blood cancer can be an effective advocate.

Sign up at www.LLS.org/advocacy or text **SPEAK** to **698-66** to join the **LLS Mobile Action Network**.