

DOLLARS AT WORK

Proceeds from the Anti-Cancer Challenge go directly to cutting-edge cancer research at the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center. The event proceeds impact cancer research in three pivotal ways.

1 PILOT PROJECTS FOR BASIC AND TRANSLATIONAL CANCER INVESTIGATION

Investing in Pilot Projects allows us to explore new possibilities for cancer cures.

Pilot Projects are small grants made to Cancer Center investigators for 1-2 years to enable their laboratories to generate critical preliminary data about a new cancer discovery or research detection. The long-term goal is to position an investigator to apply successfully for grants from outside funding agencies such as the National Institutes of Health and the American Cancer Society. Applications for Pilot Project grants are competitively reviewed by a panel of independent experts, and have been very successful in moving the most innovative and transformational cancer science forward.

2 EARLY PHASE, INVESTIGATOR-INITIATED CLINICAL TRIALS

Early phase clinical trials are the first step in testing new cancer treatments in patients.

The purpose is to establish the safety and tolerability of a new anti-cancer drug, biological or cellular agent, or device, and to get crucial information about what types of cancer may benefit from treatment. Clinical researchers at the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center conduct many early phase trials sponsored and paid for by pharmaceutical and biotech companies. However, there is a great need for funding to support early phase clinical trials of new anti-cancer treatments discovered in our own laboratories, so called "Investigator-Initiated" trials. This support is vital to allow new discoveries to move through the pipeline towards improving the health and well-being of our patients and others across the country.

3 RESEARCH PROGRAM SUPPORT

Investing in our Research Programs allows us to maximize our multidisciplinary efforts by supporting the essential research infrastructure.

Special Research Programs at the Chao Family Comprehensive Cancer Center create unique opportunities for specialists with diverse expertise to collaborate on lifesaving research. This synergistic approach accelerates scientific discovery and medical breakthroughs in many areas, such as hematopoietic stem cell transplantation, adolescent and young adult cancers, and brain cancer.