

Raising Awareness. Funding Research.
Supporting Patients. Achieving the DREAM!



## Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer



Andrea Eidelman, Esq. Chief Executive Officer



## Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer

#### **Our Mission**

**DDF** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness about stomach cancer; advancing funding for research; and providing education and support internationally to patients, families, and caregivers. DDF seeks as its ultimate goal to make the cure for stomach cancer a reality.



## **Debbie Zelman**

(1967-2017)

Founder

**Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer** 

- Diagnosed with stage IV stomach cancer in April 2008
- 40 years old, mother of 3 young children, married to a physician, and a practicing attorney with her own firm
- No risk factors for stomach cancer and symptoms were very vague
- Chance of being alive in five years was 4%
- Many recurrences over 9 ½ years
- Harsh chemo regimen and targeted treatments





## Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer

**Research Grants = \$2,000,000** 

DDF has partnered with the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) since 2014 to offer grants for basic, translational and clinical research in stomach cancer to scientists and clinicians at various career levels.

\*In 2024, we are launching the Debbie's Dream Early Career Investigator 3-year grant at Memorial Sloan Kettering.\*

## Ongoing Initiatives

- Patient Resource and Education Program (PREP)
- National and International Gastric Cancer Educational Symposia
- Gastric Cancer Webinar Series
- Nutrition Education Program
- Health Equity Program







## Patient Resource and Education (PREP) Program:



PREP Patient and Caregiver Mentoring Service



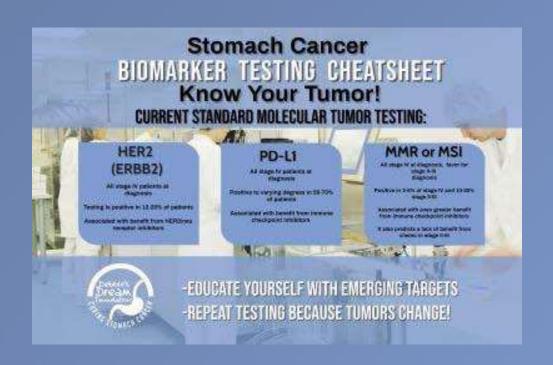
Monthly Stomach Cancer
Support Groups

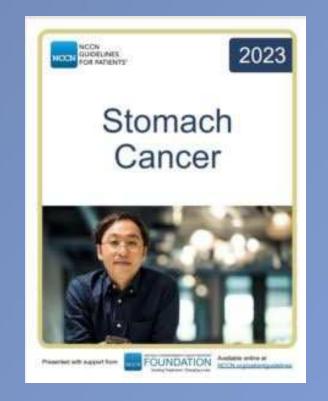


Online Support Discussion Community

## Mission Outreach

The program advocates for early detection and provides community education and outreach to physician's nurse navigators, hospitals, legislators and disparate communities affected by stomach cancer





- Welcome Kits
- Outreach for new patients- DDF Mission Ambassadors
- Sponsor of the 2023 NCCN Stomach Cancer Guidelines
- Launch of Education Videos (Biomarkers and Clinical Trial Recruitment)

## Advocacy for Stomach Cancer Research

Advocating on Capitol Hill



**Patient Advocate Retreat** 



## National and International Symposia Events

2024 Symposia

#### **2024** National Symposia

• November 9, 2024 - Ask the Experts, Hard Rock Hotel

#### **2024 International Symposia**

Late 2024, early 2025 Colombia



### **Gastric Cancer Webinar Series**

#### 2023 Webinars









#### 2024 Webinars

#### **2024 Webinars**

- February 23, 2024 Evolution of Surgical Management of Peritoneal Metastasis from Gastric Cancer
- April 19, 2024 Palliative Care for Stomach Cancer Patients
- July 22, 2024- ASCO and ESMO Updates

Stay tuned for more webinars throughout 2024!

Watch webinar replays on our website at www.DebbiesDream.org/lecture-library

## **Nutrition Education Program**

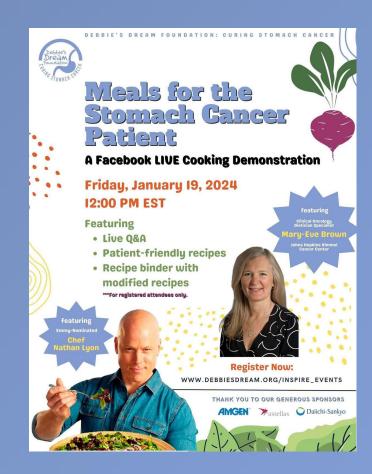
- Quarterly FB Live Cooking Demonstrations with Oncology Dietician
- Nutrition Outreach: DDF provides favorite patient recipes, and these recipes will be adapted for healthy eating and featured on an online forum.
- Nutrition Webpage: Information on nutrition during treatment, postgastrectomy diet, and more! The webpage is a one-stop shop to get all your nutritional knowledge and resources.
- DDF Recipe Book: DDF provides print-out recipes so patients and families can create them at home!

## Recipes Modified for Gastric Cancer Patients





#### Meals for the Cancer Patient



- January 19, 2024
- May 24, 2024
- August 16, 2024
- December 13, 2024

Health Equity Programs and Initiatives

#### **Health Equity Program**

DDF aims to help raise awareness about the health disparities that specifically affect the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) population by offering the following:

- Clinical Trial Matching Service and Videos on Enrollment of Minority Populations
- Educational Webinars
- Live Chats and More



#### DDF Resources



Spanish and
Creole
Translated
Brochures



Spanish and
Creole
Translated
Stomach Cancer
Fact Sheets



Clinical Trials

Matching

Service



Health Equity Webinars, Symposia and Workshops



## 2024 Health Equity Community Events

- May 2024- Gilda's Club of South Florida, LGBTQ Luncheon
- June 2024- Cancer Equities Colloquium @ Mass General Brigham
- July 2024- Deerfield Beach Community Fair
- November 2024 Deerfield Beach Pre Thanksgiving Meal









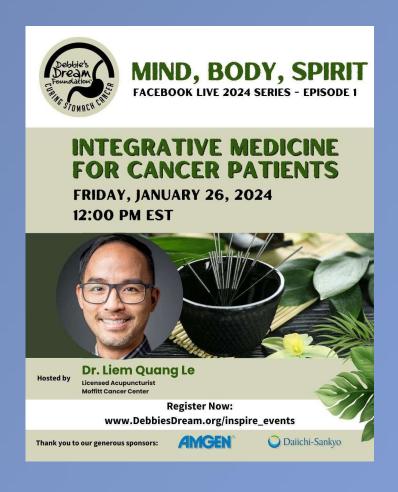
## Health Equity Initiatives

### Mental Health Resources

**Cancer Care Helpline** 



• DDF partnered with Cancer Care to offer the first-ever stomach cancer support helpline for patients and families to connect with oncology social workers. Upcoming Mind, Body, Spirit Facebook LIVE Series



- Our Mind, Body, Spirit Series introduces patients to alternative therapies and treatment options to manage well-being
- In mid 2024 DDF Partnered with GIlda's Club of South Florida to share their wellness series

## November is Curing Stomach Cancer Month!



#### The Power of Periwinkle Illumination Campaign

 More than 175 landmarks illuminated in shades of periwinkle for Stomach Cancer Awareness Month and Stomach Cancer Awareness Day on November 30th





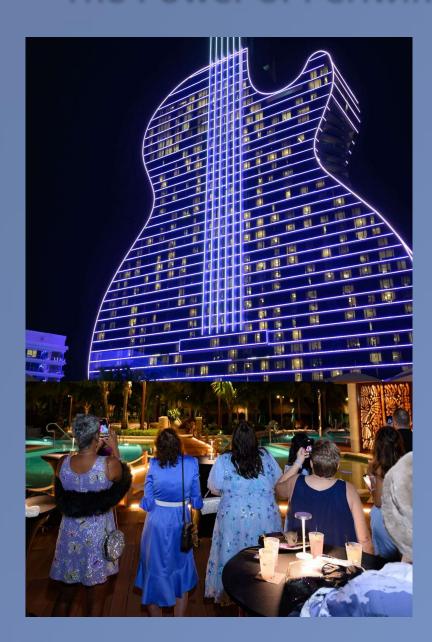








## The Power of Periwinkle Illumination Celebration & Dinner



• On November 30, 2023, DDF hosted a celebration and dinner event at the world-famous Guitar Hotel at Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood, Florida with patient advocates who participated in the campaign.

We will do this again November 9 2024 with our Ask the Experts Symposium!

# Program Content Review and Contributions: Scientific Medical Advisory Board



• Our esteemed Scientific Medical Advisory Board (SMAB) members are clinicians who specialize in the treating of stomach (gastric), esophageal, and GE junction cancer.

Debbie's Dream SMAB members include clinicians from the top Gastroesophageal treating

hospitals to include:

MD Anderson Cancer Center,

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center,

- Moffitt Cancer Center,
- John Hopkins Hospital,
- Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer
- Mayo Clinic Cancer Center,
- Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and
- Cleveland Clinic
- Our SMAB members host DDF Educational Webinars year-round.







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