ASCO's Advocacy Activities

ASCO volunteers have numerous opportunities to get involved in advocating at the federal and state level on behalf of our patients. These activities include virtual advocacy (sending ACT Network emails or social media posts); in person advocacy (conducting visits on Capitol Hill or at home in the congressional districts, hosting lawmakers and staff for site visits at their practice, meeting with agency officials); engaging in grassroots advocacy (contacting lawmakers volunteers know well at critical times in the process); or speaking on behalf of ASCO at briefings or providing hearing testimony. We are pleased to recognize the ASCO volunteers who were leaders in cancer care advocacy in 2021.

Advocate of the Year: Edward Balaban, DO, FACP, FASCO

In 2021, Dr. Balaban went above and beyond advocating on behalf of cancer care professionals and their patients. From sending ACT Network letters to his lawmakers, participating in the 2021 Advocacy Summit, attending agency meetings with the Government Relations Committee, or serving on ASCO’s delegation to the American Medical Association House of Delegates, Dr. Balaban made cancer care advocacy a priority throughout 2021. Dr. Balaban’s dedication to ensuring patients with cancer receive the best possible care is truly inspiring.

Dr. Balaban’s previous positions include Medical Director for the Cancer Care Partnership with the Penn State Cancer Institute, as well as professor of Medicine for Penn State College of Medicine. He currently serves as a consultant to the Penn State Cancer Institute, as well as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Pennsylvania Medical Society. He earned his medical degree at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, completed his residency at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and a fellowship in Hematology & Oncology at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas.

President’s Circle

Below are ASCO advocates who regularly participate in more than one of ASCO’s advocacy activities.

Caroline Corum, JD, RN
John Cox, DO, MBA, MACP, FASCO
Thomas George, MD, FACP
Richard Goldberg, MD, FACP, FASCO
Carolyn Hendricks, MD, FASCO
Jasmine Kamboj, MD, MBBS
Inga Lennes, MD, MPH, MBA
Gilberto Lopes, MD, MBA, FASCO
Ana Maria Lopez, MD, MPH
Mary Kay Makarewicz
Ana Velazquez Manana, MS, MD
Charles Miller, MD, FACP, FASCO
Kurt Oettel, MD, MBA, FACP
Latha Subramanian, MD
Ashley Sumrall, MD, FACP
Catherine Van Poznak, MD, FASCO
Robin Zon, MD, FACP, FASCO
Speaker’s Club
ASCO advocates who often participate in more than one of ASCO’s advocacy activities.

John Burke, MD  
Howard “Skip” Burris, MD, FACP, FASCO  
Melissa Dillmon, MD, FASCO  
Laurie Gaspar, MD, MBA, FASTRO, FACR, FASCO  
Arielle Heeke, MD  
Marilyn Heine, MD  
Tara Henderson, MD, MPH, FASCO  
Paul Hesketh, MD, FASCO  
Chul Kim, MD, MPH  
Randall Kimple, MD, PhD  
Noelle LoConte, MD  
Rami Manochakian, MD  
Thomas Marsland, MD, FASCO  
Brian Persing, MD  
Gladys Rodriguez, MD  
Joel Saltzman, MD  
Joan Schiller, MD, FASCO  
Heloisa Soares, MD  
Alexandra Thomas, MD, FACP  
Yousef Zakharia, MD

Senator’s Club
ASCO advocates who participate in more than one of ASCO’s advocacy activities.

Anas Al-Janadi, MD  
Monica Bertagnolli, MD, FACS, FASCO  
Tithi Biswas, MD  
Kristin Ferguson, DNP, RN, OCN  
Gregg Franklin, MD, PhD, FASCO  
Maria Gonzalez, MPH  
Ralph Hauke, MD, FACP, FASCO  
Daniel Hayes, MD, FASCO, FACP  
Mark Henderson, MD  
Arif Kamal, MD, MHS, MBA, FAAHPM, FASCO  
Mary Klix, MD, FACP  
Steve Lee, MD, FACP  
Mark Lewis, MD  
Barbara McAneny, MD, MACP, FASCO  
Julie Newberry  
Kristina Novick, MD  
Ray Page, DO, PhD, FACOI, FASCO  
Martin Palmeri, MD, MBA  
Lori Pierce, MD, FASTRO, FASCO  
Eugene Shenderdov, MD, PhD  
Miranda Sloan  
Piyush Srivastava, MD, FASCO  
Laura Tenner, MD  
Emily Touloukian, DO  
Julie Vose, MD, MBA, FASCO  
Samantha Watson  
Jason Westin, MD, MS, FACP  
Karen Winkfield, MD, PhD, FASCO  
Joanna Yang, MD, MPH