

Our Impact

JULY—DECEMBER 2019

In the second half of 2019, our FORCE team continued to celebrate our 20th anniversary as we moved forward to accomplish our aggressive goals on behalf of the hereditary cancer community. During that time, we never lost sight of our role as the voice and the champion for all those living with hereditary cancer or the risk of it. Throughout the year, in various ways, we touched the lives of more than 836,000 people.

This document shares some of our milestones from the second half of last year. We hope that you are as inspired by our accomplishments as we are. We continue to push forward to provide all that our community needs and to advocate to ensure we have a seat at the table.

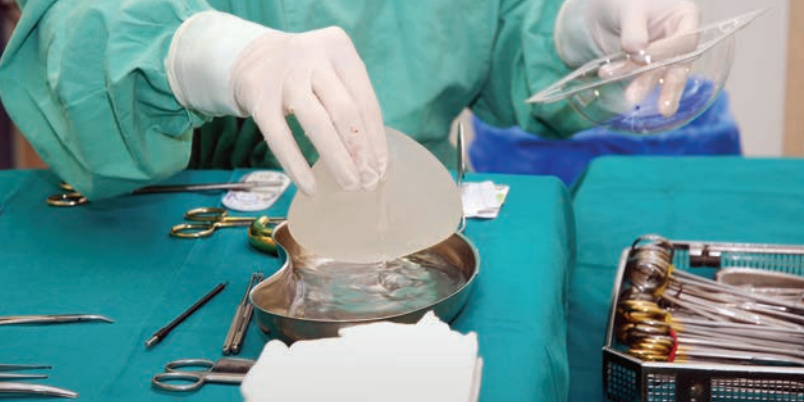
RESEARCH

1. Championed research to study whether salpingectomy (removal of the fallopian tubes) lowers the risk for ovarian cancer in high-risk women. Thanks to efforts by gynecologic-oncology researchers and advocates from FORCE, the National Cancer Institute agreed to move forward in support of a large, international, multi-institutional clinical trial to study the effectiveness of salpingectomy to reduce the risk of ovarian cancer in BRCA1 mutation carriers.
2. Helped enroll patients into the POLO Study—a large, international clinical trial for the treatment of pancreatic cancer in people with a BRCA1 or BRCA2 mutation. Based on the results of this study, the FDA granted its first approval for a PARP inhibitor (Lynparza) to treat pancreatic cancer.
3. Received, in collaboration with genetics researchers at the University of South Florida, a Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Eugene Washington Engagement Award that supports our efforts to incorporate the patient voice and perspective into all aspects of hereditary cancer research.



“I found FORCE and I felt as if all the pieces fell into place. I met others who were going through similar experiences, and I didn’t feel alone.”

—Ashley Dedmon, FORCE Constituent



PUBLIC POLICY

1. Advocated to ensure that every state Medicaid program covers BRCA genetic testing. As a result, 47 of 50 states now cover this life-saving test.
2. Contributed to dozens of public policy successes, including securing federal cancer research funding; expanding access to cancer screenings, genetic testing and fertility preservation for those impacted by hereditary cancer; and much more.
3. Researched and reported suspected incidences of genetic test scams to federal agencies, ultimately contributing to charges against 35 individuals for fraudulent genetic testing and billing practices.
4. Engaged in efforts to improve labeling, communication and rupture screening guidelines for those who have had breast reconstruction with breast implants.

EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

1. Awarded a five-year CDC grant to expand our XRAY (eXamining the Relevance of Articles for You) program to help young women better understand news media articles about breast cancer and to educate health care providers on how to communicate with their patients about these articles.
2. Expanded our XRAY program to help our community understand media headlines that are related to metastatic breast, ovarian, prostate and pancreatic cancer.
3. Maintained our networking with more than 6,200 healthcare providers, offering information and materials for them to share with their patients.

SUPPORT

1. Provided personalized support through our Peer Navigation Program to over 500 men, women and caregivers from all 50 United States, Canada and Puerto Rico, and we achieved a milestone of supporting over 3,000 individuals since this program was launched in 2016.
2. State Impact Leaders are available in all 50 states to provide resources, information and support.



16057 Tampa Palms Blvd. W. PMB #373 Tampa, FL 33647
Info@FacingOurRisk.org | FacingOurRisk.org