## AMERICAN-ITALIAN CANCER FOUNDATION

# ARNUAL REPORT

**JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023** 



## **OUR MISSION**

The American-Italian Cancer Foundation is a New York-based nonprofit organization that supports cancer research, education, and control, emphasizing the outstanding resources of Italy and the United States, recognizing world-class scientific excellence in medicine, and serving economically disadvantaged, medically under-served New York City women through breast cancer screening, outreach, and education.

> American-Italian CANCER FOUNDATION

> > www.americanitaliancancer.org

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#### **RESEARCH & LIFE**

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## DEAR FRIENDS,

I am honored to have the opportunity to update you on the progress we have made over the past year in our relentless pursuit of a world free from cancer. Your steadfast support and generosity have played an instrumental role in our achievements, and for that, we extend our deepest gratitude.

This year we were able to fund 15 post-doctoral cancer research fellowships for talented Italian scientists working at the top cancer centers in the United States, including Columbia University, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Massachusetts General Hospital, MIT, Memorial Sloan-Kettering, New York University, Stanford University, Weill Cornell Medical Center, and others.

AICF's Mobile, No-Cost Breast Cancer Screening Program, one of the largest mobile mammography providers in New York, continues to provide medically underserved women with life-saving breast cancer screening services. This year more than 3,100 women received mammograms, clinical breast exams and education on AICF's Mammogram Bus. Over 900 of them needed additional testing and were provided one-on-one with information and referrals to affordable diagnostic and treatment facilities.

This year we were also honored to present the Alessandro Di Montezemolo Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Monica M. Bertagnolli, Director of the National Cancer Institute, and the Prize for Scientific Excellence in Medicine to John F. DiPersio, MD, PhD and Gigi Lozano, PhD for their exceptional contributions to the world of science and medicine.

None of these accomplishments would have been possible without the generosity of AICF's Board of Directors that wisely and steadily leads the organization. We are also thankful for the continued support of AICF's Scientific Advisory Board Executive Committee that provides scientific guidance to our programs and helps all cancer patients who reach out to AICF.

As we move forward, we remain resolute in our commitment to advancing cancer research and equal access to care. However, our work is far from complete, and we rely on the support of individuals like you to continue making a lasting impact. I extend my heartfelt appreciation for your unwavering commitment to our cause. Together, we have the power to make a difference and change the trajectory of cancer.

We look forward to another great year together.

Sincerely, Daniele D. Bodini *Chairman* 

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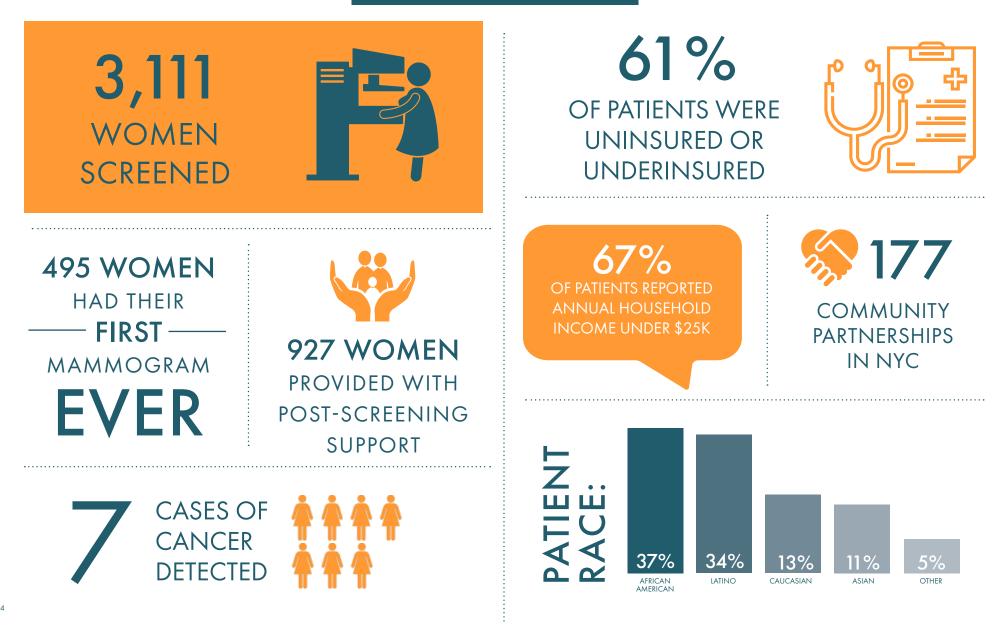
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## **IMPACT BY NUMBERS**

## SCREENING PROGRAM



## FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

## FINANCIALS

Cancer

Education

+ Award

Fundraising Management + General

**EXPENSES** 

TOTAL EXPENSES:

\$1,816,332

.2%

7%

38%



Breast

Cancer Screening

Program

50%

## OUR PROGRAMS

#### MOBILE, NO-COST BREAST CANCER SCREENING PROGRAM

Launched in 1987, AICF's Mobile, No-cost Breast Cancer Screening Program promotes breast cancer early detection and education in New York City. AICF's Mammogram Bus travels to the neediest neighborhoods, providing life-saving cancer screening services. Since its inception, over 120,000 women have been screened and hundreds of cancer cases have been detected and treated.

Our Program is serving a critical need for comprehensive breast health education, screenings, and patient navigation services for medically underserved women. By offering screening services at no cost, regardless of insurance or immigration status, AICF seeks to overcome the economic barriers many women face to health care. By recruiting women in partnership with community-based organizations, we aim to break down linguistic and cultural barriers to screening, and by bringing the Mammogram Bus to where women live, work, or worship, we seek to overcome transportation challenges. In FY23, AICF held over 200 breast cancer screening events where more than 3,100 women were screened. For almost 500 women, this was their first-ever mammogram.

## 66

If not for the Mammogram Bus, I doubt I would get my annual screening. I can't make it to the hospital or the radiology facility and then go back to work. I don't have many sick days, and I use them to take my kids to the doctor – thank you for making the service available.

-Jackie

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#### 2022-2023 INTERNATIONAL POST-DOCTORAL **RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

The International Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship Program provides financial support to talented Italian scientists who pursue post-doctoral research and advanced training in collaboration with mentors at major cancer centers in the United States. A Research Fellowship is awarded for a one-year period. Renewal for a second year may be considered.

To date, AICF has effectively launched the careers of 359 young scientists who have been awarded 535 fellowships since the program's inception in 1983.

Post-doctoral research fellowships are a critical component in advancing cancer research, as they support talented young scientists with innovative project ideas at a time in their careers when funding from other sources is less certain.

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The fellowship I was fortunate enough to receive has been a lifeline for me. It has allowed me to pursue my dreams, unlock my potential, and make a meaningful impact in my chosen field. I am forever grateful.

-Andrea Cosentino





Massachusetts General

Hospital

GIUSEPPINA CALIGIURI, PHD The Research for Life Fellow The Del Vecchio Family

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ANDREA COSENTINO, MD

The Andreotti & Brusone Philanthropy Fund Fellow

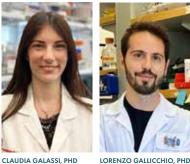
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Center



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## IN TRIBUTE

Tribute gifts are a special opportunity to celebrate loved ones. We recognize the generosity of donors as they honor exceptional people who have touched their lives.

AICF would like to express a heartfelt thank you for the generous donations received in celebration of the life of Carmela Santucci.

#### IN HONOR OF

Amanda Avona Cassie DeMatteis Salvatore Filippini La Rosa Mario Gabelli Renee Halpin Deborah Kraus Pagano Gayle Palmer Carmela Santucci

#### IN MEMORY OF

Antonio Avona Nancy Bianchi Leandro Carbone Carmela Santucci Marco Sealzotto Julia Serena di Lapigio Francesco e Maria Versaci All the Warriors



## 2022 BENEFIT DINNER AND AUCTIONS

On Wednesday, November 9, 2022, the American-Italian Cancer Foundation held its 40th Annual Benefit Dinner & Auctions at the Pierre Hotel in New York City.

The Alessandro Di Montezemolo Lifetime Achievement Award was received by Dr. Monica M. Bertagnolli, Director of the National Cancer Institute.

AICF's Prize for Scientific Excellence in Medicine was presented to John F. DiPersio, MD, PhD and Gigi Lozano, PhD. Dr. Claudio Basilico received the Special Recognition Award.

Thank you to all of our generous donors and sponsors for making the event a great success!























## NOVEMBER 8, 2023 6:30PM

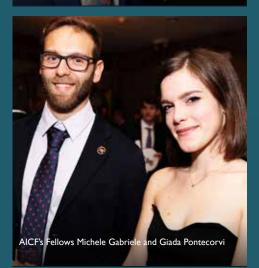
## AMERICAN-ITALIAN CANCER FOUNDATION'S 41<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL BENEFIT

## HONORING

## MARIO J. GABELLI

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AICF's Fellows Claudia Galassi, Elisa Bergaggio, and Melody Di Bona



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