



Cures Act Funding Is Just the Beginning for Cancer Research

One Voice Against Cancer (OVAC) is grateful to Congress for providing \$1.8 billion over seven years in the 21st Century Cures Act to support the Beau Biden Cancer Moonshot. This new funding stream will support efforts at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to double the rate of progress in the fight against cancer.

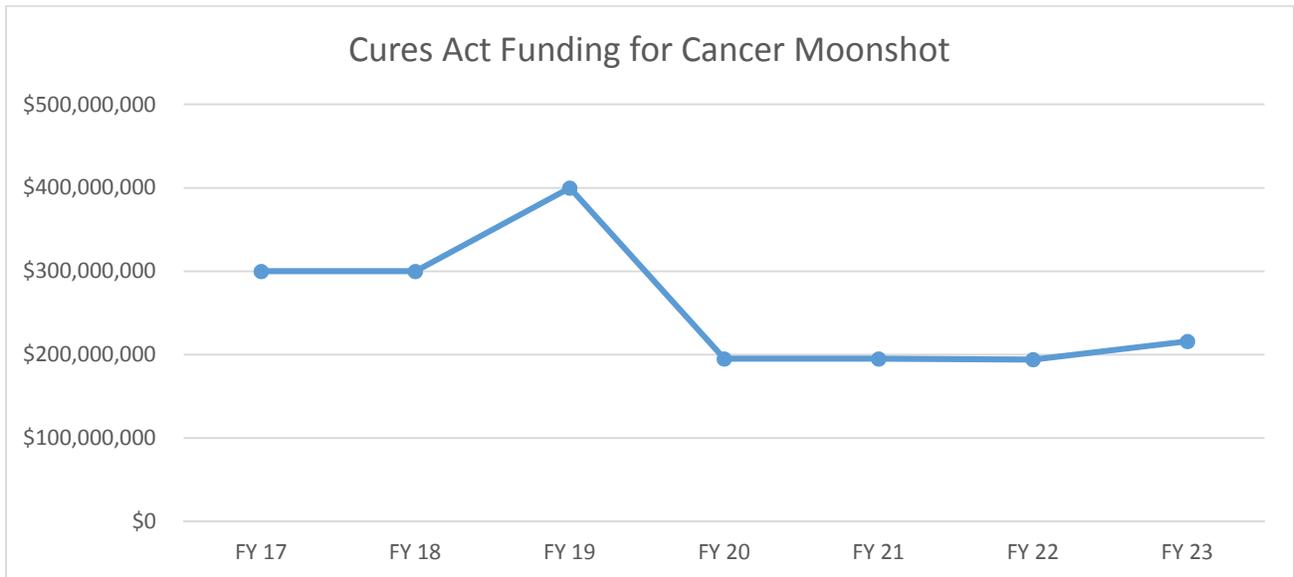
Cures Act funding alone, however, will not be sufficient to achieve the Cancer Moonshot's goals or to achieve our nation's goals to reduce death and suffering from cancer, which go far beyond the Moonshot. Continued progress on the 200 diseases we call "cancer" requires sustained and meaningful increases for the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in the annual Labor, HHS, and Education appropriations bill in addition to full funding for the Cancer Moonshot.

First, the Cancer Moonshot is not intended to address every unanswered question about cancer; rather, the funding is specifically directed to a limited number of research projects based on the recommendations in the Cancer Moonshot Blue Ribbon Panel report. The Moonshot will not support most ongoing basic and translational research conducted by researchers across the country.

Second, the funding provided in the Cures Act for the Moonshot is not large enough, or stable enough, to replace annual increases for the NCI. This is why OVAC strongly urges Congress to provide the Senate Appropriations Committee recommendation for a \$2 billion increase for NIH in the fiscal year 2017 Labor-HHS bill, with a proportional increase specifically for the NCI on top of the Moonshot funding that has already been provided.



Between fiscal years 2018 and 2023, Cancer Moonshot funding fluctuates annually, from a high of \$400 million to a low of \$195 million, making it difficult to wage a robust, effective cancer research program. The only way to maintain a sustained research effort—as Congress intended—is through steadily increased appropriations provided in the annual Labor-HHS bill. Above all, Cancer Moonshot funding must supplement, not supplant, annual appropriations for the NCI. The two must go hand-in-hand.



NCI-funded researchers are on the cusp of exciting scientific advances that could revolutionize the way we detect, treat and prevent cancer. However, these outcomes are dependent on the NCI receiving adequate funding for both its ongoing work and the Moonshot. OVAC urges Congress to provide significant increases for the NCI in the Labor-HHS bill in fiscal year 2017 and beyond.