

Background

For nearly 30 years, ACS has viewed patient navigation as a critical strategy in reducing health disparities across the cancer continuum, with demonstrated effectiveness at **removing barriers** and **increasing access** to care through the provision of coordinated, patient-centered support.

Goals

Provide people with cancer and caregivers **direct, individualized, non-clinical** navigation assistance that delivers timely information to reduce distress, resources to mitigate barriers to care, and emotional support to improve the cancer experience.

Program Overview

The program includes three components:

- A digital app that utilizes the ACS social determinants of health assessment to provide self-service navigation support with curated information tailored to each person's needs.
- 24/7 access to ACS National Cancer Information Center specialists – who can connect people to ACS programs and national/local resources and information.
- Personalized support from trained ACS volunteers. Community virtual volunteers will provide support through the app, and student volunteers will provide in-person support at health care system sites.



Program Activities

ACS CARES aims to support specific populations, including:

- Active-duty military and veterans
- Patients living in rural areas
- Caregivers of adults
- Caregivers of children
- Spanish-speaking patients

Program Partners

- UCLA Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Medical University of South Carolina Hollings Comprehensive Cancer Center
- University of Iowa Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Mount Sinai Tisch Cancer Center
- University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center
- Texas Oncology, Austin
- University of Mississippi Medical Center Cancer Center and Research Institute
- University of South Alabama Mitchell Cancer Institute
- Penn Medicine Princeton Cancer Center
- Ann Arbor VA- Lieutenant Colonel Charles S. Kettles VA Medical Center
- Denver Health
- Wake Forest University



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