

...where cancer research meets compassion.

Focus ON THE Search

Clinical trials advancing the quest for cancer treatment, management, and prevention.

Western States Cancer Research NCORP ■ Fall 2021 ■ Issue 37

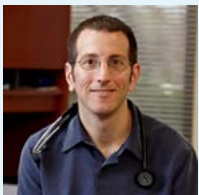
Upcoming Events

■ Patient Outreach: Cannabis & Cancer

October 11, 2021
12:00–1:30 pm

Location: 4500 Cherry Creek Drive South, Suite 100, Denver, CO 80246

Price: \$15 per person



Dr. Dave Gordon

Open to all cancer patients, their care givers, and community members interested in cancer education. Registration is required and includes a light lunch. To learn more, call Laura at 720-475-5728.



WSCR-NCORP is a member of the Community Health Charities.

Please consider supporting WSCR-NCORP in your workplace giving program.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Matt Applesmith & Ivana Marchlewicz



Matt Applesmith joined our team in March as a Clinical Data Coordinator. In explaining his connection to our mission, Matt tells us, “My mom hit her 20-year anniversary of surviving breast cancer this year. She is my biggest inspiration and gives me strength every day to be the best person I can be.”

“There were a lot of unknowns about breast cancer 20 years ago and it has been inspiring to see cancer research come so far in 20 years! Being in the data department of cancer research can be less glamorous than other roles sometimes, but the decisions made on efficacy and safety fall on the data to prove themselves. I love finding a patient who we thought our organization lost touch with and hearing them happily share they continue to be cancer free and are going strong.”

“As a child I went to Camp Kesem, a summer camp for kids who were impacted by cancer. Kesem means magic and I look back on those weeks as a camper as magical. I got to learn how to cope with my mom’s diagnosis and meet others who went through similar things. I and my whole family stay connected with the campers and counselors who we met there, and my mom still supports the board at Stanford.”

After graduating with a degree in Chemistry from Sonoma State University, I decided to go on an adventure with my then girlfriend (now fiancé!) to Colorado. Since then, I have been climbing mountains, hiking, and snowshoeing as much as I possibly can.”



Ivana Marchlewicz is a clinical research coordinator with more than 10 years of experience in the medical field. While pursuing her undergraduate and graduate degrees, she worked in many different hospital-based settings, but one thing remained the same – her compassion for inclusion and appropriate healthcare for all.

Ivana shared with us, “To me, it’s all about bringing the head and the heart together to provide the best care for a patient. When you merge evidence-based science with compassion and humanity, that’s when the magic happens. With my work in clinical trials, it is my priority that all patients have access to better treatment options and support programs, and we take the journey together.”

Ivana is originally from Detroit, MI and made her move to Colorado in July 2020 to start working at WSCR-NCORP. When Ivana is not working, she enjoys spending time with her family, hiking, biking, skiing, and traveling.

Please join us in expressing our appreciation to Matt and Ivana for all they do every day for patients in cancer clinical trials in our local communities.

WSCR-NCORP Board of Trustees

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Nicholas DiBella, MD, *Principal Investigator, Trustee Emeritus*

Our Mission

To provide the people of Colorado, southern Wyoming, Washington state and Alaska the opportunity to participate in and benefit from the medical research conducted through cancer clinical studies.

Our Purpose

To serve as an NCI Community Oncology Research Program (NCORP), as designated by the National Cancer Institute (NCI), to enable people in their local communities to participate in cancer prevention, cancer control, and cancer treatment research through local physicians, community hospitals and clinics.

Our Vision

The marriage of clinical research and compassion via the progress we help affect through community oncology research.

For More Information

Contact one of the following staff at 303.777.2663.

Lisa Switzer, MA
CEO and Executive Director

Laura Gabbay
Major Gifts and Planned Giving Officer

Nicholas DiBella, MD
Principal Investigator

Message from Lisa Switzer, MA

CEO/Executive Director

Hello everyone, it's so amazing how quickly summer seemed to fly by. I always find the transition from summer to autumn to be bittersweet. The earth is slowly going to sleep, the days are getting shorter and it's time to harvest what we sowed months ago.

Speaking of harvesting, as I mentioned in my last message, we've been hard at work on our strategic planning process. It is now time for us to put it into action. In the coming months, you'll hear more about what that looks like.

The coming months also bring us into the season of giving. As a 501C3 stand alone, not-for-profit, our NCORP relies on the generosity of individuals, foundations and corporate sponsors. We also depend on the success of our events. By the time of this publication, we will have held our **Ribbons and Roses** event in May, our **Drive for the Cure** golf tournament in August and **Rock with the Docs** in September. So many wonderful people participated in those events and brought joy to our staff and Board of Trustees, as well as to each other. Being together in person never felt so good!

While December seems far away, it will be here before we know it. **Colorado Gives Day** is Tuesday, December 7th this year, and we hope you will support us by making a gift through the Colorado Gives Day website. It's very easy to do, and you will receive an acknowledgement for tax purposes from both the Community First Foundation (who sponsors the day) and from us. Our page is up and running, thanks to **Laura Gabbay**, our Major Gifts and Planned Giving Officer, and **Cynthia Besselievre**, our HR and Finance Manager. Check it out at <https://www.coloradogives.org/westernstatesncorp/overview>.

In the meantime, enjoy the autumn weather and be well.

Kind regards,



Pronouns: She/Her/Hers



Welcome to the Board: Theo Chapman



Western States Cancer Research NCORP is proud to welcome our newest member to our Board of Trustees. Joining our board officially at its annual retreat on July 24th,

Theo Chapman is a Colorado native who earned both his BS in Mechanical Engineering and MBA from DU in 2008. He graduated from the University Honors Program with a minor in Leadership Studies from the Pioneer Leadership Program, and is currently Senior Project Engineer at Kenosha EPC.

Theo is a very active volunteer in the community. He serves as a Boettcher

Foundation Alumni Ambassador as well as an Alumni Board Member for the Programming Committee. A member of the Young Aspiring Americans for Social and Political Activism (YAASPA) Board, he also sits on the Denver Kids Development Committee. At DU, he is the President of the Black Alumni Affinity group (BAA), a member of the Black Community Advisory Board, the DU Alumni Council, the Pioneer Leadership Program Alumni Board, and a Ritchie School of Engineering and Computer Science Equity in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (E-STEM) Volunteer.

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COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Colorado Ovarian Cancer Alliance

The mission of the Colorado Ovarian Cancer Alliance (COCA) is to promote awareness and early detection of ovarian cancer through advocacy and education while providing support to people in Colorado affected by ovarian cancer.

COCA works to:

- increase awareness of symptoms and risk factors of ovarian cancer in the general population in Colorado;
- create and promote statewide resources that provide support, encourage networking, and provide information to women diagnosed with ovarian cancer;
- unite and educate individuals, the medical community, and organizations to overcome ovarian cancer throughout Colorado; and
- advance ovarian cancer research toward better treatment, diagnosis and an eventual cure for the disease.



COCA was established in June 2005 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Its Board of Directors includes community leaders, as well as ovarian cancer survivors, friends, and family of women who are survivors or who have lost their battles with this disease.

Patrice Hauptman, who is the Executive Director of COCA, believes change is possible, and most of her work has been cause oriented. She started her work life in Washington DC in the US Senate, and then moved on to federal campaigns and advocacy work. There she also helped start a national nonprofit called The Interfaith Alliance, which happens to have a chapter in Colorado. She returned to Colorado to work in the family business before returning to nonprofit work. She has worked at Colorado Ovarian Cancer Alliance for 6 years.



Pictured is **Patrice Hauptman**, our guest speaker for our inaugural Women's Impact Circle event this fall.

We are excited to welcome Patrice as our keynote speaker at the inaugural meeting of our **Women's Impact Circle** taking place on **Thursday, October 21, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**, at the Colorado Automobile Dealerships Association building on Speer Blvd. That evening, Circle members and their guests will enjoy appetizers, desserts and wine.

Our new WSCR-NCORP **Women's Impact Cancer Research Giving Circle** is a space for women who wish to learn about the latest trends in cancer research and support patient outreach, particularly to practices serving women from under-resourced communities. Members of this giving circle contribute \$250 or more annually to WSCR-NCORP.

To learn more about COCA, we hope you will visit their website: <https://www.colorado-ovariancancer.org/>

Welcome to the Board: Theo Chapman, continued

Theo is also a 2009 Urban Leadership Foundation of Colorado Chamber Connect Graduate, a 2017 New Leaders Council Fellowship Alum, and a member of the 2020-2021 Colorado Governors Fellowship Program.

In his free time, Theo enjoys spending time with family and friends, volunteering, mentoring, video games, cooking, basketball, tennis, and flag football.

COMMUNITY FIRST FOUNDATION



December 7, 2021



Ask your doctor if there's a clinical trial that's right for you.

Ask us about our CCDR trials.

Every gift makes a difference.

Our nonprofit began as the vision of local oncologists who wanted to ensure that Colorado residents could benefit locally from cancer clinical research.

As we continue to grow, help us with our outreach so cancer patients may learn more about research trials in their communities!

Go to our website, westernstatesncorp.org and click on the **Donate** button, call **720.475.5728**, or mail your donation to:

1325 S. Colorado Blvd.
Suite B-400
Denver, CO 80222

Thank you!



Find us on Facebook at [endcancerco](https://www.facebook.com/endcancerco)

Focus ON THE Search

Founded in 1983, Western States Cancer Research NCORP (WSCR-NCORP), an affiliate of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) of the NIH, provides cancer patients with cutting-edge treatment options through innovative research and clinical trials in their own communities with their own doctors. At WSCR-NCORP we work every day to create opportunities where cancer research meets compassion.

WSCR-NCORP's Partner Hospitals & Cancer Centers

| | |
|---|---|
| Banner Health McKee Medical Center | Jefferson Healthcare |
| Banner Health North Colorado Medical Center | Mountain Blue Cancer Care Center |
| Boulder Community Hospital | Rocky Mountain Cancer Center(s) – Aurora, Centennial, Littleton, Midtown, Rose, Sky Ridge |
| Colorado Blood Cancer Institute (CBCI) | The Melanoma Skin Institute |
| Foundation Health Partners | The Women's Imaging Center |
| Fairbanks Memorial Hospital | |
| Health One Swedish Medical Center | |

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Denver, CO 80222

Drive for the Cure: A Big Success



Team ZebraTech 2021



Keeping an eagle eye on the Hole-in-One Contest is Kayla Clancy, Investigational Product Specialist.

If you are interested in supporting our work with a financial contribution, please **visit our website or call our office**. Thank you.

Western States Cancer Research NCORP is a 501-c-3 nonprofit organizations. Donations to support our programs are tax-deductible.

To sign up for our new electronic mailing list, please visit our Contact page under the About tab.

westernstatesncorp.org
303.777.2663