



## STOMACH CANCER FACTS

- Stomach cancer is the third leading cause of cancer death worldwide.
- Each year more than 950,000 people worldwide are diagnosed with stomach cancer, and approximately 725,000 die.
- More than 26,000 Americans are diagnosed with stomach cancer annually, and more than 11,000 die.
- Stomach cancer has a five-year relative survival rate of 31%, making it the fifth most deadly cancer in the United States.\*
- Most stomach cancer patients are diagnosed when they are stage IV. At stage IV, the five-year survival rate for stomach cancer is 4%.
- The likelihood of being diagnosed with stomach cancer between ages 25-39 has increased by almost 70% since 1977.
- The primary risk factors for stomach cancer include infection with bacteria known as *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*) which is also associated with gastric and duodenal ulcers; chronic dyspepsia (indigestion); being of Asian, African, or Hispanic descent; consuming a diet heavy in salt, smoked, or preserved foods or low in fruits and vegetables; smoking and tobacco use; advanced age; and male gender.

\* According to the Deadliest Cancers Coalition, the deadliest cancers are recalcitrant cancers defined as those that have five-year relative survival rates below 50 percent.



## DDF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

- Educate stomach cancer patients, families, caregivers, and healthcare professionals through free informational materials and symposia
- Raise awareness through educational programs and events about the reality of a stomach cancer diagnosis and the toll it takes on patients and their families
- Provide no-cost support and objective, reliable information about treatment options, ongoing research and clinical trials
- Fund research directly and through focused advocacy efforts to increase federal funding
- Serve as the primary resource for health care professionals to refer their stomach cancer patients
- Encourage collaboration and information sharing among medical professionals, researchers, scientists, pharmaceutical companies, public agencies and patients
- Provide gifts to the children of stomach cancer patients because we recognize that a cancer diagnosis impacts the whole family

## DDF MILESTONES

- DDF held the first ever Stomach Cancer Patient Education Symposium in 2011. DDF has since held annual symposia across the country featuring informative lectures by world-renowned healthcare providers on various cutting-edge issues relating to stomach cancer. These lectures are available on DDF's website along with numerous resources, related links and other helpful information.
- DDF offers the only Patient Resource Education Program (PREP) providing education, resources, and support internationally for stomach cancer patients, families and caregivers. Inquirers are matched with a PREP Mentor for one-on-one support and to share knowledge and learn from each other's experiences.
- DDF directly funds stomach cancer research and encourages young scholars to pursue stomach cancer research opportunities.
- DDF held the first ever stomach cancer Capitol Hill Briefing in Washington, D.C. and has held the Annual Stomach Cancer Capitol Hill Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C. since 2013. These advocacy efforts have resulted in millions of dollars in increased federal stomach cancer research funding.



## ABOUT OUR FOUNDER



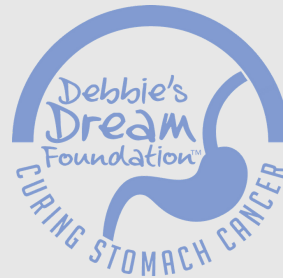
### DEBBIE ZELMAN 1967-2017

In April 2008, when she was a forty-year-old mother of three young children, a wife, and a practicing attorney, Debbie was diagnosed with stage IV advanced, incurable stomach cancer. Her chance of surviving 5 years was only 4%. In the course of searching for treatment options, she quickly learned how difficult this disease is to detect and treat and that the outcome is often grim. Fortunately, working closely with her doctors in academic and community settings, Debbie began responding to treatment. She then decided to use her experience, skills, tenacity, and robust network of friends and supporters to start a movement to raise awareness about stomach cancer, fund research, and help other patients.

In April 2009, Debbie started Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer (DDF), the first 501(c)(3) non-profit organization to advocate for stomach cancer research funding. DDF quickly became the leading voice for stomach cancer advocacy and is currently the international leader for this under-recognized and under-funded disease. Debbie passed away on December 23, 2017, after nearly a decade of fighting fearlessly on behalf of stomach cancer patients, families, and caregivers worldwide. Her legacy lives on through DDF and all those who support her dream of making the cure for stomach cancer a reality.

## TOGETHER WE ARE DREAMING BIG!

DDF depends on the generosity of people like you. Your tax-deductible contribution supports our programs and enables us to fund research. Help us make the dream of finding a cure for stomach cancer a reality!



Visit [www.DebbiesDream.org](http://www.DebbiesDream.org) to donate, learn more about this devastating disease, find out how you can become involved, ask questions, volunteer, host an event, attend an event, join or start a chapter, and/or purchase merchandise. Please give today and support our cause!

#### Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer

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#### Find Us On:

Facebook: [DebbiesDreamFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/DebbiesDreamFoundation)

Twitter: [StomachCancer\\_](https://twitter.com/StomachCancer_)

LinkedIn: [DebbiesDreamFoundation](https://www.linkedin.com/company/DebbiesDreamFoundation)

YouTube: [CuringStomachCancer](https://www.youtube.com/CuringStomachCancer)

Instagram: [DebbiesDreamFoundation](https://www.instagram.com/DebbiesDreamFoundation)



Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer (DDF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to advancing funding for stomach cancer research, raising awareness about the disease, and providing education and support internationally for patients, families, and caregivers. DDF seeks as its ultimate goal to make the cure for stomach cancer a reality.