

# OCRA ovarian cancer research alliance

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OCRA

# State of science in ovarian cancer

“Although recent years have seen promising advances in cancer research, there remain **surprising gaps in the fundamental knowledge about and understanding of ovarian cancer, including basic biology, risk factors, diagnosis, delivery of care, and survivorship.**”

– National Academy of Medicine, *Ovarian Cancers: Evolving Paradigms in Research and Care* (2016)

# OCRA's mission

Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance (OCRA) is the leading organization in the world fighting ovarian cancer from all fronts, including in the lab and on Capitol Hill, while supporting women and their families.

The OCRA logo consists of a teal square with the letters "OCRA" in white, sans-serif font.

# OCRA'S main areas of focus

## **Funding research**

- OCRA's ongoing investment in the most promising scientific research is funding discoveries, creating new treatments, and hastening desperately needed breakthroughs.

## **Advocacy**

- We are THE voice for the ovarian cancer community, working with legislators to ensure federal ovarian cancer research and education funding, patient safety, and access to high-quality care are protected on Capitol Hill.

## **Patient support & engagement**

- Our programs help women navigate an overwhelming diagnosis, supporting patients and their families when and where they need it most.

## **Funding Research**

- OCRA has invested over \$85 million in ovarian cancer since 1998.
- In 2019, OCRA awarded grants of \$5.25 million to 23 top scientists at 14 top medical centers.

## **Advocacy**

- Federal-/state-level engagement
- Grassroots Advocate Leaders

## **Patient support & engagement**

- Survivors Teaching Students<sup>®</sup> (STS)
- Woman-to-Woman (W2W)
- Clinical social worker/helpline

# Zooming in on STS® & W2W

STS® brings ovarian cancer survivors to academic training hospitals/medical centers to increase medical students, nursing students, nurse practitioner and physician assistant students' understanding of ovarian cancer risk factors/symptoms, so that they may be able to diagnose the disease in earlier/more treatable stages.

More than 850 survivor volunteers have participated in STS® to date, working at more than 280 academic medical centers and training hospitals across the country.

Woman-to-Woman is a peer-to-peer support program for women with gynecologic cancers that pairs newly diagnosed patients with trained survivor volunteers who provide one-on-one emotional support and mentoring to from the point of diagnosis through the end of treatment.

W2W operates at almost 40 sites (hospitals/medical centers) nationwide & recently launched virtually for patients who live outside of a service area.

