

What is Disrupting the System?

Disrupting the System is an annual summit hosted by Lazarex Cancer Foundation. Lazarex Founder, Dana Dornsife, saw the need to provide a platform for provocative and constructive dialogue to lead to positive change in the fight against cancer and cancer health disparities. The event brings together disruptors, innovators and change makers in oncology and patient advocacy all united in one goal: to identify opportunities to tackle the tough issues and take action to support equitable patient access, improve cancer health disparities, and achieve better cancer health outcomes for ALL.

What does Disrupting the System hope to achieve?

Disrupting the System aims to find real, sustainable ways to change the current cancer research landscape to make it more accessible to ALL patients, and to promote new, cutting-edge ideas to improve clinical trial participation and access, increase minority enrollment and retention, remove barriers, and enhance equity in innovation.



What are some past Disrupting the System conversations?

- Building Trust in Healthcare
- Payer Mix: The Dirty Little Secret in Healthcare
- Truth In Numbers: FDA Classification Data
- How Covid Is Affecting Clinical Trials
- Disrupting Engagement: The Community Voice in Action
- Disrupting the Payment Platform: Exposing Barriers to Patient Access

Who participates in Disrupting the System?

Disrupting the System brings together some of the biggest disruptors and innovators in the fields of oncology, patient advocacy and public policy.

Past participants include:

Dr. Robert Winn, Director and Lipman Chair in Oncology at VCU Massey Cancer Center; Mark R Laret, President and CEO UCSF Health, Greg Simon, Biden Cancer Initiative; Glenn Ellis, writer and educator and expert on Health Equity; Dr. John Whyte, Physician, Writer, Chief Medical Officer at WebMD; Maimah Karmo, Founder & CEO the Tigerlily Foundation; Fabian Sandoval, MD, CEO and Research Director of the Emerson Clinical Research Institute.

Pre-2020, Disrupting the System was held over two days in Washington, D.C. to include a day of advocacy on Capitol Hill with lawmakers. Past Congressional Roundtables included: Congressman Jamie Raskin, D-MD; Congressman Pete Sessions, R-TX; Congressman Eric Swallwell, D-CA; Congressman Tom Cole, R-OK and Chairman of the Subcommittee on Labor Health and Human Services; Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, D-CA; Congressman Buddy Carter, R-GA; Congressman Mark DeSaulnier, D-CA; Congressman Bobby Rush, D-IL.