American Cancer Society BrightEdge

Where Innovation Meets Its Moment

Advancing cancer innovation when and where it matters most

2025 IMPACT REPORT

INTRODUCTION

BrightEdge advances the American Cancer Society's (ACS') vision by accelerating cancer innovation at the moments when promising ideas need the right capital, expertise, and connections to reach patients. Through direct investment in high-potential oncology start-ups and innovation programs that equip founders with resources and industry access, BrightEdge helps move transformative cancer solutions from early promise toward real-world impact. We use disciplined impact measurement to keep this work aligned with mission, patient need, and long-term value.

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MANAGING DIRECTOR LETTER

2025: From Promise to Impact

Innovation in cancer care does not advance on promise alone. It advances when the right idea reaches the right moment, and when the right partners bring the conviction, expertise, and resources to help it move forward.

At BrightEdge, we meet cancer innovation at its most critical inflection points. As ACS' innovation and impact investing effort, we bring more than capital. We bring scientific insight, patient-centered perspective, strategic connectivity, and disciplined impact rigor to help promising solutions address meaningful gaps across the cancer care continuum.

This work demands our undivided attention. In 2025, more than 2 million people in the US were expected to be diagnosed with cancer, and nearly 19 million Americans are living with a history of cancer. These are the patients, survivors, families, and communities ACS serves. Their needs define BrightEdge's urgency and sharpen our focus.

In 2025, BrightEdge strengthened the foundation for our next stage of growth. We built programs that harness the ACS vision, expertise, and networks to help innovators translate potential into real-world solutions. We focused on opportunities where markets move too slowly, patient needs remain urgent, solutions lack support, or innovators need a different kind of partner to advance from discovery to delivery.

Our momentum will fuel BrightEdge's trajectory. We have built the platform, sharpened the strategy, and strengthened our alignment with ACS. Now, we will scale that foundation with focus and purpose, ensuring that when cancer innovation reaches its moment, BrightEdge will be poised to help turn it into real-world impact.

Sincerely,

Steve Curtis, PhD

Interim Managing Director, BrightEdge LLC

Interim Vice President, Innovation & Impact Investing, American Cancer Society

"We focused on opportunities where markets move too slowly, patient needs remain urgent, solutions lack support, or innovators need a different kind of partner to advance from discovery to delivery."

– **Steve Curtis, PhD**

CEO LETTER

Innovation at the Heart of Progress

Building on a century of impact to advance the future of cancer care

For more than a century, the American Cancer Society has worked to change the course of cancer through discovery, advocacy, and patient support. That work remains the foundation of who we are and how we serve people with cancer and their families. As we look to the future, we are focused on bringing the full strength of ACS together to help more people prevent, treat, survive, and thrive after cancer. BrightEdge is an important part of that effort.

Across ACS, we see extraordinary promise. Breakthrough science is advancing our understanding of cancer. New technologies are improving detection and treatment. Policy advances are expanding access to care. And patient support programs are helping people navigate one of the most difficult moments of their lives. But too often, innovations with the potential to improve cancer outcomes never reach the people they were designed to serve. They encounter funding gaps, commercialization barriers, fragmented systems, or market dynamics that leave important patient needs overlooked. BrightEdge is designed to close those gaps.

As the innovation and impact investing effort within ACS, BrightEdge extends our mission in a powerful way. Our discovery work generates new knowledge. Our advocacy work removes barriers and influences systems change. Our patient support work connects people with the resources they need today. BrightEdge adds another important capability: identifying and accelerating innovations from discovery toward real-world impact for patients.

Through strategic investments, innovation programs, and rigorous impact measurement, BrightEdge connects ACS' scientific expertise and patient-centered perspective with innovators working across the cancer care continuum. Together, we support solutions that address unmet needs, expand access, advance equity, and improve outcomes for patients and families. Few organizations are positioned to connect scientific insight, patient experience, advocacy leadership, and national reach. BrightEdge brings these strengths together to advance promising ideas beyond discovery and into the communities where they can make a meaningful difference.

As we look to the future, we are focused on bringing the full strength of ACS to the fight against cancer. BrightEdge is an important part of that effort, not because innovation is new to ACS, but because innovation has always been at the heart of our progress. What is changing is our ability to help promising ideas move forward more intentionally and with greater impact.

Improving the future of cancer care requires more than any one tool or discipline. It requires the full power of ACS working in concert: the science that helps us understand cancer, the advocacy that removes barriers to care, the support that helps people through treatment, and the partnerships that make progress possible. BrightEdge gives us another way to put that strength to work by helping promising ideas gain the momentum they need to reach patients.

I am inspired by what comes next. When a cancer innovation is ready to make a difference, ACS and BrightEdge can help clear the path from possibility to impact.

That is how we honor our mission, extend our reach, and help more people prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer.

With gratitude,

Shane Jacobson

Chief Executive Officer, American Cancer Society and American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

"Improving the future of cancer care requires more than any one tool or discipline. It requires the full power of ACS working in concert: the science that helps us understand cancer, the advocacy that removes barriers to care, the support that helps people through treatment, and the partnerships that make progress possible."

– Shane Jacobson

INNOVATION

The American Cancer Society is the largest nongovernmental, nonprofit funding source of cancer research in the US. That leadership has helped move discoveries from the lab toward patient benefit, but too many promising cancer innovations still stall before they can reach people at scale. Early-stage funding gaps, limited development support, and the difficulty of moving from discovery to commercialization can prevent high-potential ideas from becoming accessible solutions. BrightEdge was created to help close that gap by extending ACS' research legacy into the critical stages where innovation needs capital, expertise, and strategic support.

Since 1946, ACS has invested more than $5.7 billion in cancer research.

ACS has supported the early work of 53 researchers who have gone on to win the Nobel Prize, a testament to its long-standing role at the forefront of cancer research, driving the discovery and advancement of next-generation cancer care treatments. BrightEdge builds on this legacy of grant funding by identifying and accelerating high-potential cancer innovations at critical stages of development, through a robust network of programs supporting early-stage founders. These programs are designed to identify, equip, and scale sustainable business models capable of reaching a wide range of patient populations.

Partnering with **ACS Discovery** to narrow the gap between scientific grantmaking and equity investments

ACS Discovery
- Funding high-impact and innovative cancer research

Identifying and **enabling** the next generation of cancer-fighting entrepreneurs and leaders

BrightEdge Innovation Programs
- Discovery Accelerator Grants
- Innovation Acceleration Hubs
- Collaborative Learning Community
- BrightEdge Entrepreneurs Program
  - Life Sciences Track
  - Digital Health Track

Mobilizing collaborator networks to accelerate and deepen impact of investments

BrightEdge Investment
- ACS Impact Venture Fund (AIVF)

Building the Pipeline from Discovery to Impact

Mission Scout Investments

BrightEdge works to identify high-quality, early-stage opportunities through distinctive relationships and networks within oncology and cancer care. By investing at key inflection points, BrightEdge helps founders turn promising concepts into scalable solutions. Mission Scout investments focus on early-stage companies across our Mission Priority Areas. The BrightEdge Mission Scout portfolio companies are addressing key gaps across the cancer journey through innovations that support earlier detection, advance precision medicine, accelerate the development of new therapies, expand access to specialized care, and provide survivorship support.

- 10 Mission Scout investments through December 31, 2025
- 6 of the 10 companies have fewer than 10 employees
- 4 of the 10 were founded on technologies developed by ACS grantees

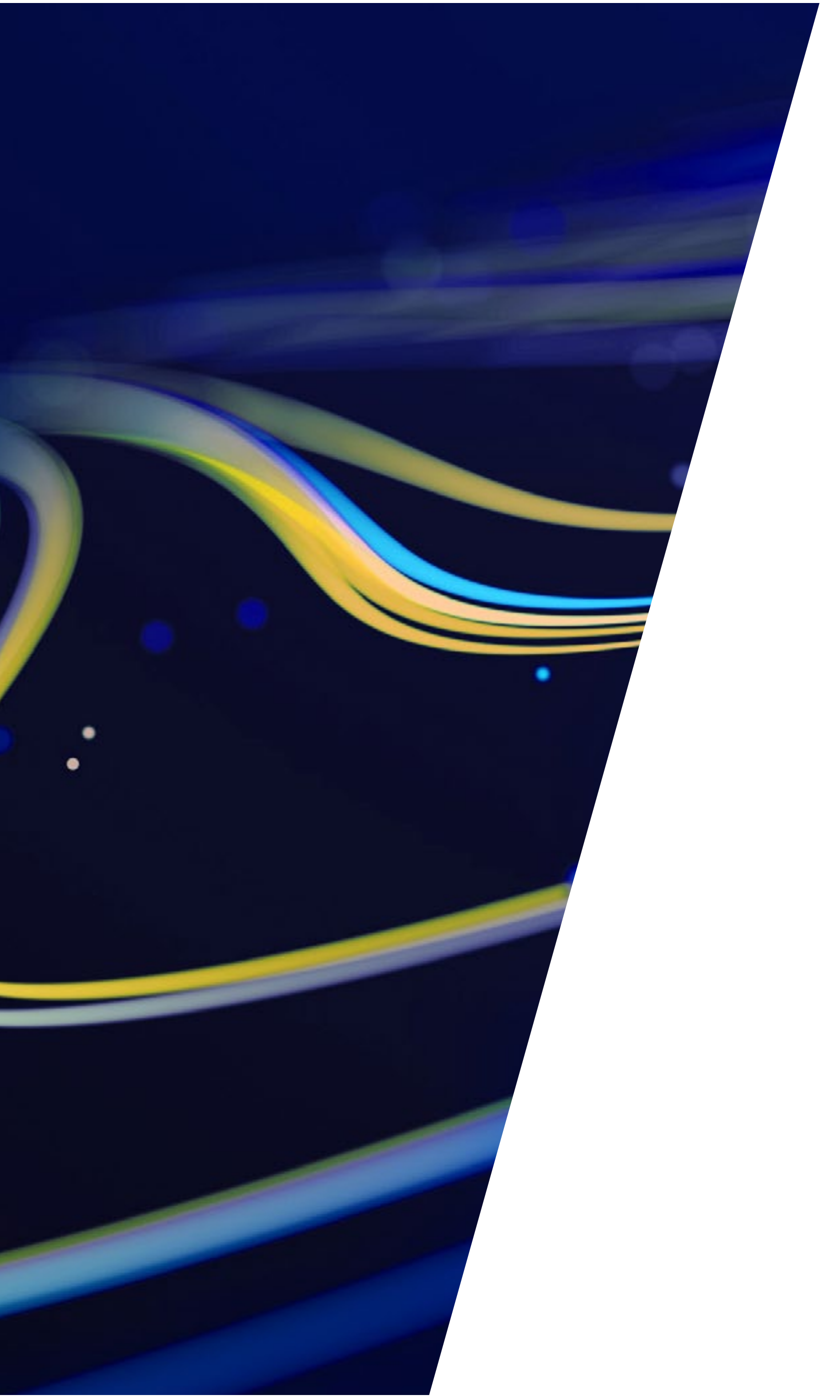
Texas Accelerator Hub

Texas-based researchers hold more ACS grant dollars than almost any other state, making it a natural home for BrightEdge's inaugural Innovation Hub, the Texas Accelerator Hub. Launched in 2024 with support from Lyda Hill Philanthropies, the accelerator provides two funding mechanisms for researchers and early-stage companies in Texas.

- **Grants** provide non-dilutive academic funds designed to be proof-of-concept for researchers looking to translate their research to the clinic and commercialize their technology. As of December 31, 2025, seven Phase 1 grants have been awarded.
- **Investments** provide equity-based funding for companies that have already spun out of the academic research setting. BrightEdge has invested in five pre-seed stage companies as of December 31, 2025 (three such companies have also gained additional support through our BrightEdge Entrepreneurs Program).

Number of Scout Investments by Mission Priority Area

- Therapies: Catena Biosciences, Hula Therapeutics, Meliora Therapeutics
- Diagnostics: Kreftect, Predicta Biosciences
- Therapeutic optimization: Persephone Biosciences
- Clinical care: Piction Health
- Care access and navigation: Cerula Care, Maia Oncology
- Digital health and enabling technologies: Thatch



INNOVATION

BrightEdge Entrepreneurs Program

ACS has long led the way in driving impact across the cancer continuum. Too often, the most promising ideas in cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment and survivorship get stuck in the early stages of development. These ideas can't move forward because there isn't enough funding, guidance, or support to turn them into real and accessible solutions.

The BrightEdge Entrepreneurs (BEE) program is a strategic initiative that bridges this critical gap. By investing in high-potential, early-stage cancer concepts and equipping innovators with the support needed to succeed, the program accelerates the path from bold idea to real-world solution. Across the complementary fields of Life Sciences and Digital Health,[1] oncology innovators gain access to the resources and guidance needed to advance meaningful change in cancer care.

Each track provides selected founders with tailored resources designed to accelerate progress from concept to impact. The program incorporates shared educational sessions across tracks with specialized domain-specific content, ensuring entrepreneurs receive both foundational and sector-specific support.

The Call

BrightEdge is actively seeking mentors, partners, and philanthropic supporters to expand this important work. Individuals and organizations can help by offering advisory expertise, making financial contributions, and developing strategic relationships that help innovative oncology founders move farther, faster. Together, we can strengthen a new model for impact investment in oncology and cancer care.

1. Note that the BEE Digital Health track was initially referred to as "Project HEALTH" (as seen in BrightEdge's 2024 Impact Report) before being formally incorporated into the BrightEdge Entrepreneurs program as the Digital Health track

BrightEdge Entrepreneurs Tracks

LIFE SCIENCES **Helps founders build companies from early cancer innovations**	**DIGITAL HEALTH** **Supports start-ups working to break down barriers in cancer care**
Participants: Scientific founders ready to turn promising cancer research into start-ups that develop new treatments, diagnostics, or medical devices	**Participants:** Early-stage start-ups developing digital solutions to reduce access barriers that might prevent cancer patients from receiving timely, high-quality care
Benefits: • 10-month virtual training on building and launching a company • 1:1 mentorship from investors and industry experts • $100K investment from BrightEdge	**Benefits:** • 6-month program to sharpen business and product skills • Personalized mentorship tailored to company goals • $50K investment from BrightEdge
Outcome: Accelerating the development of research breakthroughs into life-changing solutions for patients	**Outcome:** Technology-driven cancer care solutions that reach all communities and help close gaps in care

The BEE program is accelerating the translation of scientific innovation into meaningful patient impact by empowering visionary entrepreneurs with training, early-stage capital, and the critical support needed to launch and grow new ventures. Thanks to a robust ecosystem of mentors, expert educational speakers, an Advisory Board, and the BrightEdge team, entrepreneurs gain access to the strategic guidance, connections, and resources necessary to advance promising innovations from concept to patient impact.

INNOVATION

BrightEdge Entrepreneurs Program Metrics and Milestones

- Entrepreneurs in the 2025 BEE program cohort are addressing complex oncology challenges with innovative solutions from prevention and precision diagnostics to personalized treatments, survivorship support, and tools that help patients navigate care and improve quality of life.
- Over 200 oncology stakeholders, including impact investors, biotech and health care experts, academics, and patient advocates gathered at the 2025 BEE Life Sciences Showcase.
- While in the program, entrepreneurs in the cohort secured lab space, hired critical team members, raised additional capital, received non-dilutive grant funding and won industry pitch competitions, emphasizing the program's impact and effectiveness.
- The 2024 and 2025 BEE program cohorts have collectively raised more than $60 million in follow-on investments from prominent investors to further support and advance their technologies.

2025 BrightEdge Entrepreneurs Cohort Stats:

13 companies representing 7 different US states

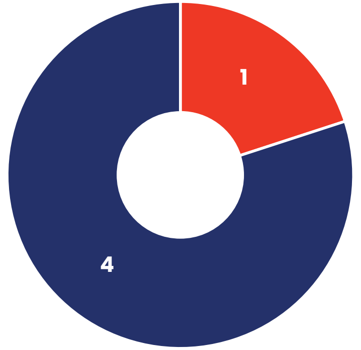
Over 60 mentors and 13 advisory board members

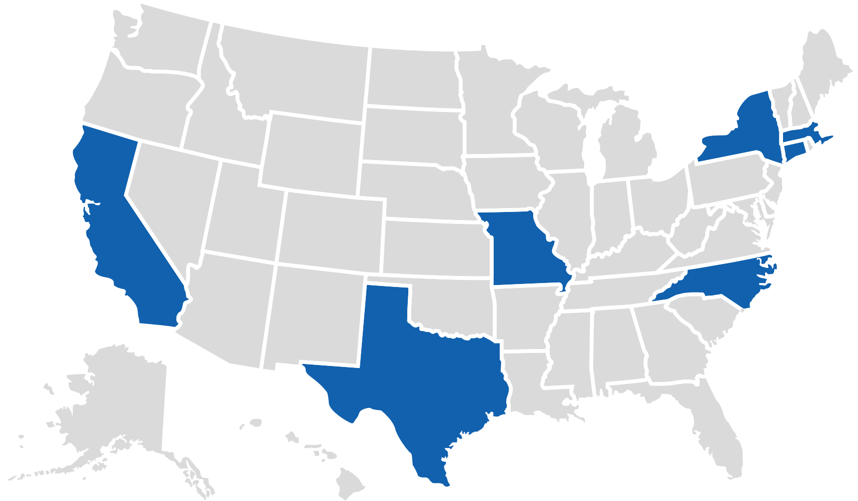
Nearly 70% are first-time female founders

100% of leadership teams include diverse identity representation across gender, race, ethnicity, age, and additional salient identities typically underrepresented in health care start-ups

Life Sciences Cohort by Mission Priority Area

Digital Health Cohort by Mission Priority Area





TRACK	COMPANY	STATE	MISSION PRIORITY AREA
Life Sciences	Ananya Health	California	Prevention and screening
	Aperture Bio	Massachusetts	Discovery areas and research platforms
	Artelis Biopharma	Connecticut	Therapies
	Eisana Health	Texas	Patient burdens and survivorship
	Nine Diagnostics	Massachusetts	Therapeutic optimization
	ReConstruct Bio	Massachusetts	Patient burdens and survivorship
	Riverwalk Therapeutics	Texas	Therapies
	Sift Biosciences	California	Therapies
Digital Health	Determined Health	California	Patient burdens and survivorship
	Mirza	New York	Patient burdens and survivorship
	Novobeing	Massachusetts	Clinical care
	The After Cancer	North Carolina	Patient burdens and survivorship
	ThriveLink	Missouri	Patient burdens and survivorship

"The BrightEdge Entrepreneurs program is a phenomenal experience as a founder in the oncology space. The small and supportive cohort, the focused mentorship, and the timely education sessions are a cut above anything else we've experienced. Starting a device, drug, or therapeutics company in the cancer space is not for the faint of heart; I can't imagine a better partner along the way than BrightEdge."

– **Anu Parvatiyar**
CEO of Ananya Health

Impact Foundations

At BrightEdge, impact measurement is fundamental to how we invest, manage our portfolio, and advance the ACS vision. Early in our impact investing journey, we identified a gap in the market: the absence of a rigorous, cancer-specific framework to guide investment decisions and measure long-term impact across a portfolio of health companies. To address this need, we previously developed the Cancer Impact Investment Framework™ (CIIF), the first cancer-specific impact assessment framework.

CIIF leverages Impact Frontiers' Five Dimensions of Impact[1] alongside our Mission Priority Areas to help ensure patient-centered decision-making across BrightEdge investments and programs. Drawing on ACS' research legacy, unique insights into the patient journey, and BrightEdge's investment expertise, this established framework provides a consistent approach for evaluating impact during due diligence and monitoring our portfolio over time.

Annual Impact Assessment Process

Each year, BrightEdge conducts impact assessments across our portfolio using CIIF. Companies report standardized impact data through a digital platform, enabling BrightEdge to evaluate performance and identify opportunities for strategic engagement. This annual process supports transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement across the portfolio.

BrightEdge's Cancer Impact Investment Framework™

What	**1** Outcome
	2 Importance of outcome to stakeholders
	3 Alignment with mission
Who	**4** Stakeholders
	5 Outcome level at baseline
How much	**6** Depth
	7 Scale
	8 Duration
Contribution	**9** Depth counterfactual
	10 Scale counterfactual
	11 Duration counterfactual
Risk	**12** Risk types + levels

By combining investment discipline with mission-driven impact measurement, BrightEdge can make more informed decisions, focus on opportunities with the potential to significantly enhance cancer outcomes, and demonstrate how our portfolio advances ACS' vision of ending cancer as we know it, for everyone.

1. https://impactfrontiers.org/norms/five-dimensions-of-impact/

Opportunities for Tool Evolution

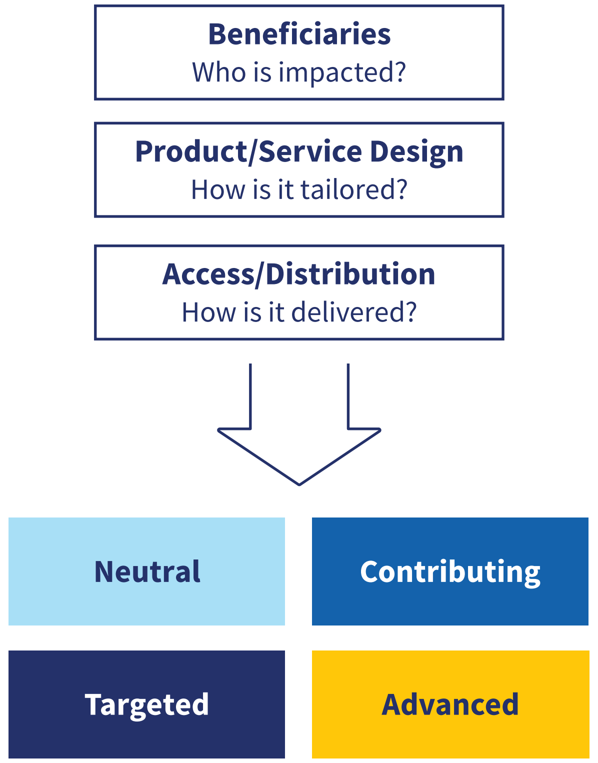
Evolving Our Approach to Health Equity Assessment

Health equity is essential to ACS' vision, but measuring how investments contribute to advancing health equity remains challenging. Recognizing the lack of a widely accepted framework for evaluating health equity across commercial enterprises, BrightEdge expanded our impact measurement and management tools and developed our proprietary Health Equity Classification™ (HEC) in 2025.

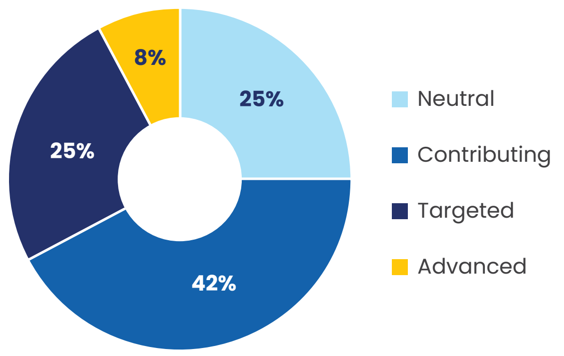
HEC provides a structured approach for assessing how companies address health equity across three dimensions: beneficiaries, product/service design, and access/distribution. Dimension scores are aggregated into an overall score, which determines the overall health equity classification: Neutral, Contributing, Targeted or Advanced. The framework enables BrightEdge to assess health equity across our portfolio while creating opportunities for deeper dialogue with portfolio companies about access, barriers to care, and equitable outcomes.

In June 2025, BrightEdge furthered the conversation by convening leaders across health, climate, sustainability, and investment for our Investing to Drive Sustainability in Health and Climate event in New York City. As part of the program, participants engaged with HEC through an interactive workshop, exploring practical challenges in health equity assessment. The discussion provided valuable validation and feedback while reinforcing the importance of intentionality, high-quality data, and robust measurement frameworks.[2]

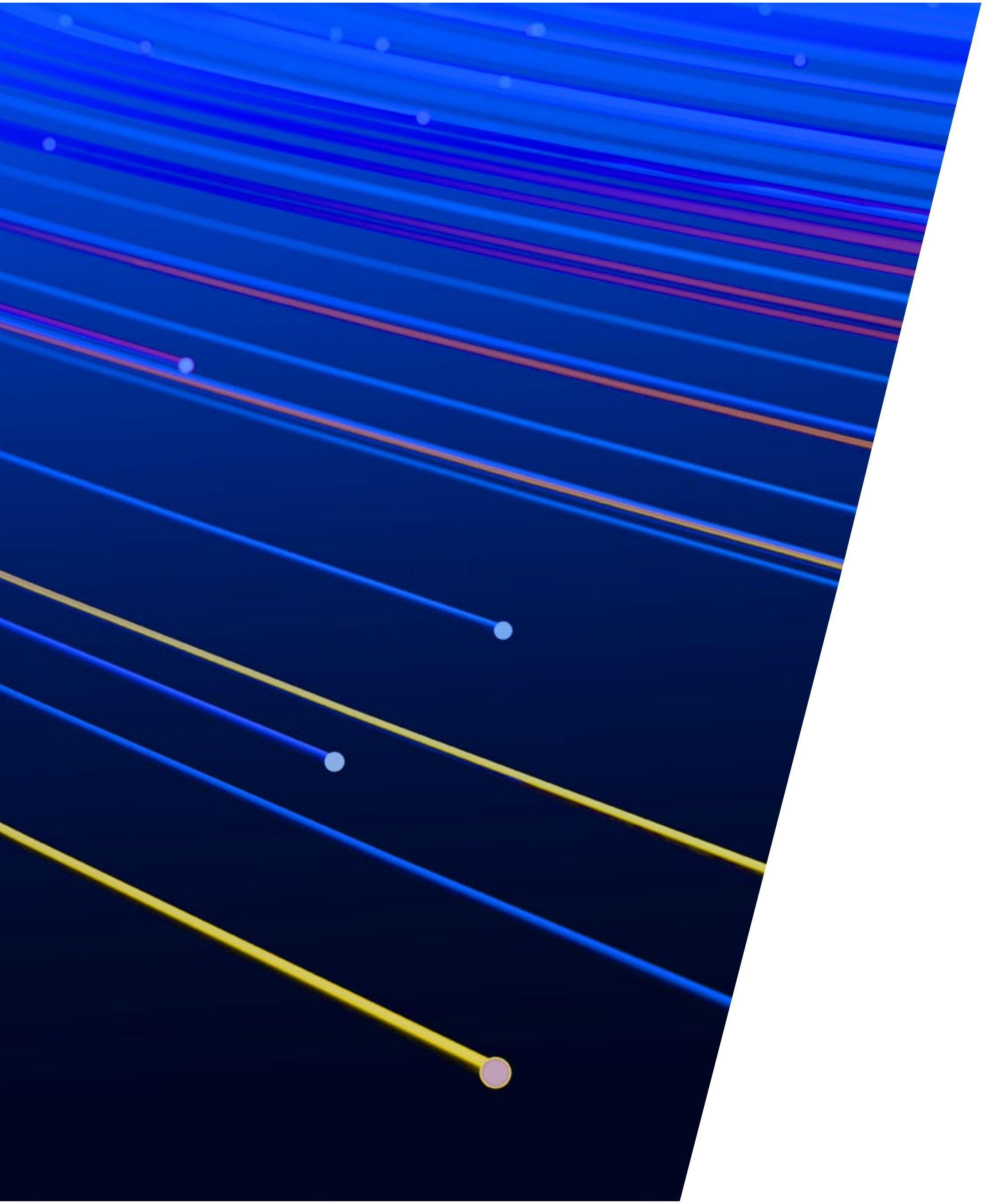
HEC represents the latest addition to BrightEdge's impact toolkit and reflects our commitment to developing practical, evidence-based approaches that help investors align capital with meaningful health outcomes.



Current AIVF Portfolio Health Equity Classifications



2. For additional detail and insights from the *Investing to Drive Sustainability in Health and Climate* event, see BrightEdge's White Paper and Event Summary



PORTFOLIO SUMMARY

ACS Impact Venture Fund Portfolio Summary

Fueling the Future of Cancer Care

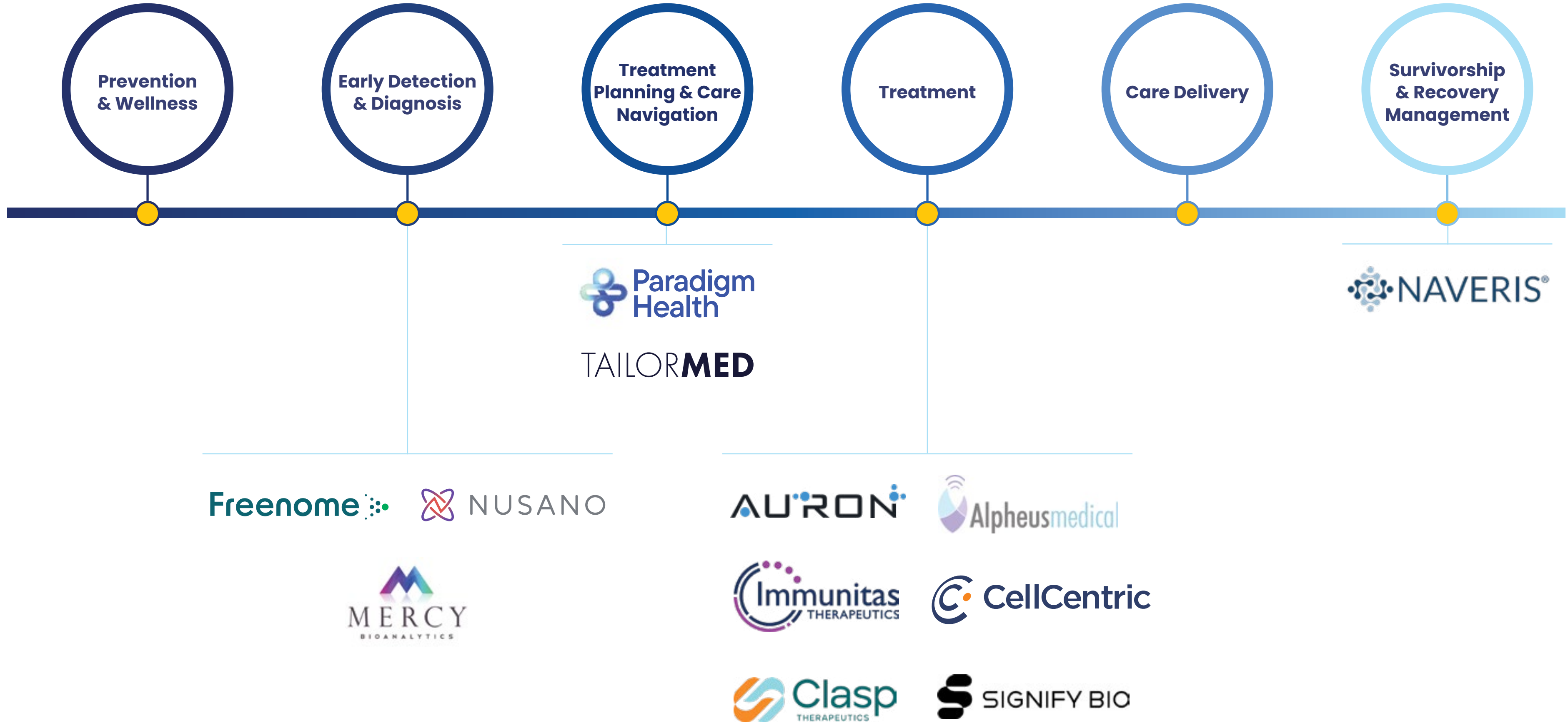
Launched in 2019, the ACS Impact Venture Fund (AIVF) has grown to $85 million by the end of 2025 thanks to the ACS' continued conviction, investment performance, and the generosity of our donors and sponsors, along with the dedication of our BrightEdge Founders Circle.

AIVF meets innovation at the pivotal moment when promising cancer solutions require capital, expertise, and strategic support to advance toward delivering impact at scale. Complementing BrightEdge's Innovation programs, AIVF helps bridge the gap between early validation and the broader needs required to enable commercialization, supporting companies as they prepare for growth, attract institutional investment, and expand patient reach. BrightEdge's 21 AIVF investments (since inception) span the cancer care continuum – from prevention and early detection through treatment and survivorship – focusing on solutions that address significant unmet needs, reduce disparities in cancer care, and improve critical outcomes.

By backing bold ideas at pivotal stages of growth, AIVF helps transform innovation into meaningful impact for patients and families.

Investing Across the Cancer Care Continuum

There are important opportunities to improve every stage of the cancer journey – from prevention and early detection through treatment, care delivery, and survivorship. Reflecting ACS' mission priorities, the active AIVF portfolio reflects intentional diversification across the cancer care continuum, developing innovations that address a wide range of patient and system needs while advancing opportunities for both impact and financial return.



Active AIVF portfolio as of December 31, 2025

AIVF FINANCIAL AND IMPACT PERFORMANCE

Strong Financial Performance Driven by Portfolio Growth and Realized Gains

2025 Financials

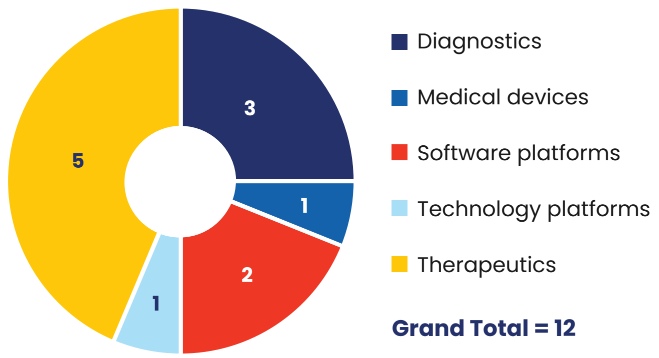
$41.62M
ACTIVELY INVESTED ASSETS

$85.35M
TOTAL FUND SIZE

$15.32M
IN GAINS ON

$59.66M
TOTAL INVESTMENTS
(INCEPTION TO DATE)

Investments by Sector



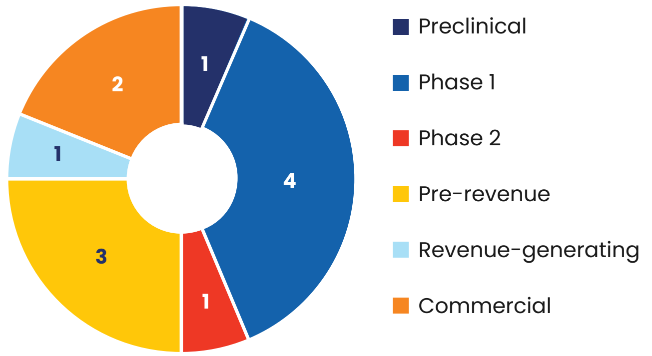
2025 AIVF Performance Highlights

10
FOLLOW-ON INVESTMENTS

1
EXIT

$4.05B
CUMULATIVE CAPITAL RAISED BY BRIGHTEDGE PORTFOLIO COMPANIES SINCE OUR INITIAL INVESTMENT

Investments by Development Stage



interius

BrightEdge invests in best-in-class oncology companies built upon validated science, novel targets, modalities, and platforms addressing some of the highest unmet needs in cancer care. Recognizing the potential of its first-in-class *in vivo* CAR T-cell platform technology, BrightEdge invested in the seed round of Interius BioTherapeutics, a University of Pennsylvania spinout founded on research from the laboratory of Dr. Saar Gill, an ACS-funded research scholar.

CAR T-cell therapies, which require extraction, genetic engineering, and reinjection of a patient's own immune cells to enable them to directly target cancer cells, have shown incredible clinical outcomes in several cancer types; however, scaling access to these first generation "*ex vivo*" (referring to the extensive process of manipulating a patient's own immune cells outside the body) CAR T has been stymied by manufacturing and delivery limitations. Interius' technology leverages a novel approach that enables the key CAR T-cell creation to take place within a patient's own body ("*in vivo*"), thus manufacturing a personalized therapeutic, significantly expediting treatment delivery, and potentially improving access to this therapeutic modality for more patients.

In October 2025, Interius was acquired by Kite, a Gilead company, for $350 million. The acquisition marked the eighth exit for BrightEdge and further validated our strategy of identifying and supporting breakthrough oncology innovations with transformative clinical potential. This acquisition marks a significant step in enabling the opportunity to scale and accelerate the translation of *in vivo* cell therapies from scientific discoveries to patients worldwide.

Portfolio Impact

Measuring the Impact of BrightEdge's Investments

BrightEdge's AIVF investments span the cancer care continuum, focusing on solutions that address unmet needs, reduce disparities, and improve outcomes for patients and their families. We track portfolio impact using our Cancer Impact Investment Framework™ (CIIF) and Health Equity Classification™ (HEC) tools, with a selection of metrics based on the outputs from those tools included here to provide a portfolio-level view of impact.

640K+

ACTUAL LIVES TOUCHED:

Over 640,000 patients and their families impacted by innovations from our current portfolio companies in 2025. This figure largely comprises solutions focused on novel diagnostics, access to clinical trials, and improving care affordability

11.3M+

POTENTIAL LIVES TOUCHED:

More than 11.3 million patients and their families potentially impacted by the innovations from our current portfolio companies, once they reach expected scale and delivery[1]

169

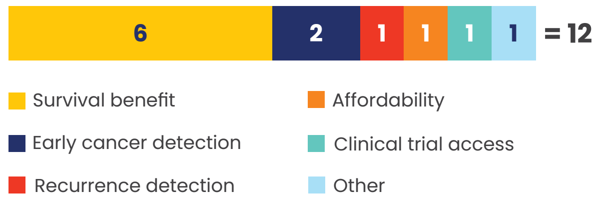
of the patients impacted in 2025 were participants in clinical trials run by therapeutics companies in our portfolio

1. Note: Our portfolio includes companies that have the potential to reach large populations through innovations in diagnostics and clinical trial access, as well as companies developing potentially life-changing therapies for less common cancers. While **depth of impact is as important as scale** within CIIF, depth metrics are often more nuanced and harder to standardize. Although lives touched metrics feature prominently in our reporting, it's important to note **that investment decisions are not driven solely to maximize lives touched**. Considering the lives touched metrics shown here alongside the portfolio breakdowns by outcome, cancer type, Mission Priority Areas and HEC classifications helps provide a fuller picture of portfolio impact.

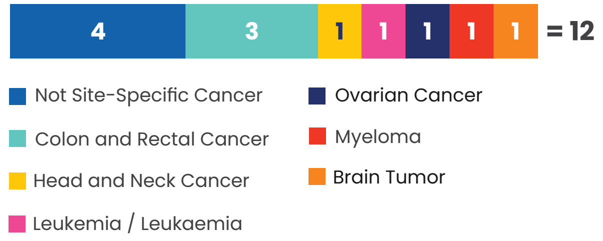
For each company, the potential lives touched number was estimated as the **Serviceable Obtainable Market** (i.e., the portion of the Total Addressable Market that a company could reasonably reach) determined based on (1) company provided information, with (2) further evaluation by the BrightEdge team based on market and scientific research. BrightEdge applies an **estimated risk-adjustment discount and market penetration forecast** to account for each company's current product and service offerings, R&D stage, commercial landscape, and specifics of the patient populations that could benefit. The potential number of lives touched was based on each portfolio company's **primary indication** and included additional indications only if they were at the same phase of commercial development as the primary indication.

While increases in our lives touched metrics may reflect company progress and expanded patient reach, fluctuations can also result from portfolio composition changes and methodology refinements. Accordingly, changes in actual or potential lives touched should not be interpreted as standalone measures of portfolio performance.

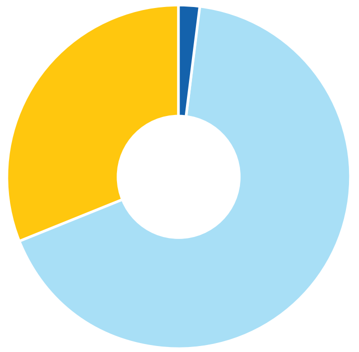
Portfolio Companies by Primary Outcome



Portfolio Companies by Cancer Type



Breakdown of Potential Lives Touched by Primary MPA:



Therapies: **25,676**
(~0.2% of potential lives touched)

Diagnostics: **7,771,500**
(68.7% of potential lives touched)

Other MPAs (includes Clinical trials, Patient burdens, Enabling technologies): **3,520,740**
(31.1% of potential lives touched)

Mission Priority Areas (MPAs)	% of Number of Portfolio Companies*		% of Dollars Invested†	
	Primary MPA	Secondary MPA	Primary MPA	Secondary MPA
Discovery areas and research platforms	0%	8%	0%	3%
Therapies	50%	8%	33%	2%
Diagnostics	25%	8%	13%	2%
Clinical trials	8%	0%	9%	0%
Therapeutic optimization	0%	0%	0%	0%
Clinical care	0%	0%	0%	0%
Care access and navigation	0%	17%	0%	12%
Digital health and enabling technologies	8%	0%	5%	0%
Patient burdens and survivorship	8%	25%	4%	6%
Prevention and screening	0%	25%	0%	9%

*Primary Mission Priority Area (MPA) is the percentage of all active portfolio companies with a given mission priority as its primary focus area. Secondary MPA percentages represent the percentage of all active companies with a given mission priority as a secondary MPA. Not all portfolio companies have secondary MPAs. Percentages rounded to nearest whole number.

† Dollars invested are weighted figures. For active portfolio companies with a single, primary MPA, dollars invested are weighted 100% in that MPA. For active portfolio companies with more than one MPA, dollars invested are weighted 50% in the primary MPA, with the remaining 50% equally divided among secondary MPAs. Percentages are rounded to nearest whole number.

Thought Leadership & Community Building

Throughout 2025, we engaged in health care and impact investing events, BrightEdge-hosted forums, and speaking opportunities. These connections provided valuable insight into the state of impact investing in cancer care, and what the road ahead may hold.

BrightEdge Entrepreneurs AACR Dinner (April 2025)

The 2025 BEE Life Sciences cohort participated in the annual BrightEdge AACR dinner in Chicago, delivering two-minute pitches and networking with 100 oncology-focused stakeholders and investors, alongside members of the 2024 cohort.

Investing to Drive Sustainability in Health and Climate (June 2025)

BrightEdge, in collaboration with sustainability advisory group, Holtara, convened leaders from across the health, climate, and sustainability sectors at the ACS Hope Lodge in New York City. The event explored innovative financing, impact measurement, and cross-sector collaboration to advance evidence-based, mission-driven investing. For additional detail and insights from the event, see BrightEdge's *White Paper and Event Summary*.

BrightEdge Entrepreneurs Digital Health Cohort at HLTH Conference (October 2025)

Members of the 2025 BEE Digital Health cohort attended the HLTH conference in Las Vegas, showcasing their companies through a featured panel discussion and networking with health care leaders, investors, and industry partners working to improve outcomes for people impacted by cancer.

BrightEdge Entrepreneurs Life Sciences Showcase (October 2025)

BrightEdge celebrated our 2025 BEE Life Sciences cohort at the annual Showcase in Boston, showcasing breakthrough innovations addressing critical challenges across the cancer care continuum. Founders connected with investors, mentors, family offices, and strategic partners to advance follow-on financing, strategic collaborations, and commercialization opportunities. Dr. Kristen Hege (formerly Bristol-Myers Squibb) was the keynote speaker at the event.

Connecting Science and Investment

The BrightEdge Investment Fiduciary Committee

The BrightEdge Investment Fiduciary Committee provides essential oversight and decision-making for the AIVF's investment activities, ensuring that capital is deployed responsibly and in alignment with the charitable mission of ACS. Through disciplined governance, strategic review, and rigorous evaluation of investment opportunities, the fiduciary committee helps balance financial stewardship with mission impact. Its guidance supports BrightEdge's commitment to advancing innovative solutions across the cancer care continuum while maintaining a strong focus on accountability, long-term value creation, and meaningful outcomes for patients, survivors, and their families.

In addition to the governance provided by the fiduciary committee, BrightEdge benefits from the expertise of our Scientific Advisory Council and Impact Committee. Their guidance helps shape strategy, strengthen investment decisions, drive high-impact innovation, and ensure a disciplined approach to evaluating impact and mission alignment across the cancer care continuum.

Scientific Advisory Council	The Scientific Advisory Council is an advisory group of top scientific and medical minds that provides expert insight into emerging trends and urgent needs in cancer care. Their strategic guidance helps BrightEdge align investments with cutting-edge science and health care transformation, as we seek to amplify outcomes for patients and families.
Impact Committee	The Impact Committee shapes our impact strategy, aligning ACS and BrightEdge goals, metrics, and evaluation standards. Their leadership informs how we measure success and guides future product innovation and mission delivery priorities.

BrightEdge Team Members

Steve Curtis, PhD
Interim Managing Director

Farnaz Bakhshi, PhD
Director, Innovation

Amy Berg
Principal, Philanthropy

Calum Daly
Investment Fund and Business Analyst

Barbra Kocsis, MBA, MA
Director, Operations

Nate Macht, MBA
Senior Analyst, Investment and Innovation

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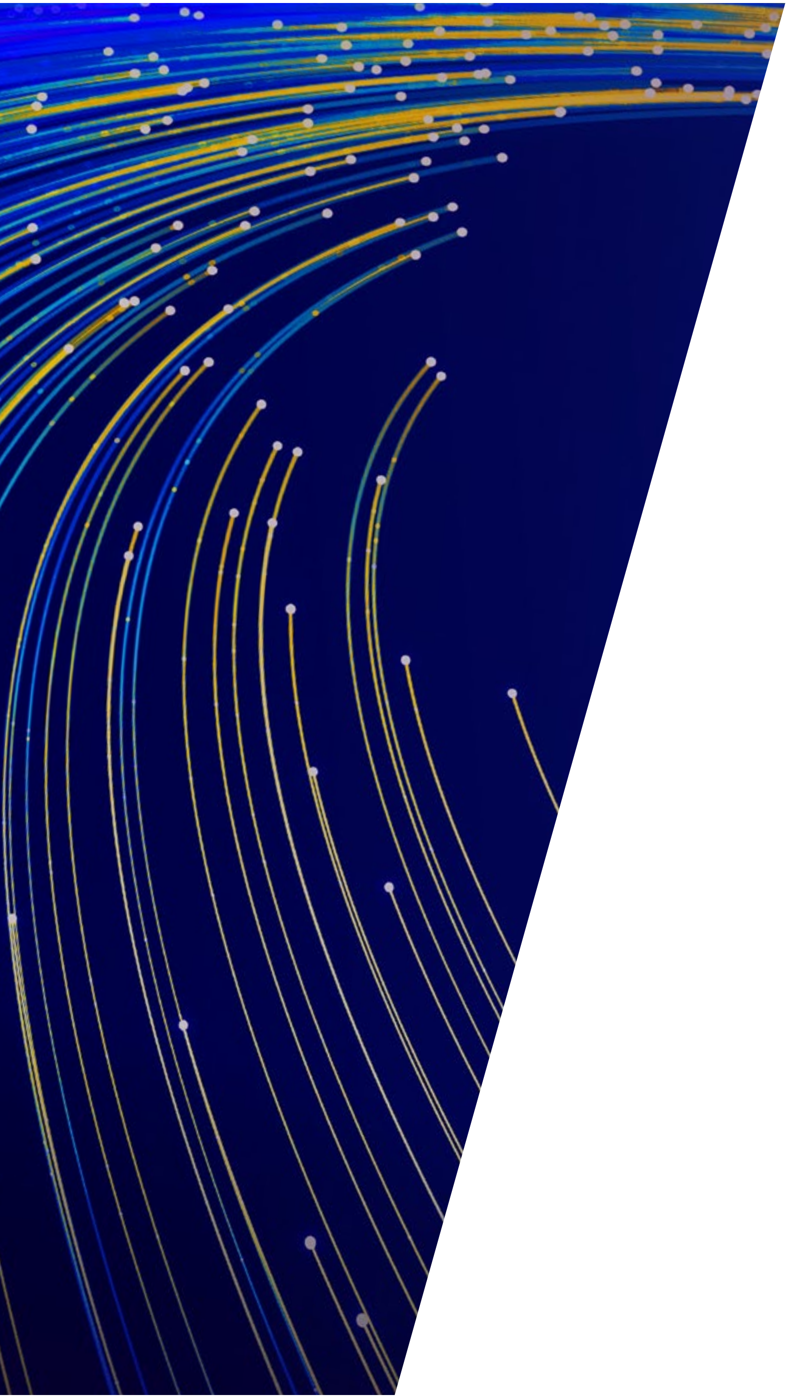
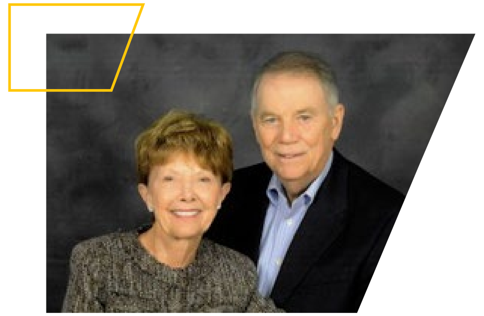
Program Manager, Impact



DONOR PROFILE



For Paula and Rodger Riney, philanthropy is a powerful tool to move promising science forward and create new possibilities for people living with cancer.

Since establishing the Paula and Rodger Riney Foundation in 2017, they have become leading champions of multiple myeloma research, supporting bold ideas with the potential to transform how the disease is understood, treated, and ultimately cured. Their giving reflects both urgency and optimism: a belief that the right investment, made at the right moment, can help researchers overcome barriers, accelerate discovery, and bring better options to patients sooner.

The Paula and Rodger Riney Foundation seeks out innovative researchers, collaborative programs, and emerging approaches that may otherwise struggle to attract early support. As Rodger explains, “Since the establishment of the Foundation, we have sought out the most innovative work in the field.”

That same commitment to catalytic philanthropy led the Paula and Rodger Riney Foundation to join the BrightEdge Founders Circle in 2025. Through their partnership, the Rineys are helping BrightEdge identify and advance high-potential oncology innovations, pairing charitable leadership with an investment model designed to extend impact far beyond a single grant.

> Their example demonstrates what is possible when visionary donors are willing to act early, embrace innovation, and invest boldly in a future where more patients can benefit from lifesaving breakthroughs.

CONCLUSION

Innovating With Purpose: Building a Brighter Tomorrow

BrightEdge amplifies donor dollars through innovation and investment. Guided by a rigorous impact framework, we invest in ventures that close critical gaps across the cancer care continuum by improving outcomes and advancing equitable care – all in pursuit of ensuring everyone has an opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer.

Looking ahead, we are eager to expand our impact with partners who share our urgency, our belief in innovation, and our commitment to ending cancer as we know it, for everyone. We invite you to join us.

- **Support Our Mission and Model:** Donate to advance cancer innovation and expand impactful programs.
- **Stay Connected and Spread the Word:** Connect through our website, social media, and events, and share your own story and connection to the ACS mission.
- **Get Involved:** Explore volunteer or partnership opportunities with the ACS and BrightEdge.

Thank You

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who contributed to BrightEdge’s growth in 2025. We are especially thankful to our staff, volunteers, partners, sponsors, and donors.

BrightEdge Founders Circle Members	Godard and Stacy Abel Dr. Stephen Klasko and Colleen Wyse Lyda Hill Philanthropies Resonance Philanthropies	WoodNext Foundation Paula and Rodger Riney Foundation Anonymous (2)

Join Our Founders Circle

Partner with us by joining the BrightEdge Founders Circle. Membership begins with a $500,000 commitment, payable over as many as five years, and offers opportunities to engage more deeply with BrightEdge’s mission, leaders, and innovation ecosystem. This committed group supports the shared mission of BrightEdge and the American Cancer Society, helping to accelerate cancer breakthroughs and build a brighter future for the patients and families we serve.

Every hour volunteered, dollar given, and partnership established moves us one step closer to ending cancer as we know it, for everyone.

BrightEdge LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of the American Cancer Society. Donations to the American Cancer Society and BrightEdge are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. (See IRS Notice 2012-52.)

To learn more, please contact
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Note: AI was used to support the editing of written elements of this report, though content development was primarily human-led. AI was not used for data collection or analysis.

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