



# JOIN THE FIGHT



## HOW TO GET ENGAGED WITH ACS



[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org) | 1.800.227.2345



# WHO IS THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY?

## A. Purpose of the American Cancer Society

The American Cancer Society is on a mission to move us closer to a world without cancer.

## B. Impact of American Cancer Society On High School Campus

The American Cancer Society (ACS) has a long-standing tradition of mobilizing volunteers to address cancer issues within communities across the United States. Through our partnership between the American Cancer Society and the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), we will work together to increase cancer awareness on campuses across the country, raise money to fund cancer research and patient services, advocate for policy change, and engage cancer survivors and caregivers.

American Cancer Society high school volunteers are changing the lives of people impacted by cancer and giving students valuable volunteer and leadership experiences. As a volunteer, you will gain important experience – learning key skills in teamwork, communication, and planning that will be valuable for any student.

How have your peers helped the American Cancer Society? Below are just a few accomplishments that demonstrate the impact high school students can make on the fight against cancer.

### POINTS OF PRIDE

- **Advocacy** – Students have spoken to hundreds of elected officials to help pass key cancer-related legislation, such as increasing cancer research funding; helped underserved families gain access to cancer screenings; and helped make many school campuses smoke-free.
- **Patient Support** – Students are bringing hope to people impacted by cancer by volunteering to drive them to treatment through ACS' Road To Recovery® program, donating goods to Hope Lodge facilities where cancer patients stay for free while undergoing treatment, and honoring cancer survivors by hosting survivor dinners.
- **Cancer Education/Research** – Across the country, students have shaped service projects to promote healthy lifestyles and helped students cope with their own cancer diagnosis or that of a loved one.
- **Development/Fundraising** – In 2022, collegiate and high school fundraising events raised over \$5 million for the American Cancer Society to fight back against every cancer, in every community, every day.



## CIF Mission Statement

*It's bigger than sports. The CIF provides students with the opportunity to belong, connect and compete in education-based experiences.*

*Every student in California has the unique opportunity to participate and experience being part of a school team or student organization. The CIF and our school communities support students' journeys by developing impactful relationships through transformational educators and coaches who provide a healthy environment for growth and development. It is essential to have families and community supporters who display positive behavior which will allow our students to create their own experiences.*

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CIF is excited to announce our partnership with the American Cancer Society. As our mission states, It's bigger than sports! Please join us as we fight back against cancer!

## Reasons to Participate

- **RESPONSIBILITY**- Athletics is a platform to promote good. This platform provides school communities with the opportunity to raise awareness about the signs and symptoms of cancer, advocate for cancer research funding and promote smoke-free campuses.
- **CARING** - Provide hope to people impacted by cancer in their school communities and help classmates cope with their cancer diagnosis or that of a loved one.
- **GOOD CITIZENSHIP** - Assist in fundraising campaigns to promote cancer research, reduce costs for cancer screenings and provide support for patients and families while they fight to beat cancer.



# How to Get Started

Follow these easy steps on how to get involved with the ACS/CIF Youth Sports Partnership

1

Pick a date during your sport season for your team to participate.

Fall Week Dates: September 29-October 7, 2023

Winter Week Dates: January 12-20, 2024

Spring Week Dates: April 5-13, 2024

2

Register your team at <http://acsengage.org/cif>  
Detailed registration instructions are included in this toolkit.

3

Host your event, fundraise, and raise awareness for the American Cancer Society.

Whether you are a school club, organization or sports team, getting involved in the American Cancer Society is a rewarding experience for you by adding your voice in the fight against cancer through education, fundraising and community service. By joining, you are helping the American Cancer Society save lives from cancer. We have opportunities for everyone and we look forward to seeing you join our life saving mission. Check out the options below and view more at [cancer.org/fundraisingideas](https://cancer.org/fundraisingideas).





# Youth Sport Programs

We are excited about this partnership between CIF and the ACS. Below you will find a list of national programs.

**Please Note: Every sport can participate in this program, not just those listed. Sign up today!**



**Basketball** - For nearly 30 years, the **Coaches vs. Cancer** program has united coaches and fans nationwide by having CVC games during a home basketball game..



**Football** - By hosting a **Youth Crucial Catch** during a home football game, you are helping to raise funds while helping people catch cancer early; when it may be easier to treat, and addresses the unequal burden of cancer.



**Baseball/Softball** - The ACS & MiLB teamed up to promote awareness and raise funds for cancer research. **Hope At Bat** is an opportunity to pick a home game to educate fans about the importance of a healthy lifestyle by eating right, staying active, sun safety and avoiding tobacco products.



**Hockey** - Youth hockey teams can join in the fight through hosting a **Hockey Fights Cancer Assist** game.



**Volleyball** - Bring the fun of volleyball while supporting ACS by hosting a **Spike Out Cancer** Game. Games can be held anytime of the year.



**Soccer** - By hosting a **Red Card Cancer** game, your soccer team can join in the fight against cancer by helping to put an end to this disease.



**Officials** - **Officials vs. Cancer** is an opportunity for our sports officials to join! Each sports official that makes a donation receives a choice of a colored whistle to us during the game of their choice. Funds raises support our general research and patient support programs.

Visit - [officials.cancer.org](http://officials.cancer.org).



**PARTNER**

**Club Opportunities** - No matter your student organization, there is an opportunity for you and the possibilities are endless. Sign up on our NFHS Website to kick off your fundraising



# HOW TO ACTIVATE AT YOUR SCHOOL

## Additional Fundraising Ideas:

- **Pass the Bucket**- Host a pass the bucket challenge during halftime at a sports game, so the crowd can help by making donations during that time.
- **Car Wash**-Host a car wash on an evening or weekend so that the team/club can participate. Make sure to make the "Honk If you Love ACS" signs!
- **Sponsorships** - Ask local businesses to sponsor your event by making a donation directly to the ACS or by matching any funds raised by your team.
- **Wall of Hope** - Create a Wall of Hope by utilizing ACS donation cards and displaying them in the gym or other common areas. Contact your ACS Staff contact for the Wall of Hope cards.
- **Host a School Dance** - School Dances are always fun and even more when the student body knows it is going to a good cause. Host a dance where the admission goes towards the ACS.
- **Pledge Donations** - Have athletes, students and other participants collect donations from family and friends in support of the ACS. Another idea is a "pledge-a-thon" for the number of touchdowns, sacks, field goals, or other important plays during the game.
- **"Color-Out" Day** - Encourage students to wear apparel in a specific color representing a particular cancer (gold for childhood cancer, pink for breast cancer, purple for all cancers). Partner with a local vendor or hospital to provide T-Shirts, wristbands, or shakers for a suggested donation.
- **Fundraise To Get Out Of Class** - Coordinate a fun day or something special during the school hours. Require students to fundraise a certain amount to get out of class and participate.

Have donations to mail in? Please make sure you email [brian.casalinoval@cancer.org](mailto:brian.casalinoval@cancer.org) to get the CIF form to be included!