

# LUSTGARTEN FOUNDATION<sup>®</sup>

PANCREATIC CANCER RESEARCH

## **Lustgarten Foundation kicks off first in-person event with New York City Pancreatic Cancer Research Walk sponsored by Northwell Health**

**Woodbury, N.Y.,— June 28, 2021**—Hundreds of walkers touched by pancreatic cancer united at Hudson River Park’s Pier 84 in New York City on Sunday, June 27 for a day of hope, awareness and funding for pancreatic cancer research. The New York City Pancreatic Cancer Research Walk, sponsored by Northwell Health, marked the Lustgarten Foundation’s first in-person event in more than a year since the COVID-19 pandemic halted gatherings and forced supporters to participate virtually. The event also incorporated neighboring walks in Brooklyn and Westchester.

“We’ve waited a long time to safely hold an in-person event for our supporters,” said Linda Tantawi, CEO of the Lustgarten Foundation. “Yesterday’s walk was truly inspiring for the participants who have been eager to come back out and continue raising awareness and funding for a cause we all care deeply about, and also for us as a community to share the day with Northwell Health and thank them for their significant contributions to all New Yorkers during the pandemic.”

As the walk kicked off, the Lustgarten Foundation presented the first Physician of Impact Award to [Elliot Newman, MD](#), chief of surgical oncology at Northwell Health’s Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan. Dr. Newman is focused on state-of-the-art multidisciplinary cancer care for gastrointestinal cancer, including pancreatic cancer.

“Over the past year, we faced unprecedented challenges to provide uninterrupted, high-quality cancer care to our patients in the New York region, a testament to our dedicated clinical teams,” said [Richard Barakat, MD](#), physician-in-chief and director of the Northwell Health Cancer Institute. “At the same time, Northwell remained steadfast in its commitment to moving forward with robust pancreatic research efforts with its key collaborators—the Lustgarten Foundation and Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory—which allows physicians to bring cutting-edge therapies from clinical trials to pancreatic cancer patients and make breakthroughs that change the way the disease is treated.”

This year’s New York City Walk featured special guests, including Dave Price, WNBC weather forecaster, who sadly lost his brother, Steve, recently to pancreatic cancer.

Participants had the option to walk individually or in small groups in their neighborhoods while still supporting the shared goal of fundraising to transform pancreatic cancer into a curable disease and help patients live longer, healthier lives. Since its inception 11 years ago, the New York City Pancreatic Cancer Research Walk has raised more than \$3.5 million to fund bold and innovative science toward earlier detection and better treatments.

The Lustgarten Foundation and Northwell Health are dedicated to funding new clinical trials to offer patients better treatment options and outcomes and giving a voice to the pancreatic cancer community.

For those who would still like to donate to support the New York City Walk, the [registration page](#) will remain open throughout 2021.

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### **About Lustgarten Foundation**

The Lustgarten Foundation funds the world's preeminent pancreatic cancer researchers, driving the pursuit of bold and innovative science toward earlier detection, better treatments and transforming pancreatic cancer into a curable disease. Our mission is rooted in the belief that research is fundamental, in fact, it is the only way to produce real results. The Lustgarten Foundation is a catalyst in the field of pancreatic cancer research. Lustgarten-funded science has been a driving force in every major advancement in pancreatic cancer research since 1998. We believe time is everything for pancreatic cancer patients and their families. The Foundation funds research where creative risks yield high rewards to accelerate and expand life-saving treatment options. And we believe in the power of community. Lustgarten programs and events provide people affected by pancreatic cancer a voice and a place to create hope, together. The Lustgarten Foundation is the largest private funder of pancreatic cancer research and 100% of all donations fuel the research to advance understanding of this complex, devastating and historically underfunded cancer. For more information, visit [www.lustgarten.org](http://www.lustgarten.org).

### **About Northwell Health**

Northwell Health is New York State's largest health care provider and private employer, with 23 hospitals, 830 outpatient facilities and more than 16,600 affiliated physicians. We care for over two million people annually in the New York metro area and beyond, thanks to philanthropic support from our communities. Our 76,000 employees – 18,900 nurses and 4,800 employed doctors, including members of Northwell Health Physician Partners – are working to change health care for the better. We're making breakthroughs in medicine at the Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research. We're training the next generation of medical professionals at the visionary Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell and the Hofstra Northwell School of Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies. For information on our more than 100 medical specialties, visit [Northwell.edu](http://Northwell.edu) and follow us @NorthwellHealth on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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