



# SAA - LONG ISLAND SOUND IMPACT REPORT

SWIM ACROSS AMERICA  
2023 GRANT  
**\$1.4  
MILLION**

MAKING WAVES  
TO FIGHT CANCER  
SINCE  
**1992**

SAA-LONG ISLAND  
SOUND HAS RAISED  
**\$25 MILLION**

## GRANT RECIPIENTS FUNDED BY SAA-LONG ISLAND SOUND



Memorial Sloan Kettering  
Cancer Center

### DR. LUIS DIAZ AND DR. ANDREA CERCEK

**Background:** The Swim Across America lab at MSK has been a trailblazer in developing immunotherapy treatments since the 1990s. A current rectal cancer clinical trial by Dr. Luis Diaz and Dr. Andrea Cercek saw the first 100% remission rate in the history of cancer. SAA also funds additional grants annually at MSK.



### PEDIATRIC CANCER

SAA also supports funding for Dr. Tara O'Donoghue and Dr. Andrew Kung in Pediatrics.

**Weill Cornell Medicine**  
Sandra and Edward  
Meyer Cancer Center

### DR. JEDD WOLCHOK AND DR. TAHA MERGHOUB

**Background:** The Swim Across Research Laboratory at the Meyer Cancer Center at Weill Cornell Medicine, led by Dr. Taha Merghoub, conducts immunotherapy research and clinical trials. As Center Director, Dr. Wolchok leads an expansive, multidisciplinary research and clinical enterprise dedicated to translating discoveries on the underlying causes of cancer into cutting-edge treatment and therapies for patient outcomes.



**ColumbiaDoctors | Children's Health**

### DR. ROBYN GARTRELL

**Background:** Dr. Robyn Gartrell joined the faculty in the Department of Pediatrics as an assistant professor of pediatrics in the Division of Hematology/Oncology in 2019 and began studying the immune system in childhood tumors. The Gartrell Lab specializes in the evaluation of immune response to tumors through computational approaches as well as tissue-based spatial relationships.



**New in 2023:** Dr. Fred Wu and Dr. Jovana Pavisic are receiving SAA funding to research pediatric brain cancer.

**CancerSupportTeam**  
Care. Support. Compassion. Always free of charge.

### CANCER SUPPORT TEAM

**Background:** The Cancer Support Team is a local home health care agency located in Mamaroneck, NY. They provide many services to cancer patients and their families. CST is the only Westchester-based home-care program that provides all services free of charge regardless of patients' insurance coverage.



**1,000  
SWIMMERS  
ANNUALLY**



**500  
VOLUNTEERS**



**78  
ANNUAL  
TEAMS**