

Your Long Island Sound
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Jean Fufidio

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Swim Across America 2024

“AIM HIGH, BE BOLD, MAKE WAVES”

Dear Friend,

Every 15 minutes, 50 Americans are diagnosed with cancer. What’s even more astonishing, only 4% of US cancer research funding is directed to Pediatric Cancer Research. This is a sobering reality.

The good news is ... every year millions of Americans are beating cancer through advancements in treatments. Recently funded by Swim Across America Long Island Sound (SAA-LIS) grants, the FDA approved immunotherapy treatments of Keytruda, Opdivo and Yervoy. Additionally, groundbreaking rectal clinical trials, with 100% response rate, was achieved.

Other good news – SAA-LIS allocates ~30% of funding raised to local Pediatric Cancer Research, significantly greater than the US average.

With the help of hundreds of volunteers, past and current Olympians, SAA-LIS, now in our 32nd year, has contributed over \$25 million towards cancer research, prevention and patient care. We do this through our signature open water and several pool swims, which, in 2024, will focus on Kids Swimming for Kids.

SAA-LIS provides cancer care and survivorship benefits in our community through grants for **The Cancer Support Team** – the only Westchester-based home care program offering free services to patients and their families; research and clinical trial grants for **New York Presbyterian Children’s Hospital Pediatric Oncology Lab, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Department of Pediatrics Research Laboratories** of Dr. Diaz and Dr. Kung Kids and **Weil Cornell Medicine Research Laboratory** of Dr. Wolchok and Dr. Merghoub.

Please join us in our commitment to **AIM HIGH** towards this year’s \$2 million goal, **BE BOLD**, to allocate even more grants towards Pediatric Cancer Research and **MAKE WAVES** so our true heroes, the team of doctors and researchers, can continue to make great strides in breakthrough research.

Our SAA-LIS open-water swim is being held Saturday, July 27th. Please use the attached sponsorship forms or visit our website to swim, donate or volunteer.

Sincerely,

Jean Fufidio

Jean Fufidio

Event Director/Chair – SAA-LIS

www.swimacrossamerica.org/long_island

Founded in 1987, Swim Across America, Inc. (501c (3) non-profit organization) hosts swims in 22 states, raising over \$100 million for cancer research and treatment programs at our country’s finest hospitals and cancer care centers.

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