

How Far We've Come

Advances in the Treatment of Patients with Blood Cancer Since 1987

Research Funding

1987: \$6.4 million in research funding, cumulative total: \$50 million.

2008: \$71.1 million in research funding in fiscal year 2008, cumulative total: \$621 million.

Therapeutic Advances

Chronic Myelogenous Leukemia:

1987: Five-year survival was less than 55%.

2008: With the use of the targeted drug Gleevec®, five-year survival is 95%, with high quality of life.

Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma:

1987: Five-year survival was 52%.

2008: Targeted drugs such as Rituxan® have increased five-year survival to 65%, with dramatic improvements in patients' quality of life.

Myeloma:

1987: Five-year survival was 12%.

2008: Five-year survival has nearly tripled with the use of targeted drugs such as Revlimid® and Velcade®, with major increases in patients' quality of life.

Patient Services

Family Support:

1987: Groups available in 14 chapters, with 1,500 patients and family members served.

2008: Groups available in 68 chapters, with 12,000 patients and family members served.

Information Resource Center (IRC):

1987: Free, national call center for patients/caregivers not available.

2008: The IRC responded to 78,524 inquiries.

Financial Aid:

1987: Financial assistance was provided to 5,500 patients.

2008: Financial assistance was provided to 18,810 patients.

Advocacy

1987: LLS had no voice in Washington, DC.

2008: More than 40,000 LLS advocates are working to increase federal research programs.

Campaigns

1988: Bruce Cleland ran the New York City Marathon with a small group of friends, raising \$320,000.

2008: Team In Training has trained more than 389,000 participants who have raised more than \$950 million.

