Making the commitment to participate in the Empire State Ride means you’re saving lives and supporting cutting-edge research at Roswell Park — America’s first cancer center and one of just 51 National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer centers in the country.

Advancing Immunotherapy Studies
Harnessing the power of the immune system to fight cancer

Until a decade ago, cancer treatment options were limited to radiation, chemotherapy and surgery. Immunotherapy brings a new concept with great promise in early phase clinical trials. It builds on a patient’s immune system and creates a personalized attack against their tumor. Funds raised will allow Roswell Park’s Center for Immunotherapy to take advantage of emerging opportunities and advance ongoing research.

Roswell Park has more than 50 scientists and 8 research laboratories dedicated to immunology and immunotherapy research in need of funding to find potentially lifesaving treatments for patients like Desmond (right).

Personalized Medicine
Tailoring treatments for individual patients through genetics and immunology

Breakthroughs in genomics research are changing the way cancer is treated by physicians across the country. Roswell Park’s Personalized Medicine Initiative, one of the first to be launched in the U.S., is a move forward from the one-size-fits-all approach toward health care delivery and designed-to-tailor treatments unique to each person’s cancer.

Funds raised will help provide patients with more opportunities for unique and personalized care through enhanced laboratory testing of their cancer.

Clinical Trials
Evaluating new medical treatments before they can be made widely available to patients

Roswell Park opened one of the first Clinical Research Centers in the nation to focus specifically on the development of new cancer treatments and lead clinical trials that impact patients around the world.

There are currently six promising clinical trials waiting for funding before they can advance to their next stages, including the Cuban CIMAvax vaccine for lung cancer; a CAR T cell basket trial that could impact over 10 cancer disease sites; and the SurVaxM brain tumor vaccine. Launching clinical trials and bringing these new therapies to patients requires significant funding, making every dollar raised critical to giving patients access to tomorrow’s treatments today.

Right now, there are patients across the country who could benefit from SurVaxM. Read more about one of those patients, Eric, on the back.
Eric got the devastating news that he had an aggressive brain cancer called glioblastoma just after he and his wife, Jane, moved from Brooklyn to Westchester County, New York, to start a new life with their twins, Jake and Sandy. It all started with neck pain, which led to a doctor visit. Just two days before the boys’ 2nd birthday party, Eric was in emergency surgery to remove his cancerous tumor.

Roswell Park developed a new immunotherapy vaccine called SurVaxM that’s exhibited great potential in keeping glioblastoma patients like Eric healthier longer. It’s the first major advance in brain cancer treatment in decades. Support like the funds raised through Empire State Ride will help continue the SurVaxM clinical trial to the next phase — an expanded, randomized, multisite trial headquartered at Roswell Park — and offer patients and families across the U.S. — just like Eric and his family — hope and a second chance at life.

With your help, we can potentially start saving more lives tomorrow.

Eric is just one of 20,000 adults who will be diagnosed with brain cancer this year. Fewer than 5,000 are expected to survive.

But your support can change that.