

# FOOD IS MEDICINE IN ONCOLOGY CARE SYMPOSIUM

## PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2024

### MORNING SESSION



#### Welcome and Introductory Remarks

**Dr. Fang Fang Zhang**, *Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University*



#### Keynote Address 1

**Dr. Chris Economos**, *Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University*

#### Panel 1: Personal Journeys: Patient Perspectives on Nutrition During Cancer Treatment

This panel session will feature patients and caregivers who participated in oncology-focused Food is Medicine interventions. They will share personal experiences on how cancer affected their eating habits and nutrition, discuss the impact of the intervention on their health and well-being, and explore the role of caregivers in supporting patients through this process. Additionally, the session will focus on the patients' goals for improving diet quality during survivorship and how these interventions shaped their approach to nutrition moving forward.

#### Panel 2: Approaches to Studying the Impact of Nutrition on Cancer Outcomes

This panel session will feature researchers involved in Food is Medicine interventions. The discussion will explore the impact of nutrition on outcomes such as oncology treatment tolerance, quality of life, and long-term survivorship, with an emphasis on reducing disparities and improving equity in cancer care. Panelists will highlight gaps in the current research and provide insights on how future studies should evolve to better integrate food is medicine interventions, enhance patient well-being, and promote more equitable cancer outcomes. This panel will representatives from National Cancer Institute, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, American Cancer Society, and MD Anderson Cancer Center.

### AFTERNOON SESSION



#### Keynote Address 2

**Dr. Andrew A. Bremer**, *NIH Office of Nutrition Research*

#### Panel 3: Supplying Nutritional Support: The Role of Food is Medicine Providers in Oncology Care

This panel session will focus on Food is Medicine providers, including those offering medically tailored meals, and their critical role in cancer care. The discussion will include perspectives from dietitians on how they can contribute to the care team and enhance the effectiveness of Food is Medicine interventions. Panelists will explore the various interventions available, their feasibility in clinical settings, and the potential for improving patient outcomes through personalized nutrition support. This panel will feature representatives from the Food is Medicine Coalition, MANNA, Boston Children's Hospital, Florida Cancer Specialist and Research Institute, and Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation at Harvard Law School.

#### Panel 4: Public Policy and Nutrition: Government Initiatives in Oncology Care

This panel session will explore current programs and policies shaping the role of nutrition in cancer care. Speakers will discuss where funding is being directed and highlight initiatives aimed at improving the experience of cancer patients and survivors, along with their families. Additionally, panelists will address public health disparities and efforts to promote equitable access to nutrition-focused cancer care. This panel will feature representatives from NIH Office of Nutrition Research (ONR), Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and The White House.



#### Closing Remarks

**Dr. Colleen Spees**, *The Ohio State University College of Medicine*

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