

UAMS News Bureau

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**UAMS' Be A Part of the Cure Walk Celebrates Record Year,
with 2,000+ Walkers Raising \$500,000 for Cancer Research**

LITTLE ROCK — The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute raised more than \$500,000 for cancer research during this year's Be A Part of the Cure Walk, a record high since the walk began in 2021.

Hosted by the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute at War Memorial Stadium on Saturday, May 2, the annual event honors families, survivors, and all who have been impacted by cancer.

“Every dime raised will stay right here at UAMS and be dedicated to cancer research,” said Cancer Institute Director Michael Birrer, M.D., Ph.D. “We try to do research that’s relevant to the citizens of Arkansas, which includes a focus on breast cancer, colorectal cancer, lung cancer, and prostate cancer.”

“The purpose of the walk has always been three-prong — celebrating our survivors, paying tribute to families of those affected by cancer, and recognizing the outstanding staff at the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute,” he added.

More than 2,000 people registered for the Be A Part of the Cure Walk — also a record-high number.

Travel journalist Lesley Murphy, a Fort Smith native and an alumna from “The Bachelor,” emceed the event for the second consecutive year.

This year’s special honoree was James Y. Suen, M.D., a distinguished professor of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery who co-founded the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute.

The next Be A Part of the Cure walk is scheduled for May 1, 2027.

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UAMS is the state's only health sciences university, with colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, Health Professions and Public Health; a graduate school; a hospital; a main campus in Little Rock; a Northwest Arkansas regional campus in Fayetteville; a statewide network of regional campuses; and eight institutes: the Winthrop P. Rockefeller Cancer Institute, Jackson T. Stephens Spine & Neurosciences Institute, Harvey & Bernice Jones Eye Institute, Psychiatric Research Institute, Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, Translational Research Institute, Institute for Digital Health & Innovation and the Institute for Community Health Innovation. UAMS includes UAMS Health, a statewide health system that encompasses all of UAMS' clinical enterprise. UAMS is the only adult Level 1 trauma center in the state. UAMS has 3,553 students and 1,015 medical residents and fellows. It is the state's largest public employer with about 12,000 employees, including 1,200 physicians who provide care to patients at UAMS, its regional campuses, Arkansas Children's, the VA Medical Center and Baptist Health. Visit www.uams.edu or www.uamshealth.com. Find us on [Facebook](#), [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#), [YouTube](#) or [Instagram](#).

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