AACR Awards Senator Sherrod Brown With the 2012 Distinguished Public Service Award

AACR

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) has awarded Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio) with its 2012 Distinguished Public Service Award for his outstanding leadership and support for cancer research, biomedical science and other national policy issues of importance to the cancer community. Members of the AACR leadership and scientists from Ohio presented the award to Brown at a special reception on Capitol Hill held on Sept. 12.

“Virtually all of us know someone who has been affected by cancer. We know a survivor or remember a loved one. We know that cancer affects not just the patient, but also family and friends,” Brown said. “This year, more than 1.6 million Americans are expected to be diagnosed with cancer, and while 12 million cancer survivors are alive because of advances in the way we prevent, detect, diagnose and treat cancer, we also know that challenges remain. I’m honored to receive this award from the AACR and look forward to working with this important organization to secure funding for advancements in cancer research and ensure that cancer is a thing of the past.”

The AACR Science Policy and Legislative Affairs Committee, with the enthusiastic concurrence of the Board of Directors, chose Brown for the award. This distinguished panel of scientists serves as the AACR’s principal means for devising and implementing strategies that influence important biomedical research-related public policy issues.

“We are deeply grateful to Senator Brown for his contributions as a champion of public health and biomedical and cancer research,” said Margaret Foti, Ph.D., M.D. (h.c.), chief executive officer of the AACR. “His demonstrated support for the National Institutes of Health and the National Cancer Institute will enable the future scientific advances needed to seize today’s scientific momentum, capitalize on prior investments in cancer research, save countless lives and spur innovation and economic prosperity for our country and all our citizens.”

During the award presentation, Foti cited Brown’s active engagement on key issues of importance to the cancer community, such as the recent drug shortages and ensuring insurance coverage of clinical trials for patients whose only hope may be an experimental therapy. Foti also commended his tireless work on behalf of the cancer community in advocating for the improvement of public health and the advancement of cancer research.

The AACR also applauded Brown’s leadership in 2011 on a Senate resolution that recognized the 40th anniversary of the National Cancer Act.

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