

# Speakers & Panelists



## ELLEN SHOHEI, MN, RN

Clinical Nurse Specialist and Pediatric Nurse

Ellen Shohet is a practitioner interested in long-term survivorship outcomes of pediatric cancer patients. Since 1989, she has worked in many inpatient and educational roles, including inpatient staff, patient coordinator, nurse navigator, and pediatric nurse practitioner. She has taught on the pediatrics faculty of several schools of nursing, most recently the Cizik School of Nursing at the University of Texas Health Science Center-Houston and University of St. Thomas in Houston. She currently manages the Passport for Care Survivor portal, where she assists and educates over 150 PFC user clinics worldwide to optimally integrate the Passport into their Survivor clinics. She interfaces with over 45,000 Passport for Care Survivor users daily, and continues to grow the program worldwide.



## LORI WIENER, PhD, DCSW

National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health

Dr. Lori Wiener is Co-Director of the Behavioral Science Core and Head of the Psychosocial Support and Research Program at the pediatric oncology branch of the National Cancer Institute. As both a clinician and behavioral scientist, Dr. Wiener has dedicated her career to the fields of oncology and pediatric HIV/AIDS. At NCI Pediatric Oncology Branch, she developed a robust clinical and research program that has focused on critical clinical issues such as parental coping, lone parenting, transnational parenting, emotional consequences of medically required isolation, distress screening, sibling and sibling donor experiences, graph versus host disease, and end-of-life planning.

Dr. Wiener has also dedicated a substantial part of her career to applying knowledge from her clinical experience and psychosocial studies to create innovative resources such as books, workbooks, therapeutic games and an advance care planning guide for children, adolescents and young adults. Each of these resources are distributed worldwide and widely utilized in pediatric centers. Dr. Wiener has published extensively with over 230 peer review papers and book chapters, co-edited the *Pediatric Psycho-Oncology: A Quick Reference on the Psychosocial Dimensions of Cancer Symptom Management* and *Pediatric Psychosocial Oncology: Textbook for Multi-disciplinary Care*. She has been part of the leadership team that has developed the first evidence-based psychosocial standards of care for children with cancer and their family members.

Following an extensive review of books to identify resources to help children cope with progressive illness and impending death, Dr. Wiener and her colleague Dr. Meaghann Weaver recently published a storybook, *The Gift of Gerbert's Feather*. Through the perspective of a brave, dying gosling and his close community, this book was written to help children through the psychological and behavioral process of preparing for a natural end of life.



## CESARE SPADONI, PHD, MBA

Co-Founder & CEO, Oncoheroes Biosciences, Inc.

Cesare is Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer of Oncoheroes Biosciences Inc., a Boston-based biotech company focused on pediatric oncology drug development. Cesare has more than 20 years of experience in the drug development field, in both scientific and commercial roles. Previously, he held senior positions at AMRI, Aptuit Laurus, ThalesNano and Auxiliis. Cesare started his career as a research scientist in a pharmaceutical company (Eisai, London) and in academia (Institute of Enzymology, Budapest).

Following the death of his first daughter Laura to cancer, Cesare set up aPODD Foundation, a London-based charity focused on accelerating pediatric oncology drug development. As aPODD's Chairman he is actively involved on a pro-bono basis in drug repurposing projects, advocacy efforts and research collaborations.

Cesare holds an MSc in Applied Molecular Biology and a PhD in Neurosciences from UCL, University of London, as well as an MBA from the Central European University, Budapest.



## SAMUEL C. BLACKMAN, MD, PhD

Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer, Day One Biopharmaceuticals

Samuel C. Blackman, MD, PhD, is a pediatric hematologist-oncologist and neuro-oncologist and is Co-Founder and Chief Medical Officer of Day One Biopharmaceuticals. Prior to co-founding Day One, Dr. Blackman was Head of Clinical Development at Mavupharma. Prior to Mavupharma, he was Head of Clinical Development at Silverback Therapeutics, a biotechnology company developing tissue-targeted therapeutics. Dr. Blackman has held roles of increasing responsibility at Juno Therapeutics, Seattle Genetics, Merck, and GlaxoSmithKline. In addition, he is on the Board of Directors of CureSearch as well as Presage Biosciences. Dr. Blackman is a graduate of the pediatric hematology/oncology fellowship program at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Children's Hospital Boston, and the pediatric residency program at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. Dr. Blackman received his BA in Philosophy, his MD and PhD in Pharmacology from the University of Illinois at Chicago.



## ANNA MURZHENKO, PharmD

Medical Affairs Lead, Y-mAbs Therapeutics, Inc.

Anna's passion for science, research and innovation led her to Y-mAbs Therapeutics, Inc. She has spent 22 years in oncology and over 16 years in the biotech / pharma industry, where she has launched several oncology products while bringing innovative treatments to families in need. Prior to her pharmaceutical career, Anna spent a number of years working in pediatrics at Mt. Sinai Medical Center and at the Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northern Montefiore Medical Center in New York City. Today, she dedicates her time to pediatric oncology, leading a team of highly dedicated, bright and energetic Medical Affairs professionals. She is passionate about making a difference in the life of patients and their families. Anna believes that one day we will end the fight and free the world from cancer.

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## GAVIN LINDBERG

President and Co-Founder, The EVAN Foundation

The Evan's Victory Against Neuroblastoma Foundation was established in 2011 in memory of Evan Lindberg, the only child of Gavin and his wife, Wendy. Evan passed away in 2010 at the age of 7 after courageously battling stage IV neuroblastoma for 4 years. Headquartered in Maryland, The EVAN Foundation is a non-profit organization that funds basic, translational and clinical research on neuroblastoma. To date, the organization has awarded more than \$700,000 in research funding. This includes the Evan Lindberg Neuroblastoma Research Scholars Program at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, which supports talented early-career scientists in the hospital's acclaimed neuroblastoma research laboratory.

The Foundation also sponsors the "Treats & Treasures Carts" program at Children's National Hospital in Washington, DC. Every Wednesday, Gavin and Wendy visit each room on the inpatient oncology floor with two oversized carts full of toys, games, books, stuffed animals, candy, chocolate and other fun items. Patients and family members all choose what they want at no charge. Since 2012, the Lindbergs have made over 12,000 visits to young cancer patients enduring long-and-difficult stays in the hospital. In recent years, the Foundation has expanded the Treats & Treasures Cart Program to serve childhood cancer patients at eight additional hospitals.

Prior to establishing The EVAN Foundation, Gavin was the founding president of the Band of Parents, a New York based neuroblastoma research organization. He currently serves as a Parent Advocate for the New Approaches to Neuroblastoma Therapy (NANT) Consortium, the National Cancer Institute's Pediatric Immunotherapy Discovery & Development Network, and the St. Baldrick's Foundation / Stand Up To Cancer Pediatric Dream Team.



## JIM MORRIS

Executive Director, Center for Public Integrity

A journalist since 1978, Jim Morris has won more than 80 awards for his work, including the George Polk award, the Sidney Hillman award, three National Association of Science Writers awards, two Edward R. Murrow awards and five Texas Headliners awards. He directed a global investigation of the asbestos industry that won the John B. Oakes award for environmental reporting from Columbia University in 2011 and an IRE Medal from

Investigative Reporters and Editors. He also led projects on worker hazards at oil refineries and lingering air toxics problems in U.S. communities that won honors from the National Press Foundation, Harvard University and Hunter College, among other organizations. In April 2013, Morris and two colleagues received the Edgar A. Poe award for national reporting from the White House Correspondents' Association for "Hard Labor," a series on health and safety threats to American workers. Morris conceived, and was a lead writer on, the 2014 series "Big Oil, Bad Air," a collaboration with *InsideClimate News* and The Weather Channel that garnered 10 national awards for its revelations about toxic air emissions from hydraulic fracturing. He helped edit the Center's first Pulitzer Prize-winning project, "Breathless and Burdened," a 2013 investigation into the deeply flawed federal black-lung benefits system for coal miners. Morris has worked for newspapers in Texas and California as well as publications such as *U.S. News & World Report* and *Congressional Quarterly* in Washington.

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