MILKEN INSTITUTE

RICHARD NIXON FOUNDATION

CANCER 2035:
A ROADMAP FOR THE FUTURE

FEBRUARY 23–24, 2026

AGENDA

DAY 1 | FEBRUARY 23, 2026

5:00–6:00 PM | Tours of the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream

Guests are invited to participate in curated tours of the Milken Center for Advancing the American Dream (MCAAD), with small groups departing at staggered intervals to ensure an intimate and immersive experience.

5:30–6:30 PM | Cocktail Reception

Set against the backdrop of MCAAD's exhibits, the reception will provide an opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and meet fellow leaders across sectors.

6:30–9:00 PM | Dinner and Program: Lessons from the Past, Catalysts for the Future

The evening program will reflect on the past, present, and future of cancer care, including how scientific breakthroughs and sustained investment have reshaped cancer diagnosis and treatment—and what it will take to accelerate progress in the decades ahead.

DAY 2 | FEBRUARY 24, 2026

7:00–7:45AM | Breakfast

7:45–8:00AM | Welcome

SPEAKERS:

Esther Krofah, Executive Vice President, Health, Milken Institute

Christopher Nixon Cox, Board Member, Richard Nixon Foundation

8:00–8:15AM | A Conversation with Mehmet Oz, Administrator, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

MODERATOR:

Michael Milken, Chairman, Milken Institute

8:15–8:40 AM | Reflections on the Next Decade of Progress with Anthony Letai, Director of the National Cancer Institute

MODERATOR:

Michael Milken, Chairman, Milken Institute

8:40–9:00 AM | A Conversation with The Honorable Diana DeGette, US Representative, Colorado

MODERATOR:

Andrew von Eschenbach, Former FDA Commissioner and 12th Director, National Cancer Institute

9:00–9:40 AM | Session 1: The Next Decade of Defeating Cancer: Visions for What's Possible

This session will focus on what it will take to translate today's expanding scientific possibilities into meaningful reductions in cancer mortality by 2035. Panelists will explore which parts of the cancer enterprise are already working, where structural redesign is needed, and how leadership decisions made now can accelerate the path from breakthrough science to patients.

MODERATOR:

Greg Simon, Board Member, FasterCures, Milken Institute

PANELISTS:

Cliff Hudis, CEO, American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)

Karen Knudsen, CEO, Parker Institute for Cancer Immunotherapy

Mark McClellan, Director, Duke-Margolis Institute for Health Policy

---

9:40–10:00 AM | Talk by Noubar Afeyan, Flagship Pioneering

SPEAKER:

Noubar Afeyan, Founder & CEO, Flagship Pioneering

10:00–10:15AM | A Conversation with The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito, US Senator, West Virginia; Chair, US Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Department of Labor, HHS, and Education, and Related Agencies

MODERATOR:

Esther Krofah, Executive Vice President, Health, Milken Institute

---

10:15–10:30AM | Talk: The Only Effective Approach to Cancer is Prevention

SPEAKER:

Lee Hood, CEO, Phenome Health

10:30–10:45AM | Break

10:45–11:20AM | Session 2: Prevention, Early Detection, and Interception

While much of cancer innovation has focused on late-stage treatment, the greatest opportunity to reduce mortality over the next decade may lie upstream. The next major gains in cancer may come from intervening earlier and more strategically across the full cancer continuum, from preventing disease onset, to detecting and intercepting cancer earlier, to reducing recurrence and progression. This session explores the convergence of biological, technological, and systemic strategies to operationalize prevention.

MODERATOR:

Gina Carithers, CEO & President, Prostate Cancer Foundation

PANELISTS:

Charles Balch, President, International Society of Oncology Prevention and Treatments

William Nelson, Director, Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center

William Li, President & CEO, The Angiogenesis Foundation

11:20–11:35AM | Talk: RAS, the Royal Family of Oncogenes

SPEAKER:

Mark Goldsmith, Chairman & CEO, Revolution Medicines

11:35–12:15PM | Session 3: Designing the Clinical Trial Infrastructure of the Future

Breakthrough advances in cancer will only reach patients if clinical trials are faster to launch, smarter in design, and more inclusive in execution. This session will focus on the modernization of the clinical trial enterprise. Panelists will examine how to reduce time to activation, embed real-world data, streamline regulatory processes, and ensure trials reflect the populations they aim to serve.

MODERATOR:

Esther Krofah, Executive Vice President, Health, Milken Institute

PANELISTS:

Marjorie Green, SVP, Head of Oncology, Merck

Edward Kim, Vice Physician-in-Chief, City of Hope National Medical Center

Richard Pazdur, former head of FDA's Oncology Center of Excellence

Padmanee Sharma, Professor of Genitourinary Medical Oncology and Professor of Immunology, MD Anderson Cancer Center

---

12:15–1:15PM | Luncheon and Program

12:15–12:35 | Buffet Service

12:35–1:00PM | Luncheon Fireside Chat: Engineering the Immune Revolution

MODERATOR:

Michael Milken, Chairman, Milken Institute

PANELISTS:

Jim Allison, Nobel Laureate, Regental Chair and Professor of Immunology, MD Anderson Cancer Center

Carl June, Professor of Immunotherapy, University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine

1:00–1:15PM | Presentation of "The Legacy of Hope" Award

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS:

Ambassador Robert O'Brien, Chairman, Richard Nixon Foundation

AWARD PRESENTATION:

Melanie Eisenhower, Board Member, Richard Nixon Foundation

Christopher Nixon Cox, Board Member, Richard Nixon Foundation

HONORING:

Marlene Malek, Vice Chair and Co-Founder, Friends of Cancer Research

---

1:15–1:35PM | Talk: Winning the War Against Cancer: Harnessing the Power Within

SPEAKER:

Patrick Soon-Shiong, Founder, ImmunityBio

1:35–2:30 PM | Session 4: Mobilizing the Ecosystem: The Next Generation of Public–Private Partnerships

The tools to transform cancer research already exist; our systems do not yet allow them to work at full potential. No single sector can eliminate disease on its own. The progress made in cancer showed the power of aligning government, the private sector, academia, philanthropy, and patient communities around a shared mission. This session will explore how public–private partnerships will need to be modernized to meet the challenges of the next decade.

MODERATOR:

Margaret Anderson, Managing Director, Deloitte; Board Member, FasterCures, Milken Institute

PANELISTS:

Monica Bertagnolli, President Elect, National Academy of Medicine, 17th Director of the National Institutes of Health and 16th Director of the National Cancer Institute

David Fredrickson, Executive Vice President, AstraZeneca

Pablo Legorreta, Founder, CEO, and Chairman, Royalty Pharma

Harlan Levine, President, Health Innovation and Policy, City of Hope

Jean-Charles Soria, Senior Vice President, Global Development Oncology, Amgen

---

2:30–2:45PM | Fireside Chat

Speaker to be announced

2:45–3:00PM | Break

3:00–3:10PM | Talk: Targeting Cancer's Electrical Properties

SPEAKER:

William Doyle, Executive Chairman, Novocure

3:10–3:25PM | Talk: George Yancopoulos, Regeneron

SPEAKER:

George Yancopoulos, Co-founder, President, and Chief Scientific Officer, Regeneron

3:25–3:50PM | Session 6: Accelerating the Future of Oncology

Advances in AI, genomics, and data science are transforming cancer discovery and precision therapy. This session will examine how to leverage these technologies, alongside smarter drug development and digital infrastructure—to accelerate breakthroughs and deliver measurable impact for patients at scale.

MODERATOR:

Luciana Borio, ARCH Venture Partners

PANELISTS:

Helmy Eltoukhy, Chairman and Co-CEO, Guardant Health

Grant Verstandig, Founder, Chairman, and CEO, Red Cell Partners; Co-Founder and Executive Chairman at Zephyr AI

3:50–4:05PM | Talk: Can Quantum Technologies Deliver Real Breakthroughs in Human Health?

SPEAKER:

Prineha Narang, Professor in Physical Sciences and Electrical and Computer Engineering, UCLA

4:05–4:45PM | Session 7: Technology as a Force Multiplier: Delivering Innovation at Scale

Advances in AI, digital infrastructure, and data interoperability are reshaping the possibilities for cancer care—but technology alone does not improve outcomes. This session will examine how technology can serve as a true force multiplier when supported with leadership, interoperability, workforce redesign, and incentive alignment. Panelists will explore how health systems, digital platforms, and enterprise transformation strategies can translate technological innovation into measurable improvements in patient outcomes.

MODERATOR:

Sharmila Makhija, Founding Dean and CEO, Alice Walton School of Medicine

PANELISTS:

Lucille Accetta, Chief Pharmacy Officer, CVS Health

Jackie Gerhart, Chief Medical Officer, Epic

Kimberly Myers, Principal, Deloitte

Anaeze Offodile, Chief Strategy Officer, Memorial Sloan Kettering

4:45–5:25PM | Where Do We Go from Here?

This closing conversation brings together three former NIH Directors to reflect on what the next era of cancer progress requires. Drawing on their experience leading the nation's biomedical enterprise, they will discuss how breakthroughs move from promise to progress and how to translate today's scientific opportunity into lasting impact for patients.

MODERATOR:

Michael Milken, Chairman, Milken Institute

PANELISTS:

Monica Bertagnolli, 17th Director, National Institutes of Health; 16th Director, National Cancer Institute

Francis Collins, 16th Director, National Institutes of Health

Elias Zerhouni, 15th Director, National Institutes of Health

5:25–5:30PM | Closing

SPEAKER:

Joe Lopez, Acting President & CEO, Richard Nixon Foundation