



CANCER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE®

UNITED NATIONS, UNIATF AWARD 2019 RECIPIENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cancer Education and Research Institute® Named Finalist for 2026 Nonprofit Excellence Award in Innovation for Pioneering Personalized Cancer Care and Interactive Education Models

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS, May 12, 2026 - Cancer Education and Research Institute® (CERI), a Cambridge-based nonprofit dedicated to making cancer care, research, and education accessible to all, has been named a finalist for the **2026 Nonprofit Excellence Award in the Innovation category by the Massachusetts Nonprofit Council (MNC)**. Selected from more than 150 nominations across the state, CERI was recognized for its pioneering work in personalized cancer care and interactive community education.

Founded in 2013, CERI has built a model that bridges the gap between cancer science and the people who need it most. Through its flagship **CERI Personalized Patient Program™ (CPPP)**, the organization provides individualized cancer care to patients and families with complex or advanced cancer diagnoses, including many who were previously told there were no remaining treatment options. To date, more than 90% of patients served through the CPPP are still alive or cancer-free.

CERI's innovation also includes its long-running **CERI Outdoors Cancer Education Events™**, a signature Massachusetts community program that uses interactive learning, physical activity, healthy eating examples, and the organization's **CERI Cancer Quiz Game™** to make cancer prevention education practical, accessible, and engaging for all ages. This year, CERI also expanded its multilingual education programs by adding Arabic as its ninth language.

"We are deeply honored to be recognized as a finalist in the Innovation category," said Dr. Aygün Şahin, Founder, CEO, and Cancer Lead of CERI. "This recognition reflects more than a decade of work to challenge barriers, translate cancer science into action, and help ensure that patients and families can access timely, high-quality cancer care and education. Our mission has always been to make personalized cancer care a reality for all."

CERI's work has reached more than 7.6 million people worldwide and has served more than 2,700 patients. The organization's impact extends across Massachusetts, throughout the United States, and into more than 190 countries globally.

Winners of the 2026 Nonprofit Excellence Awards will be announced later this month and recognized at the awards ceremony on June 17 at the New England Aquarium.

About Cancer Education and Research Institute®

Cancer Education and Research Institute® is an award-winning leader in personalized cancer care innovation dedicated to ensuring worldwide access to high-quality, research, and education for all. With over 13 years of proven success impacting millions of lives, the organization provides scientific expertise and scalable cancer care models to governments, health systems, and NGOs globally.

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CEO, Founder, and Cancer Lead

Cancer Education and Research Institute (CERI) for more information, or to schedule interviews. [Contact](#)