



# GIAHC: A YEAR IN REVIEW

## JANUARY - DECEMBER 2024

### 2024: A YEAR OF IMPACT AND PROGRESS AT GIAHC

2024 has been an extraordinary year for us and for the field in general with the support of the White House Cancer Moonshot team to reduce the burden of cervical cancer globally. As we approach the end of 2024, GIAHC is proud to reflect on a year filled with impactful initiatives and global partnerships aimed at eliminating HPV-related cancers starting with cervical cancer.

The following is a summary of our efforts. You can review further details [here](#).

**US vs HPV 2024:** We started the year co-hosting our **sixth annual** US vs HPV Prevention week series with the American Medical Women's Association (AMWA). As in previous years, we had the privilege of hosting server experts and patient advocates who highlighted the key issues including disparities in prevention, diagnosis and treatment of HPV-related cancers.

**Congressional Advocacy:** During the week of the US vs HPV Prevention week, Dr. Krishnan was invited to join the HPV Coalition experts at a virtual **Congressional Briefing** to highlight the life-saving potential of HPV vaccination, screening, and early treatment, urging Congress to expand access nationwide.

**healthywomen**  
Congressional Briefing  
**Preventing HPV-Related Cancers Through Vaccination and Screening**  
Webinar | January 24, 2024 | 12 p.m. ET  
[Register](#)

**Moderator**  
**Beth Battaglino, RN-C**  
CEO  
HealthyWomen

**Speakers**  
Rep. Kathy Castor (D-FL)  
Rep. Julia Letlow (R-LA) (D-WA)  
Rep. Kim Schrier, M.D. (R-LA) (D-WA)

**Panelists**  
**Shobha S. Krishnan, MD, FFAFP**  
Founder and President, Global Initiative Against HPV and Cervical Cancer  
Advocacy Member, Union for International Cancer Control  
Member, Advocacy Campaign Committee, International Papillomavirus Society  
Board Member, American Medical Women's Association (2019-2023)

**Heather M. Brandt, PhD**  
Director, HPV Cancer Prevention Program Co-Associate Director for Outreach, St. Jude Comprehensive Cancer Center  
Member, Department of Epidemiology and Cancer Control, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

**Tamika Felder**  
Chief Visionary, Cervivor, Inc.  
Cervical Cancer Survivor

**Jason Mendelsohn**  
SupermanHPV/Oropharyngeal Cancer Survivor  
Member, Head and Neck Cancer Alliance Board of Directors

**Kathryn Kundrod, PhD, MPH**  
Senior Advisor for Cancer Moonshot Policy Coordination  
White House Office of Science and Technology Policy

[Register](#)

Please also [register](#) for the **2024 Us vs. HPV Global Webinar**, a one-week series of webinars January 22-26, 2024, to promote awareness about HPV and HPV-related diseases, hosted by the Global Initiative Against HPV and Cervical Cancer (GIAHC) and the American Medical Women's Association (AMWA).

**DR. KRISHNAN JOINED A PANEL OF PATIENT ADVOCATES AND EXPERTS TO PRESENT TO CONGRESSIONAL STAFF AT A CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING LED BY HEALTHYWOMEN.**

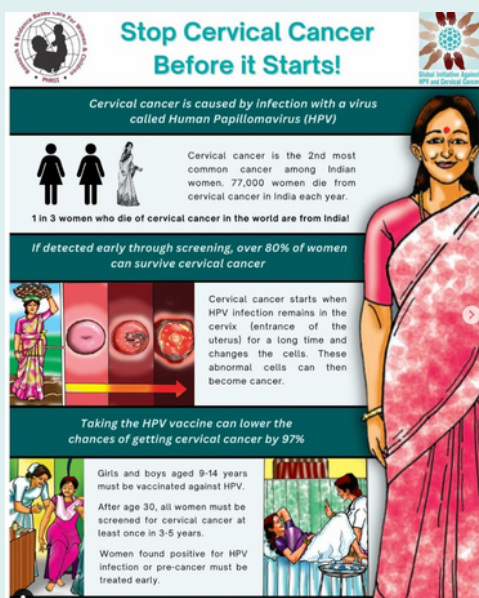
**White House Recognition:** We also had the privilege of being invited to the White House for the inauguration of the **Cervical Cancer Forum** at the White House as part of the Cancer Moonshot Initiative. Dr. Krishnan participated in the discussions sharing innovative strategies for global cervical cancer prevention and care.

**DR. KRISHNAN WITH DISTINGUISHED INVITEES AT THE CERVICAL CANCER FORUM, JANUARY 25TH, 2024**





**Awareness in India:** To mark March 4th, International HPV Awareness Day, GIAHC partnered with Public Health Research Institute in Mysuru, India (PHRI) to provide HPV vaccination and school-based education initiatives, contributing to WHO's Global Strategy for Cervical Cancer Elimination. You can read the full report [here](#).



**GIRLS IN RURAL MYSURU DISTRICT VACCINATED AGAINST HUMAN PAPILOMAVIRUS (HPV), THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF CERVICAL CANCER.**

**Advocacy at Capitol Hill:** As part of the [Healthy Girls, Healthy Women 2024](#) initiative, GIAHC Young Leaders advocated for HPV cancer elimination during a visit to the White House and Capitol Hill. More information is available in the [Young Leaders](#) section of the Newsletter.



**New Partnership:** In May, GIAHC teamed up with CAPED India an NGO in New Delhi, India to work together to raise HPV awareness among parents in that country. In addition, GIAHC is thrilled to have joined as a founding member of the [Asia Pacific Women's Cancer Coalition](#) with other esteemed partners to reduce the high burden of cervical cancer in that region.

**International Collaboration:** In August 2024, GIAHC was honored to be invited to join the White House delegation for the very first [U.S.-India Cancer Dialogue](#), presenting on equitable cancer therapies and advancing discussions on AI, genomics, and innovative cancer care. Dr. Krishnan presented on "Cost Effective Cancer Therapy and Implementation Science" addressing the burden of cervical cancer and emphasizing how HPV vaccination, screening, and early treatment could help reduce this preventable disease, even in remote areas of the developing world. We are hopeful that the discussions will be a renewed commitment to collaboration between the two countries in the fight against cancer.

**[Interview with the Press Trust of India: Deccan Herald Interview.](#)**





**GIAHC JOINS PRESIDENT BIDEN'S CANCER MOONSHOT DELEGATION IN INDIA**

**World Cancer Congress (WCC) 2024:** In September, GIAHC members attended WCC hosted by the Union for International Cancer Control in Geneva. The Congress aimed to strengthen participants' actions and impact on national, regional, and international scales through a multidisciplinary program that highlighted the latest successful interventions in cancer prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and care.

**Global Recognition:** At the UN General Assembly in September, GIAHC was humbled to be listed as part of "Quad Cancer Moonshot team" collaborating with partners to take bold action #cervicalcancer in the Asia Pacific region. Together, we are committed to eliminating this disease for a healthier future.

**Rising from WCC 2024: The Call to Eliminate Cervical Cancer and Our First Victory Over Cancer**

The discussions at #WCC2024 ignited a powerful sense of hope and urgency. The path to eliminating #HPV and #cervicalcancer is clear, but it demands bold action—now. We are armed with the knowledge, technology, and tools to wipe out this preventable disease, which still claims a woman's life every two minutes. If we do nothing, that number will rise to a woman every 90 seconds by 2050, unleashing untold devastation on families, communities, and nations alike.

We have no excuse to let this happen. The tools to end these unnecessary deaths are in our hands: #HPVvaccination, #screening, and #earlytreatment. These are not just medical interventions; they are weapons in a fight we can win.

The healthcare community has made strides, but that is not enough—we need a united public movement to finish this fight. The time is now to mobilize. We must arm people with the knowledge to demand the care they deserve: HPV vaccinations, self-screening for cervical cancer, and access to life-saving treatments. The HPV vaccine isn't just a shield against cervical cancer—it prevents six different cancers across all genders. This is not a women's issue—it's a global fight that impacts us all.

We must also turn our focus to low- and middle-income countries, where the toll is highest. Equity in healthcare is non-negotiable. Technology and innovation are our keys to ensuring every woman, no matter where she lives, has the same chance to live free from this disease.

History has shown us the power of grassroots movements. The fight against HIV/AIDS was won through public activism, relentless awareness, and demand for care. Now, we must spark that same fire in the battle against HPV-related cancers—starting with cervical cancer.

Healthcare leaders, advocates, and the public must rise as one. Let this be our rallying cry: **We will not wait. We will not lose more lives. We will make cervical cancer the first cancer we defeat.**

Together, we can rewrite the future, eliminating cervical cancer and ensuring a healthier world for generations to come. The time for action is now—let's claim our first victory over cancer. #GlobalCancerMoonshot

WH.GOV

commits to the continued publication of the Global Women's Health Index, a comprehensive global survey about women's health, filling a critical gap in what the world knows about the health and well-being of the world's women and girls.

- **The Global Initiative Against HPV and Cervical Cancer will promote HPV vaccination, cervical screening and early treatment projects with partners and collaborators in the Indo-Pacific Region.** These efforts will include organizing the Asia-Pacific Workshop in Bangkok to share knowledge and best practices within the region and expanding awareness efforts to further enhance awareness initiatives throughout the Indo-Pacific.

UNITED STATES, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, AND JAPAN Launched

**QUAD Cancer Moonshot**

A new initiative to reduce the burden of cancer in the Indo-Pacific

**WORLD CANCER CONGRESS 2024: A MILESTONE IN THE FIGHT TO ELIMINATE CERVICAL CANCER**

**Mysore Consortium Against Cervical Cancer inaugurated**



Mysuru, Oct. 16- The **Mysore Consortium Against Cervical Cancer**, comprising Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI), JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research (JSS AHER) and Adichunchanagiri Institute of Medical Sciences (AIMS), Nagamangala, was inaugurated in city recently. Public Health Research Institute of India (PHRII), a non-profit organisation based out of Mysuru, has joined hands with Dr. Shobha Krishnan, a graduate of Mysore Medical College and Founder of Global Initiative Against HPV and Cervical Cancer, to start this Consortium.

PHRII, which is serving the local communities since 2007, is involved in healthcare delivery, health education, research and has provided free care to over 20,000 Mysureans. "One woman dies every eight minutes in India from cervical cancer and these institutions will collaborate to mitigate this preventable disease with state-of-the-art cervical cancer screening programmes and research more effective ways to save our mothers, wives, sisters and daughters from these needless deaths," stated a press release from PHRII.

PHRII has collaborated with MMC&RI in providing education on cervical cancer to nursing students. It plans to launch a Cervical Cancer Specialty Centre in January 2025, with the latest equipment and facilities to screen for and prevent cervical cancer.

**GIAHC IS HONORED TO BE A PART OF THE QUAD CANCER MOONSHOT TEAM**

**A Full Circle:** In late September, Dr. Krishnan attended the centennial celebration of her alma mater in Mysuru, India. Here she was recognized for her work with HPV and cervical cancer elimination by her medical school. This event lent so much more meaning when she launched the Mysuru Consortium Against Cervical Cancer with her alma mater—Mysore Medical College and other institutions including PHRII who will be leading this effort locally.

**GIAHC WITH PARTNERS LAUNCH THE MYSORE CONSORTIUM AGAINST CERVICAL CANCER**



# GIAHC YL Corner

In 2024 the GIAHC Young Leaders have been busy with initiatives, collaborations, and outreach events!

**January:** Our Committee Leaders presented during the Friday session of Us vs HPV Week Webinars: “Empowering Community Leaders”, hear our recordings at: <https://www.giahc.org/us-vs-hpv/>

**February:** GIAHC YL marked World Cancer Day by collaborating with Public Research Health Institute on a program to vaccinate 193 adolescent girls in rural Mysuru District.

**March:** March 4th is International HPV Awareness Day, the day that the global spotlight shines on a virus that we have the tools to eliminate and the ability to prevent the cancers that HPV can cause. Our young leaders launched a report to raise HPV awareness and educate healthcare trainees.

**April:** The GIAHC YL’s created a report showcasing our contributions to the global fight against cervical cancer, aligned with the World Health Organization’s 90-70-90 strategy.

**May:** GIAHC YL’s announced the partnership with Caped India and made posts to mark Women’s Health Month.

**June-July:** The teen GIAHC YL’s visited Capitol Hill and President Biden’s Cancer Moonshot team at the White House. This event was organized by HPV Cancers Alliance as a part of their Healthy Girls, Healthy Women 2024 initiative.

**August:** GIAHC YL’s announced the launch of the US-India Cancer Dialogue Initiative. This initiative aims to strengthen U.S.-India ties & reduce cancer through better prevention, detection, & treatment.

**September:** In honor of Gynecological Awareness Month, GIAHC YL’s made posts to raise awareness about cancers that affects women’s reproductive health

**October:** GIAHC YL’s expanded their membership to include more members from Malawi and Nepal.

**November:** One Egg-A-Day Fundraise for Rwanda: In partnership with the Elekta Foundation, GIAHC Young Leaders launched a program to provide cervical cancer patients with nutritious support during treatment. A small donation can make a big impact—visit [giahc.org/donate](https://giahc.org/donate) to support this cause.

**December:** Hosting the 7th Annual 2025 Us vs HPV Prevention Week. Please join us, the Young Leaders will be presenting Friday under the theme of “Empowering Youth Voices to Lead Global Change”.

# Meet Our Team



**Ariana Montesdeoca**

GYL CHAIR  
SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE LEADER

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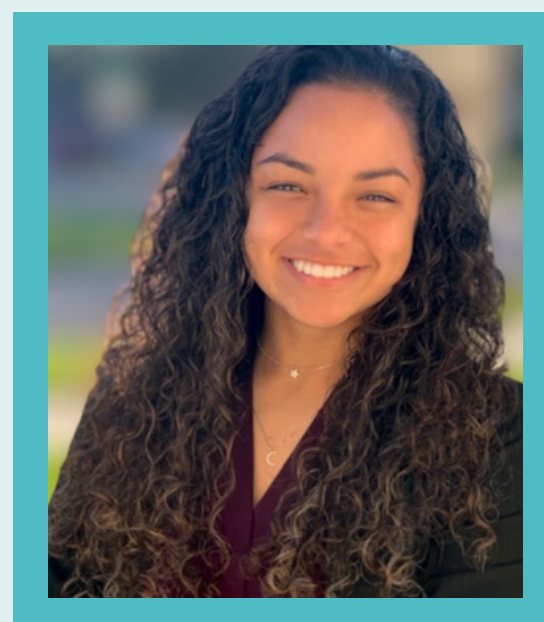
**Anisha Pethkar**

FUNDRAISING LEADER

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## 2024 HPV & CERVICAL CANCER CHAMPION AWARD



We are thrilled to present the 2024 Award to **Ariana Montesdeoca**. Ariana has served as the GIAHC Young Leaders Chair while also leading as Social Media Chair. Ariana plays a key role in building and expanding GIAHC’s social media presence, amplifying our message and impact.

**Congratulations Ariana!**

**Looking Ahead to 2025:** Months of November and December will be spent preparing for co-hosting the seventh US vs HPV Prevention Week with the American Medical Women's Association- January 27th-31st.

**Registration** is open and we look forward to your attendance.

**7th Annual HPV Prevention Week**  
**January 27th-31st, 2025**  
*5 webinars in 5 days*


**Turning up the HEAT through Health, Equity, Advancement, & Technology!**

The 7th Annual HPV Prevention Week shines a spotlight on the importance of combating human papillomavirus (HPV) through a multi-faceted approach. This year's theme focuses on driving progress in HPV prevention by promoting equitable access to vaccines, leveraging advancements in medical research, and harnessing innovative technologies for early detection and treatment. Join us as we empower communities, elevate awareness, and work towards a future free from HPV-related cancers, ensuring that no one is left behind in the pursuit of health equity.



Register here or scan the QR code:  
[bit.ly/hpvweek2025](https://bit.ly/hpvweek2025)

Co-organized by the American Medical Women's Association and the Global Initiative Against HPV and Cervical Cancer



**THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF OUR MISSION.  
TOGETHER, WE ARE SHAPING A HEALTHIER,  
HPV CANCER-FREE FUTURE!**

**INTERESTED IN DONATING TO GIAHC?  
HERES HOW TO DONATE TODAY!**

## Donate Online

AT: [HTTPS://WWW.GIAHC.ORG/DONATE/](https://www.giahc.org/donate/)

One Time

Monthly

Your generous donation supports our work to end HPV-related cancers starting with cervical cancer

\$1,000

\$500

\$250

\$100

\$50

\$25

## Donate by phone



If you prefer to donate over the phone, call **800-552-4375** and ask for assistance donating to GIAHC.

## Donate by mail



Send your check to:  
GIAHC, c/o ASHA  
PO Box 13827  
Research Triangle Park, NC  
27709

Please be sure to indicate "For GIAHC" on the memo line of your check.