

Coaches vs. Cancer Announces 2019 Award

Youth Official Lou Levine honored for his impact on the fight against cancer

Massachusetts youth basketball official Lou Levine has been honored with a Champion Award, a prestigious national honor from the Coaches vs. Cancer program. This is the first time an official has been selected to receive the award.

The Champion Award honors individuals who have shown extraordinary leadership and commitment to the American Cancer Society's mission of saving lives, celebrating lives and fighting cancer from every angle. The awards were presented during Final Four Weekend in April at the Guardians of the Game Awards Show in Minneapolis.

Since 2011, Lou Levine has raised approximately \$600,000 for the American Cancer Society. He has donated more than 1,600 basketball game fees which total approximately \$75,000. In addition to his personal fundraising, he has been instrumental in the growth of the campaign through his outreach to coach and sporting official associations throughout the Northeast.

"The Champion Award is our opportunity to recognize true leaders in the fight against cancer," said Sharon Byers, chief development and marketing officer of the American Cancer Society. "Mr. Levine is an inspiration. His commitment and dedication is raising funds, awareness and rallying even more people to join our team and defeat cancer."

Coaches vs. Cancer is a collaboration between the American Cancer Society and the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) that empowers coaches, their teams, and communities to join in saving more lives. The program leverages the personal experiences, community leadership, and professional excellence of basketball coaches nationwide to increase cancer awareness and promote healthy living through year-round awareness efforts, fundraising activities, and advocacy programs.

The Champion Award was instituted in 1996, with former Missouri Coach Norm Stewart receiving the inaugural honor. Since that time, the award has been presented to head coaches nationally including Jim Boeheim; Denny Crum; Roy Williams; Riley Wallace; Fran Dunphy; Gary Williams; Mark Few; Mike Brey; Bruce Weber; Jim Calhoun; Tom Izzo; Oliver Purnell; Paul Hewitt; Lon Kruger; Bo Ryan; Steve Lavin; Fran McCaffery; Frank Martin; Bill Self; Greg McDermott and Andrew Kettel.

For more information on the Coaches vs. Cancer program, visit coachesvscancer.org.

SOURCE American Cancer Society