BD4BC3 Meeting
Executive Meeting Summary

AT A GLANCE

Dates
February 1-2, 2018

Venue
Quadrus Conference Center in Menlo Park, CA

Number of participants
53 (see chart for expertise distribution)

PLANNING COMMITTEE

• Amy Abernethy, M.D., Ph.D.; Flatiron Health
• Cheryl Jernigan, CPA, FACHE; Komen Advocate in Science and Scientific Advisory Board
• Mia Levy, M.D., Ph.D.; Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center and Komen Scholar
• Joshua Mann; SHARE for Cures; Inspirata
• George Sledge, Jr., M.D.; Stanford University and Komen’s Chief Scientific Advisor

BACKGROUND

On February 1-2, 2018, Komen continued the big data conversation by convening the BD4BC - annual conference in Menlo Park, CA to take a deeper dive into how big data can be leveraged toward Komen’s Bold Goal to reduce the current number of breast cancer deaths by 50% in the U.S. by 2026.

The goals of this meeting were to leverage big data to identify breast cancer disparities and variances in care, and to improve the methods for aggregating and analyzing clinical, genomic and other sources of data for metastatic breast cancer patients. Big data certainly holds great promise for breast cancer patient care and improving outcomes.

Focusing on these topics will map out strategies that will unlock big data to save lives. The meeting aimed at strengthening existing and building new partnerships to provide the necessary expertise, resources, and timelines needed to launch the implementation of several BD4BC initiatives following this annual conference.
TAKEAWAYS & OUTCOMES

With the insights gained at our BD4BC meetings and the guidance of Komen’s Scientific Advisory Board, we have identified key roles for Komen and specific big data programs that will drive the field forward. Our Big Data for Breast Cancer Initiative aims at using big data to fuel scientific discoveries and accelerate the delivery of equitable, patient-focused care.

It takes a three-pronged approach to:

1. **Empower the public with information and tools to make data sharing understandable and easy to do.** Komen will deploy programs, targeting a broad range of audiences, that will increase understanding of big data and its potential in breast cancer and accelerate the use of big data in the fight against breast cancer.

2. **Address challenges of incorporating big data applications into breast cancer research and clinical care.** Among the challenges identified during the BD4BC meetings were an urgent need for collaborations between data scientists, breast cancer researchers/oncologists, and a workforce that understands both data science and breast cancer biology.

3. **Fund data science projects to improve breast cancer outcomes and save lives.** Komen will leverage its premier grant-making capabilities to identify and support big data research resources and projects that will put the patient at the center of cancer innovation to inform and accelerate the pace of breast cancer research and allow researchers to use real-time but also real-life data to revolutionize the way cancer is understood and treated.