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## Nonprofit start-up Global Oncology announces first major fundraiser to help cancer patients get diagnosed and treated

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### Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> event part of Longwood Symphony Orchestra's Healing Art of Music Program

**Boston, MA** (September 8, 2016) -- **Global Oncology Inc. (GO)**, a non-profit focused on addressing disparities in access to cancer care, is pleased to announce its first major fundraiser to be held in New England Conservatory's elegant Jordan Hall on Saturday, October 1, 2016, at 8 PM. GO is partnering with the Longwood Symphony Orchestra (LSO) as part of their Healing Art of Music Program. Since 1991 the LSO has performed concerts to help raise funds and awareness of Boston area non-profits that aid the medically underserved, their Community Partners.

The LSO selected GO to be one of four Community Partners for their 2016-17 season. The LSO, a highly-acclaimed orchestra whose members are medical professionals, will perform Dvořák's New World Symphony and two works by Richard Kaska. Tickets for this event may be purchased via [www.gobenefit.org](http://www.gobenefit.org).

As a highlight of the evening, GO will present its first Global Oncology Visionary Award to Edward J. Benz, Jr., M.D., president and CEO of Boston's Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and longtime friend and supporter of GO. Dr. Benz is stepping down as president and CEO on September 30, 2016 after a successful 16-year tenure at Dana-Farber. He has been a leader in closing the gaps in access to high quality cancer care – from scientific advancement, to worldwide advocacy, to treatment and support services.

"It is a great honor to receive this award from Global Oncology. Throughout my tenure at Dana-Farber, we have worked on programs that help extend our reach into underserved communities and to increase access to Dana-Farber resources. The work is rewarding and it is humbling to be recognized for what has truly been the work of many great people. They deserve the credit and I accept this award in their honor," said Benz.

### ABOUT GO

GO was founded by Ami Bhatt, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Medicine and of Genetics at Stanford University School of Medicine and Director of Global Oncology, Center for Innovation in Global Health, and Franklin Huang, M.D., Ph.D., Instructor in Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Dana-Farber



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Cancer Institute in Boston, Massachusetts and postdoctoral scholar at the Broad Institute. They, along with GO's impressive network of professionals, are working on a voluntary basis to help address the enormous unmet need for cancer diagnosis, treatment, and palliative care in low- and middle-resource countries.

"Ami Bhatt and I were fortunate to have completed our oncology training under Dr. Benz. His strong and substantial support of us as fellows and our efforts through the Harvard Global Oncology Initiative and, later, our independent non-profit, GO, has been critical to GO's success and brought attention to this important issue. Getting dignified and compassionate cancer care must no longer be a luxury afforded to the world's wealthiest, as it is now. We need to do better – and GO's committed community with partners such as DFCI and Stanford are working hard to right this wrong," said Huang.

GO is specifically focused on building a global network of individuals and organizations to solve today's problems in cancer care, with the ultimate goal of improving care and bettering the lives of patients in resource-limited settings. Since 2011, GO has been making significant and consistent impact in the field of global cancer by making access to better care easier, particularly through technology and education. Key projects include: (1) GO's innovative Global Cancer Project Map (GCPM) – a joint effort with the National Cancer Institute's Center for Global Health – the world's online destination for the most complete, user-friendly and accessible information about global cancer research and control efforts: <http://gcpm.globalonc.org>; (2) GO's Cancer Education Materials: first-of-their kind, culturally relevant picture booklets designed to teach low-literate cancer patients about their disease and the importance of adhering to treatment; (3) promoting improved access to pain control for those suffering from cancer and other life-threatening diseases and making information about disparities in pain control access more approachable: see Opioid Atlas at <http://globalonc.org/opioidatlas>; and (4) the GO Young Professionals Alliance (GO YP) that is mobilizing students, educators and global health leaders in every profession to convene and bring awareness to the global cancer crisis.

For more information about GO, please visit <http://globalonc.org/>

Further event information, including sponsorship and advertising opportunities, may be obtained by contacting: [events@globalonc.org](mailto:events@globalonc.org)

**FOR MEDIA:**

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