Cranston native, Dr. Rudolph Tanzi is the Joseph P. and Rose F. Kennedy Professor of Neurology at Harvard University, and Vice-Chair of Neurology (Research) and Director of the Genetics and Aging Research Unit at Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH). He also serves as Chair of the Cure Alzheimer’s Fund Research Consortium. Dr. Tanzi has been investigating the genetics of neurological disease since the 1980’s when he participated in the first study that to localize a disease gene (Huntington’s disease). Dr. Tanzi co-discovered the three familial early-onset Alzheimer’s disease (FAD) genes and several other neurological disease genes including that responsible for Wilson’s disease. As leader of the Alzheimer’s Genome Project, Dr. Tanzi has also identified dozens of novel AD genes. His research on the role of metals in AD has led to ongoing clinical trials at Prana Biotechnology. Dr. Tanzi serves on dozens of editorial and scientific advisory boards and has received numerous awards, including the two highest awards for Alzheimer's disease research: The Metropolitan Life Award and The Potamkin Prize.

Dr. Tanzi was included on the “2015 TIME 100 Most Influential People in the World, the "Harvard 100 Most Influential Alumni", and was chosen by the Geoffrey Beene Foundation as a “Rock Star of Science”. Dr. Tanzi has co-authored over 460 research articles, including three of the top ten most cited AD papers. He co-authored the books “Decoding Darkness” and most recently, the New York Times Bestseller, “Super Brain”, which received the 2013 Nautilus Book Award.

In musical pursuits, Dr. Tanzi has performed with guitarist, Joe Perry and recorded with the band, Aerosmith and singer, Chris Mann.