

SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY GRANT AWARDS

Organization: Children's National Medical Center

Program Title: Assisting Educational Resources and Support for Pediatric Cancer Survivors in the District of Columbia

Summary: Children's National Medical Center wants to ensure that all DC childhood cancer patients have access to culturally relevant information and services from diagnosis through survivorship. The project is specifically focused on services and resources associated with education and quality of life for school-aged patients. Children and families will be surveyed and interviewed to determine how best to assist school age children in the transition from treatment back into the classroom, as well to identify existing gaps in resources and services. The information will be used to formulate recommendations for organizations that are able to improve access to educational services for survivors of pediatric cancers, including the organizations involved in the project, as well as relevant District of Columbia governmental agencies such as the Department of Education.

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Organization: Food and Friends

Program Title: Specialized Nutrition Services for District Residents Living with Cancer

Summary: Food and Friends provides care for residents living with HIV/AIDS, cancer and other life-challenging illnesses by preparing and delivering specialized meals and groceries in conjunction with nutrition counseling. These services are confidential and free to all regardless of income. This grant will help Food and Friends cover costs related to purchasing, preparing and delivering 146,157 specialized meals and groceries to 596 District residents living with cancer and their loved ones.

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Organization: Health Outreach Information Network, Inc. (HOIN)

Program Title: HOIN Individual and Family Health Initiative

Summary: The mission of the Health Outreach Information Network (HOIN) is to find those at risk for cancer, and to encourage them to get screened and treated if necessary. In order to achieve this, HOIN does its outreach through literature distribution, community forums, workshops, presentations in schools, churches, civic and social organizations, and door-to-door visits to homes and businesses such as beauty and barber shops. HOIN's project will involve gathering survey data from the Trinidad, N.E. and H Street, N.E. corridor communities in relation to non-visible health issues such as cancer, HIV and high blood pressure. This data will be compiled into a database to assist in formulating statistics on the prevalence of these non-visible conditions.

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Organization: Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center

Program Title: Sisters Informing Sisters – Survivor Coaching Institute

Summary: Georgetown University's Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center will use its grant funds to implement the *Sisters Informing SistersSM: Survivor Coaching Institute*. This project will train breast cancer survivors as coaches using the SIS Training of Coaches curriculum to facilitate informed decision-making among newly-diagnosed African-American and African immigrant women. Program staff will recruit potential coaches from community-based organizations including churches, civic and community groups and private provider offices. The coaches will ensure that patients understand their diagnosis and help them formulate questions for the healthcare team. Reviewing values and preferences regarding decision-making and communication skills will also be a priority. With this assistance, patients will be better prepared to understand their treatment options and to be active participants in their treatment decisions and healing.

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Organization: Nueva Vida

Program Title: “Angeles de Cocina” (Kitchen Angels) for Latinas with Cancer

Summary: This project is a collaborative effort between Nueva Vida, American Cancer Society, and Food and Friends. The goal of this pilot program is to enhance the lives of underserved low-income Latinas at time of surgery and during cancer treatment by ensuring proper nutrition while preserving the cultural values in the kitchen. Latina breast cancer survivors will work with newly diagnosed women to help them adapt traditional Latino meals into healthier alternatives, and will go grocery shopping, cook and deliver the meals to the patients. In conjunction with Food & Friend’s nutritionist, Nueva Vida will develop a recipe/menu book that captures the cultural values of Latin-American food while still maintaining the standards of appropriate nutrition for cancer patients. This program also serves to address a gap in Food & Friend’s services by delivering food during surgery time and on Sundays during therapy.

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Organization: Ovarian & Gynecologic Cancer Coalition/Rhonda’s Club

Program Title: Ward 7 Reproductive Cancer Awareness

Summary: OGCC and In My Sister’s Care will work together with community groups in a pilot project to heighten awareness and improve early diagnosis of cervical, ovarian, and endometrial cancers by increasing symptom awareness and empowering action in women living in Ward 7. Special emphasis will be on reaching women at higher risk of ovarian cancer, such as breast cancer survivors. They will work with local community organizations to maximize effectiveness.

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Organization: Providence Hospital Wellness Institute

Program Title: “Brothers” – Prostate Cancer Health Education and Screening Program

Summary: “Brothers” is a prostate cancer awareness education program to create and implement prostate cancer awareness and screening that will improve early detection and improve survival rates for African American men living in Washington, DC. The program targets men over the age of 40 living in Wards 4, 5, 7 and 8. Small group health education sessions and navigation help will be offered to men facing barriers to screening. Additionally, survivors & families will have access to prostate cancer support groups.

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Organization: The GW Cancer Institute

Program Title: Prostate Cancer Education and Screening

Summary: GWCI will expand a barbershop training program and partner with barbershops in Wards 4, 7 and 8 to educate African American men about prostate cancer prevention. GWCI will hire a prostate cancer survivor, who is an active community leader in Washington, DC, to build relationships in the community and work closely with local barbershops to implement this program. Twelve barbers will be trained in effective ways to educate at least 20 customers per month on prostate cancer prevention; to conduct waiting room information sessions to educate men about prostate cancer prevention; and to host planned events to educate and screen men for prostate cancer.

Contact: Jacqueline Burgess, CHES
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Organization: The Washington Cancer Institute

Program Title: Cancer Education and Outreach Services

Summary: The Washington Cancer Institute will provide culturally- tailored, community-based cancer education and outreach services high risk populations in the District of Columbia. This project will focus on access to care, early detection and cancer prevention in Wards 4, 7 and 8. Culturally sensitive and linguistically tailored educational services will be offered to increase knowledge, change attitudes, promote screening and increase access to care for minorities and vulnerable populations.

Outreach staff and educators will partner with faith-based organizations, community health centers and other safety net providers to offer cancer education programs related to lung, breast, gynecologic cancers, colorectal cancer and prostate cancer.

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