# DC CANCER CONSORTIUM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DC CANCER CONSORTIUM AWARDS GRANTS TO FIGHT CANCER IN D.C.**
**Local Community Groups Receive Funding To Combat**
**Nation's Highest Cancer Rates**

*October 29, 2008* - The DC Cancer Consortium, a nonprofit composed of more than 60 organizations dedicated to the reduction of cancer in the District of Columbia, has recently awarded more than $250,000 in its first round of community grants to health-related organizations working in the District. The District's cancer mortality rate is the highest in the nation. The grants, supported by a $20 million, five-year award made to the Consortium by the Mayor and the DC City Council from tobacco settlement funding, will support community efforts to address gaps in cancer care, reduce mortality rates and ethnic disparities, and improve the quality of life for cancer patients and survivors in the District of Columbia. The grant winners were selected by independent review panels.

Susan Lowell Butler, Consortium executive director, said, "We are very pleased to make these awards to some of our community's most active organizations in the fight against cancer. These organizations work intensively with the community, and we believe that it is at this level that real progress to reduce cancer incidence and mortality can best be made. It's a wonderful opportunity to return the people's money to the people for a very important cause."

Community grants were awarded to nine organizations: Food and Friends, Children's National Medical Center, The George Washington Cancer Institute, Health Outreach Information Network, Inc., Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, Nueva Vida, The Ovarian and Gynecological Cancer Coalition/Rhonda's Club, Providence Hospital, and Washington Cancer Institute at Washington Hospital Center. The funded programs will directly benefit the communities in Washington DC by providing services such as food and nutrition assistance, education and screening programs and gathering statistical information about cancer prevalence in DC.

The DC Cancer Consortium is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the reduction of cancer in the District of Columbia through prevention, improved treatment and research.

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