



Together we can make a difference!

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOVEMBER IS PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

PanCAN Spreads the Word About the 4th Leading Cause of Cancer Death in the U.S. for Men and Women

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. U.S.A. (Oct. 21, 2002)? During Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month in November, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN) is spreading the word to raise awareness and increase research for Pancreatic Cancer, the 4th leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. for men and women. PanCAN is the first, national patient-based advocacy organization for the pancreatic cancer community, including patients, families, medical researchers and physicians.

PanCAN founding CEO Paula Kim said, " Approximately 30,300 people in the United States will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer this year, and pancreatic cancer's 99 percent mortality rate is the highest of any cancer. Raising public and professional awareness and increasing research is priority number one for PanCAN and its many supporters nationwide."

"This year, PanCAN worked at the federal level to declare November 2002 as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month," said Julie Fleshman, executive director of PanCAN. "And on Oct. 10, the US House of Representatives passed the resolution without objection."

Sending a Message

PanCAN "Team Hope" volunteers nationwide will be driving home the message of awareness and the need for a cure through community events and fundraisers on the local level. The events will take place in October, November, and the coming months. Many volunteers and supporters will be wearing purple ribbons during the events, a symbol for the fight against pancreatic cancer. Events such as "Bidding for a Cure," "Bowling for a Cure," and "An Evening With the Stars" in Beverly Hills on Nov. 9., among others, will help raise the level of support for PanCAN and its efforts. For a listing of current and upcoming events, visit www.pancan.org or call 1-877-272-6226.

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Important Resources

PanCAN also offers a variety of resources on many topics relating to pancreatic cancer, including: frequently asked questions; clinical trials; cancer health centers; support groups; diet and nutrition questions; pain management; community events; and insurance and job-related issues, and many others.

One particularly noteworthy program that has been very helpful to patients and their families is PanCAN's Patient and Liaison Services (PALS). Friendly, trained PALS Associates are available to assist patients on a one-on-one basis Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. PST. The PALS program is offered at no cost to callers, and is made possible through the generosity of PanCAN supporters. PALS Associates are available toll free at 877-2-PANCAN (877-272-6226), or via e-mail medinfo@pancan.org.

About PanCAN

PanCAN is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1999 by surviving family members of individuals who died of pancreatic cancer. Chartered as a grassroots organization of advocacy for pancreatic cancer patients and their families, PanCAN currently has volunteers and members throughout the United States and around the world. PanCAN is the first, national public-benefit advocacy organization for the pancreatic cancer community. The organization works to focus national attention on the need to find a cure for pancreatic cancer, and provides public and professional education embracing the urgent need for more research, effective treatments, prevention programs and early detection methods. Visit www.pancan.org to obtain more information, e-mail info@pancan.org, or call 1-877-272-6226.

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