



PANCREATIC CANCER ACTION NETWORK

ADVANCE RESEARCH. SUPPORT PATIENTS. CREATE HOPE.

Detroit Affiliate – April 24, 2008 Meeting Summary

We had an outstanding meeting last week. We welcomed new members – Dave Buschmohle, Lindsey Smalley and Adam Smalley.

News and Updates

- Gael Sandoval provided an update on the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network's leadership training event held late March in Nashville and noted that the Detroit co-affiliate coordinators met to develop 2008 Detroit Affiliate Goals. Everyone agreed that the overall goal for Detroit is awareness, awareness, awareness – we want every person in Michigan touched by pancreatic cancer to know that the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is a resource for them and that a local affiliate is right here in Michigan.
- We now have a Detroit Affiliate brochure (copy attached). Only 200 brochures were printed. We will limit printing runs so we can continually provide the latest updates. If you have future events or news you would like include in the Detroit Affiliate brochure, please send directly Sharon Lukas (slukas@pancan.org).
- Tell your story. We want every single member of our Affiliate to tell us their story, in their own words, in writing. Meghan Symons will be leading this effort. We also encourage you to share pictures. We will be using these stories and pictures in many ways. We would like to present in poster format at some of our future events; we would also like to share with local media representative when a pancreatic cancer story surfaces in the news (i.e. Patrick Swayze). We want the local media to be aware of us and know that the Detroit Affiliate is here as a resource for them. Please email your stories to Meghan (msymons@emich.edu; 734.455.1010) or bring them with you to a future meeting.
- Christina Jagielski is making terrific progress with distribution of the PALS packets (Patient and Liaison Services). At the April 24 meeting our affiliate members agreed to distribute 28 additional packets! Our goal is to reach every medical establishment in Michigan focusing initial efforts on hematology and oncology physicians and cancer centers. If you would like to help, please contact Christina directly (cjagiels@med.umich.edu; 734.615.1264).
- Christina has also come up with a real out of the box way to raise awareness. Please join Christina on May 13, 6-8:30 p.m., at the Book Blues Bookstore, Marine City (www.thebookblues.com). The Book Blues will be hosting a free big screen video viewing of Professor Randy Pausch "Last Lecture: Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams", featuring our own Christina Jagielski staffing the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network educational table onsite. We encourage all members to be creative about raising awareness and funds for pancreatic cancer AND share your ideas with the Detroit Affiliate.
- We could use everyone's help with ideas on how to involve students in our awareness and fundraising activities now that community service is a requirement at almost all Michigan high schools.
- Advocacy. Gwendolyn Esco-Davis had very limited time for her report; we apologize and promise that she will go first on May's agenda! Gwendolyn did manage to provide us with an update on advocacy activities including the March 11 Advocacy Day held in Washington DC. Everyone is encouraged to go directly to www.pancan.org to write to and keep in contact with their individual elected officials. Additional information will be provided on efforts to secure City, State and Federal proclamations to declare November National Pancreatic Cancer Awareness month.

Events

- PurpleStride Chicago: a group of individuals from our affiliate are going to the May 3 PurpleStride walk in Chicago. Fundraising efforts have been extremely successful for Team Michigan Hope. We encourage you to make a donation to our virtual walker – [Detroit Affiliate](#). Even if you cannot attend or fundraise on behalf of our Affiliate we want you to be a part of this historical fundraising initiative. Our initial goal was \$5,000 we are well on our way to reaching \$20,000.

We definitely want to hold our own Detroit Affiliate walk next year at the Detroit Zoo and are looking for volunteers to help with this effort. If you are interested please contact: Amy Ruckle (amyruckle@gmail.com; 248.495.1843)

- August 25th Links for a Cure: Dan Vallone provided an overview of what we can all expect this year at Tam O'Shanter on August 25th and it sounds better than last year – if you can believe it! We hope to increase the total number of dinner guest to 300 which Tam can accommodate. The printed brochures will be ready for distribution on/or before May 12. Arrangements to pick-up brochures prior to the next meeting will be circulated via email.

We need your assistance with selling sponsorships, individual golf packages, dinner only tickets and silent auction items. Please contact:

Overall Event: Amy Ruckle (amyruckle@gmail.com; 248.495.1843)
Sponsorship: Gael Sandoval (gsandoval@pancan.org; 248.217.4794)
Registration: Sharon L. Lukas (slukas@pancan.org; 248.302.8002)
Silent Auction: Carole Franco (pancancarole@gmail.com; 586.764.4691)

- Beaumont Activities: Dr. Jury confirmed that Beaumont will be hosting their second pancreatic symposium this year. The event will be held on one day (instead of two), offsite and include topics for both a lay and professional (medical) audience. Please forward topics you would like to learn more about directly to Dr. Jury (rjury@beaumont.edu). The date and location will be announced soon.

Other Business

- Do One Thing! We circulated a list of simple ways to do one thing to raise awareness and funds for pancreatic cancer before the next meeting. We will start meetings by not only saying our names, but also including one simple thing that we did in between meetings to keep the momentum going forward. We want to grow our list so please share your ideas with us.
- We may have a dedicated Detroit Affiliate webpage soon – stay tuned!