

Information and Referral Services

We Are Here

National Cancer Information Center 1.800.ACS.2345 (227-2345) or www.cancer.org

Because cancer never sleeps, neither do we. The National Cancer Information Center is a nationwide toll-free hotline, located in Austin, Texas, which operates 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. No matter what time of day a patient calls, they will be connected to an Information Specialist who is trained to answer questions about cancer and cancer related topics. In addition to information on specific cancers and their treatment, there is information on detection, prevention, alternative medicine and community resources. The most up-to-date written material on cancer can be obtained, at no cost, and can be sent by mail, fax or e-mail. Information on local events, programs and services of the American Cancer Society can also be obtained. Many materials are available in Spanish and multilingual speakers and interpreters are provided.



Cancer Resource Network (CRN) 1.800.ACS.2345

Cancer Resource Network was created to address requests for American Cancer Society programs and services needed by cancer patients, their families, friends and caregivers, and health care providers. Cancer Information Specialists are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to help with issues and problems related to living with cancer. In addition

to American Cancer Society services, the CRN benefits from our Community Resources Database, which allows us to provide information and referrals to local health and social services agencies for support groups, transportation, financial assistance, free clinics and many other services.

Clinical Trials Matching Service (CTMS)

Free access to the most comprehensive cancer clinical trial matching service is available anywhere through the Society's Web site, www.cancer.org, and our toll-free number, 1.800.ACS.2345. Special trained oncology nurses facilitate the CTMS, to compile a list of clinical trial studies for which patients are eligible and send them descriptions to review together with their physician.

Cancer Survivors Network

The Cancer Survivors Network is an online community created by and for survivors and caregivers as an outlet to cope with the challenges and spectrum of emotions that living with cancer can bring. It allows patients and caregivers the opportunity to find strength through a shared experience. The Cancer Survivors Network is accessible 24 hours a day by logging on to www.cancer.org. Patients, as well as family and caregivers, will find personal stories, "chat rooms," cancer information, community resources and more. Registered users can create their own Web page.



The American Cancer Society is the nationwide community-based voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy and service.

To help you through your cancer journey



1.800.ACS.2345
www.cancer.org

Hope.Progress.Answers.®



American Cancer Society
South Atlantic Division
Serving DE, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV,
and Washington, D.C.



Our programs and services are designed to meet the needs of cancer patients and their families throughout their cancer journey. All programs are available free of charge. To refer your patients to any of these programs, please call our Cancer Resource Network directly at 1.800.ACS.2345.

Reach to Recovery

Reach to Recovery offers one-on-one visits for women with breast cancer who will have, or have had, a lumpectomy, mastectomy or recurrence. The visit is made by a breast cancer survivor who has been carefully chosen and trained. Each patient is given a Reach “kit” containing a soft prosthesis for mastectomy patients, exercise support, literature and local resource information. The volunteer shares her experiences and offers support to the patient at a time of need.



Man to Man

Men with prostate cancer and their family members can benefit from Man to Man education and support groups available in many communities. Most groups provide monthly meetings for prostate cancer patients, as well as their spouses, to hear topics related to the diagnosis, treatment

and management of prostate cancer and its side effects. Some groups provide one-on-one visitation between a prostate cancer survivor and a newly diagnosed patient. A few offer spouse visitation as well.



Road to Recovery

In order to benefit from the many treatments that are available to help patients fight and survive their cancer, they must first get to treatment. In most major metropolitan areas, and in many smaller communities, the American Cancer Society has a corps of trained Road to Recovery volunteer drivers. They use their own vehicles and gas while donating their time to transport patients to chemotherapy, radiation, surgery or an initial consult to set up these treatments. Patients must be ambulatory and transportation requests must be received at least five business days prior to a scheduled appointment. Requests may be made by calling 1.800.ACS.2345.



I Can Cope

I Can Cope is a patient/family educational series that focuses on living with cancer. Each class is led by doctors, nurses, social workers, registered dietitians and others. Depending on the series, topics may include human anatomy, cancer development, diagnosis, treatment, side-effects, new research, communications, emotions, sexuality, self-esteem, community resources, money matters, nutrition and pain management. Individuals who know more about their cancer can make informed decisions and become stronger partners on the treatment team.



Dietitian On Call

A registered dietitian provides free telephone nutrition counseling to anyone touched by cancer. Many people experience difficulty eating during treatment. Many have questions about nutrition and cancer or want help achieving a healthy weight after treatment is completed. Information is personalized, questions are answered, written materials are sent and follow-up is provided as needed. Both cancer survivors and health care professionals have found this service most helpful.

Patient Advocate

To assist patients and their families with more complex cancer-related issues, we have Licensed Clinical Social Workers serving as Patient Advocates on staff through our Cancer Resource Network. Patient Advocates are available to assist callers with issues such as loss of income, lack of health insurance, locating community resources, and assisting with the emotional impact of a cancer diagnosis. Patient Advocates are available by referral from a Cancer Information Specialist, who will screen all callers for their needs and issues prior to putting the caller in contact with a Patient Advocate.

Hope Lodge

A “home away from home” for out-of-town cancer patients and their caregivers, Hope Lodge provides free housing in a supportive and caring environment while patients undergo treatment at local cancer treatment facilities. Patients and caregivers alike find strength through sharing their cancer experience with other guests. Hope Lodges are located in Atlanta, Ga., Baltimore, Md., Charleston, S.C., and Greenville, N.C. Rooms are subject to availability.

Look Good...Feel Better

This two-hour, hands-on group workshop, conducted by volunteer cosmetologists, includes a 12-step skin care and makeup program as well as a demonstration on how to use wigs, turbans, scarves and hats to help a woman cope with the side effects of cancer treatment and help restore her sense of inner and outer beauty. Patients must be undergoing chemotherapy or radiation treatment to participate in LGFB. A self-help video is available for women in rural areas or for those who cannot attend a live group session. *This program is a partnership between the American Cancer Society, the Cosmetic, Toiletry, and Fragrance Association Foundation, and the National Cosmetology Association.*

Wigs

The American Cancer Society often has new wigs available free of charge for cancer survivors who request them.

“tlc”

“tlc” is a mail-order catalog that offers reasonably priced hats, scarves, turbans, wigs, hairpieces, sleepwear, mastectomy swimsuits, bras and breast forms. It is published twice a year and can be obtained free of charge by calling toll-free 1.800.850.9445 or going online at www.tlccatalog.org.

College Scholarships

The American Cancer Society College Scholarship Program is open to any survivor of childhood cancer diagnosed before the age of 19 and who is currently 25 or under. Applicants must be accepted to an accredited two- or four-year institution and be legal residents of Delaware, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia or Washington, D.C.