



## LOWCOUNTRY AREA SUPPORT GROUPS and RESOURCES

### Cancer Support Groups and Resources

***American Cancer Society's Hope Lodge (Charleston, SC)*** – Our lodge provides free accommodations for cancer outpatients who reside outside a 40-mile radius and must undergo treatment at local hospitals. The Lodge is comprised of two Charleston-styled homes with seventeen guest suites to accommodate cancer patients and their caregivers. Guests are served on a first-come, first-served basis through our guest reservation system. Local patients are invited to use the Lodge as a respite during the day between treatments. For more information, please call 1-800-ACS-2345. The informational Web site address is [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

***American Cancer Society Patient Resource Center*** – Your American Cancer Society has a toll-free number that provides information regarding American Cancer Society programs, cancer information and other resources including but not limited to clinical trials matching service, lodging, transportation, financial and insurance help. Call 1-800-ACS-2345 (24 hours a day, 7 days a week). The informational Web site address is [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

***American Cancer Society Survivor Suite*** – Your American Cancer Society offers Survivor Suites in all SC offices. The Suites offer educational materials and an assortment of wigs, turbans, scarves, bras, and prosthesis (products may vary by location) in a boutique-like setting. The Charleston office is located at 5900 Core Road, Suite 504, North Charleston, SC 29406, Monday – Friday from 8:30 am-5:00 pm. No appointment necessary, all items are free of charge. For more information call 1-800-ACS-2345

***Breast Cancer Survivors Group*** – Speakers & support. Meets on the third Monday of the month from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm. at John Wesley United Methodist Church, 626 Savannah Hwy, Charleston. For more information, please call Pam Austin at (843)478-8249/[paustin@golfheadquarters.net](mailto:paustin@golfheadquarters.net) or Teresa Pischner, Breast Nurse Navigator (843)724-2747/[teresa.pischner@rsfh.com](mailto:teresa.pischner@rsfh.com)

***Brett's Rainbow*** – This weekend camp is designed to meet the needs of young people who have experienced the death of someone special. It is free of charge and open to children ages 6-16. The camp is sponsored by community contributions made to Palmetto Health Hospice through the Health Alliance Foundation. For more information, please call Barry Brown at 1-800-238-1884 and leave a message. The E-mail address is [barry.brown@palmettohealth.org](mailto:barry.brown@palmettohealth.org)

***Cancer Support Programs*** – Periodic programs on nutrition, pain music therapy, relaxation and library at ACS Hope Lodge, Calhoun Street and Ashley Avenue. For more information, please call Sundi Herring at (843) 958-0930

***Cancer Support Group*** – This support group meets the third Mondays of each month from 5:30 – 6:30 pm at Saint James Church, 1872 Camp Road, James Island, SC in the Parlor of the Ministry Center (enter through the covered walkway). For more information please contact Jane Horn at (843) 795-2948

***Cancer Survivor Network (for survivors and caregivers)*** – Your American Cancer Society sponsors this community of survivors and caregivers. It unites people who have been touched by cancer and allows them to communicate with others who are going through a similar cancer experience. For more information, please call 1-877-333-4673 (HOPE) or visit the Web site at [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

***Can – Teen (for teenagers with cancer)*** – provide an opportunity for teens to meet other teens with cancer. This support group promotes well-being and leadership through fun-filled activities. Can-Teen was created to bring teenagers with cancer together so they can share experiences, help those that are newly diagnosed, and to build friendships. Sponsored by MUSC, for more information, contact Michelle at (843) 792-1380

***Caregiver Support Group*** – This group was created to provide a place for caregivers of loved ones with cancer to share stories, worries, and celebrations in a supportive environment. Expressive therapy

techniques will be employed to address how the family is coping with cancer while encouraging creative self-expression, tension release and relaxation, and new ways of communicating to uncover the veil of silence, fear, denial, guilt, anger, and depression often experienced by caregivers. Join us to create, connect, express, and refresh your mind, body, and spirit—recognizing that when you care for yourself, you are much better at caring for the ones you love. This group meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at the Trident Cancer Center Lobby 1<sup>st</sup> floor. For more information, contact Belinda Riffie at (843) 847-5068

**Charleston Dragon Boat** – Support group on water. Cancer survivors paddle a "dragon boat" in competitions. Mission: to encourage healthy healing and healthy lifestyles through goal oriented exercise, good nutrition, education and fellowship; to support the beneficial effects of physical activity in survivorship through research; to provide a positive model for our community demonstrating courage, determination and team cooperation; and to advance the sport of dragon boating. For more information, please contact Sterling Hannah at (843) 442-6167

**Colorectal Cancer Support Group** – Speakers & support. This group meets first Wednesday of the month from 4:00 – 5:00 pm at the Roper St. Francis Cancer Center, 2085 Henry Tecklenburg Drive, Charleston, West of the Ashley. For more information please contact Debby Krajick (843) 720-8388

**Breast Cancer Support** – For more information please call Dr. Cindy Carter at (843) 327-1520

**East Cooper Breast Cancer Support Group** – Meets on the last Monday of the month at the East Cooper Hospital 1<sup>st</sup> floor classroom, Mt. Pleasant, SC. Periodic speaker dinner provided. For more information, please call Penny at (843) 881-9499

**Expressions of Healing** – This is a visual and literary art program for cancer patients, survivors, and their loved ones. This Roper St. Francis Health Services program is a series of six weekly art sessions and literary sessions. Sessions are held twice a year and are free of charge. For more information, please call Barbara Mack at (843) 724-8343

**Grief Journey** – This is a six week, closed, structured support group for adults who have experienced a significant loss. These groups are held on an as needed basis. Please call (843) 529-3100 for more information

**Hope in Healing Support Group** – This is an open, ongoing, supportive group of individuals exploring issues relevant to their progression through grief's journey. This is available to those whose loss has occurred within the last 12 months. This support group meets the second Thursday of each month from 10:30 am - 12:00 pm at the Hospice of Charleston office, 3870 Leeds Avenue, Suite 101. Please call Bereavement Services at (843) 529-3100 for more information

**Happy Days and Special Times** – *The loving answer for children with cancer* – This non-profit medical organization is designed to meet the emotional and financial needs of children with cancer and their families. Events include summer camp, holiday parties, annual teen trips and parent getaways. The mailing address is 1622 Ashley Hall Rd, Charleston, SC 29402. For more information, contact Howder at (843) 571-4336 or kids2@hdstkids.org, to volunteer, contact Theresa Bishop at (843) 571-4336 or volunteer@hdstkids.org. To become a sponsor please contact Hope Gamble at (843) 571-4336 or medwards@hdstkids.org. The informational Web site address is www.hdstkids.org

**Ovarian Cancer Support Group** – Lunch Bunch. Group meets on the first Tuesday of the month at various restaurants. For more information, please contact Janet Bartku at rbartku@aol.com or Janet Rigdon at (864) 325-6296 or via e-mail at jrigdon@scovariancancer.org

**Look Good Feel Better** – Your American Cancer Society in partnership with the Cosmetic, Toiletry and Fragrance Association, and the National Cosmetology Association offers this free service to women undergoing chemotherapy or radiation treatment. This monthly program helps women to cope with appearance-related side effects of their treatment. Sessions are held throughout the Tri-county area and are conducted by trained cosmetologist. Registration is required. Each patient receives a free makeup kit to use during the session & to take home valued at \$300-\$350. For more information, please call 1-800-ACS-2345. The informational Web site address is www.cancer.org

**Mount Pleasant Cancer Club** – For survivors, caregivers, family and friend – group meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church, 303 Hibben Street – Parlor. For information, call Anne and Mac Turnage at (843)-216-1383 or via e-mail macturnage@msn.com

***Mourning to Morning Bereavement Center*** – The Mourning to Morning Bereavement Center offers a variety of grief support and grief education programs for the community. The center also provides grief support for Hospice of Charleston patients and their families through support visits, phone calls, support mailings and counseling. The center is located in the Hospice of Charleston office. Workshops and seminars are held at various times throughout the year. For more information on our Mourning to Morning Bereavement Center, please call (843) 529-3100

***MUSC Health Connection*** – This service of the Hollings Cancer Center provides information and education on cancer-related topics using a computer reference library. A registered nurse will assist you with cancer information and community support services. For more information, please call 1-800-424-MUSC. The informational Web site address is [www.muschealth.com](http://www.muschealth.com)

***New Image After Breast Cancer*** – Meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Summerville Medical Center. For more information contact Janice Nations, at (843) 303-2590 or via e-mail at [jansambri@msn.com](mailto:jansambri@msn.com)

***Pathfinders*** – This is a bereavement support group for adults designed to guide grieving people toward the path of healthy living during a time of much pain and confusion. This program is held on the first Tuesday of each month from 5:30 – 7:30 pm. Palmetto Health Baptist Medical Center Taylor at Marion Street Cafeteria Private Dining Room. Dinner meal provided to all attendees. For more information: (800) 238-1884

***Reach to Recovery*** – Sponsored by the American Cancer Society. This is a one-on-one visitation program for women facing breast cancer. Trained volunteer breast cancer survivors provide non- medical information, support, and practical tips. Patients have the unique opportunity to talk one-on-one with someone who has been through a similar breast cancer experience. Each patient receives several free gifts including a bra from the American Cancer Society. For more information or to make a referral please call 1-888-227-6333. The informational Web site address is [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

***Rise Sister Rise*** – African-American breast cancer survivor 16-week program for coping and life styles changes. This program is held in the spring and fall. Please contact Cherry Seabrook at (843) 722-6245, [charseabrook@aol.com](mailto:charseabrook@aol.com) for additional information

***2<sup>nd</sup> Chance*** – Support group for cancer survivors. Meetings are held on the forth Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at 166 St. Margaret Street. Please contact Cherry Seabrook at (843) 722-6245 for additional information

***Shannon's Hope*** – This is a therapeutic camp for children ages 6 - 15 who have experienced the death of someone they love. Licensed counselors and hospice-trained volunteers provide fun, organized activities in helping children "create stepping stones from their stumbling block. For more information contact the Hospice of Charleston at (843) 529-3100

***Throat/Tongue Cancer Support*** – This is a cancer survivor in remission, who is willing to offer support to others. For more information, contact Billie Attaway (843) 514-2200

***Trident Health System Cancer Resource Line*** – This is a community service of Trident Health Systems that provide information about cancer, treatment, support groups, and other community resources. It also provides physician referrals, Trident Cancer Center services, and access to the Cancer Resource Room (a reading room with videos, books, and other materials)  
Call (843) 797-3463

***United Ostomy Association, Charleston Chapter*** – For meeting times and dates, please call Mary Ellen Millhouse at 843-766-4528 or via e-mail at [mebeckmillhouse@earthlink.net](mailto:mebeckmillhouse@earthlink.net)

***US TOO Prostate Cancer Support Group*** – This group meets on the first Tuesday of each month from 7:00 – 9:00 pm in the Bethel United Methodist Church, 52 Pitt Street in downtown Charleston. This is an international meeting for prostate cancer patients and their families. For more information, contact Reuban Martin at (843) 556-1758 or John Ramsey at (843) 556-1698

For more information about programs and services offered by your American Cancer Society, please call 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org).

*Please note that this is not a complete listing of area support groups and resources. This listing is not an indication of endorsement by your American Cancer Society. These community programs are sponsored by various organizations.*