

In Memoriam...

Current board of directors member, Past Board President 1997-1998, avid Cancer Services supporter, and dear friend Tom Kirkpatrick died October 13, 2009 after a brave battle with cancer.

He was always ready to help and lend support – with an eagle eye on financial prudence – and recently guided the organization through a much needed warehouse refurbishing and office building facelift. Tom's dedicated volunteer work and board commitment had a tremendous impact on our agency.

We extend heartfelt sympathy to his family. We will truly miss our friend.



Col. Thomas K. Kirkpatrick
1944-2009

Holiday Celebrations:

November 18th: *Giving Thanks to Volunteers*
Fall Appreciation Party. For more information, call Cindi Tramonte at (225) 927-2273.

December 6th: *Annual Children's Holiday Party*
Candlelighter and Kids Kare Families. Embassy Suites Hotel. For times and to RSVP, contact Esther Sachse at (225) 927-2273.

December 9th: *Make Today Count Holiday Event*
For all clients of Cancer Services. 11:30 am - 1 pm. Please RSVP by calling (225) 927-2273.

*We hope that you
can join us!
Season's Greetings
for a wonderful holiday.*



You Can Give The Best Gift This Holiday Season

This holiday season, you can give the ultimate gift - **your time** - to members of our community living with cancer. At Cancer Services, we have lots of volunteer opportunities. See what some have done recently:



As the school year started, faculty members from St. Joseph's Academy and Episcopal School each held their own day of community service at Cancer Services. They painted, organized our wig boutique and supply closets, assisted with filing, created welcome packets for our clients and much more. We are so grateful for their help – thank you, volunteers!

Pictured from top are: Episcopal School faculty and St. Joseph's Academy faculty.

November & December 2009

Health Awareness Calendar:

November

- Great American Smoke Out Month
www.cancer.gov
- National Family Caregivers' Month
www.nfcares.org
- Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month
www.pancan.org

Holiday Office Closures:

- November 26 & 27
December 24 & 25
January 1

We wish you and your family a wonderful Holiday Season!

Cancer Services of Greater Baton Rouge
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www.cancerservices.org

Hours:
Monday — Friday
8:30 am to 4:30 pm



The Cancer Services' Newsletter is published every other month, beginning in January.

**Our Mission:
To improve life for those living with cancer.**

A History of Caring...

Support Programs Through the Decades

Thirty years ago, Iowa resident Orville Kelly, author and cancer survivor, had an idea. He started a support group called Make Today Count to allow cancer patients and survivors to help each other through their journey. More than 200 Make Today Count groups sprouted up throughout the country, including one in Baton Rouge, supported by Cancer Services.

Now, more than 30 years after that support group kicked off in Baton Rouge, Make Today Count is the longest running support group of its kind in our area. Guest speakers, educational discussions, music therapy, art therapy and more are all part of these meetings. Cancer Services drew inspiration from this group and expanded support group programs in the 1990s.

Today, we have 18 monthly recurring support groups. They include cancer-specific support groups as well as other groups for cancer-related

issues such as caregiving and grief. The children's programs - Candlelighters and Kids Kare - are other support groups that meet once each month for fun activities and a place where parents can enjoy fellowship.

"While we may not have realized it back in 1978, support groups have a huge, positive impact on those fighting and surviving cancer," said Esther Sachse, Director of Programs. "Research suggests that those who attend support groups adjust more readily to life after a cancer diagnosis. It is inspiring to see just how much cancer survivors can benefit from hearing another survivor share his or her story."

For a full list of groups offered by Cancer Services, please see our enclosed calendar.



Pictures top L, clockwise: Music Therapy sessions are popular with current Make Today Count speaker meetings. Support Groups are also held in out lying parishes, such as St. James Parish (pictured here) at the Lucher Library. Mom's Night Out, a group event for mothers of children with cancer, is held two times a year.



Thank You!

This year, Cancer Services celebrated its 50th Birthday. As we look back on 2009, we are grateful for all who helped to honor this momentous occasion. Thank you for celebrating our Golden Anniversary with us!