

Relay News



American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Whitewater News February 2007

GET THE FACTS ON FIGHTING CANCER THROUGH ADVOCACY

More than 10,000 cancer-related bills are introduced each year in the U.S. in the combined federal, state, and local government.

The ACS is dedicated to making cancer a legislative priority and eliminating cancer as a major health problem through voter education and issue campaigns. The Society played a leading role in the passage of the National Cancer Act, which has caused federal investments in cancer research to increase from \$230 million in 1971 to more than \$5.6 billion today.

Last September, volunteers representing every congressional district gathered on the steps of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. for Celebration on the Hill. The gathering helped show our elected officials how the Society is making a difference in the fight against cancer in every community nationwide.

In 2006, ACS volunteers and staff reduced the burden of cancer through Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin by supporting strong public health policy. Following are some of the accomplishments:

- Protected funding for state breast and cervical cancer treatment programs.
- Protected and increased funding for statewide tobacco prevention programs.

- In South Dakota, 25,000 signatures were collected to pave the way for a ballot initiative that increased the cigarette tax by \$1.00 per pack.
- In Wisconsin, health insurers will now be required to cover routine patient care costs associated with clinical trials.

In 2007, the ACS will work with lawmakers to fight cancer:

- By supporting research and programs that prevent, detect, and treat cancer.
- By expanding access to quality cancer care, prevention, and awareness.
- By reducing disparities in prevention and treatment.
- By reducing and preventing suffering from tobacco-related illness.

KEY ISSUES IN WISCONSIN



1. Raise the tobacco tax.
2. Support legislation to adequately fund the breast and cervical cancer-screening program.

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Scholarships Available for Young Cancer Survivors

The Midwest Division of the American Cancer Society is offering a limited number of scholarships for young cancer survivors who are planning to attend a university, college, technical or vocational school in the fall of 2007.

The annual Youth Scholarship Program enables young cancer survivors to demonstrate accomplishments they have made in spite of their illness.

A volunteer review committee will select scholarship recipients based on their academic or vocational goals, current financial need, leadership, and community service, with preference given to first-time applicants.

Eligibility guidelines for a scholarship include: a cancer diagnosis before the age of 21, the student must be under the age of 25 at the time of application, the applicant must be a legal resident of Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota or Wisconsin for at least one year, the student must have completed the application process and have been accepted to an accredited two to four year institution.

Applications are due by March 15, 2007. The awards will be paid directly to the institution of choice and will supplement fall 2007 tuition costs.

For more information on the scholarship or how to apply, students may contact the ACS at 1-800-227-2345 and ask for their local Patient Navigator or log on the www.cancer.org.



ANNE'S ALLOCUTION

Just a few thoughts for you:

February, the month when we make a point to cherish our loved ones, is a great month to think about those we love who have been touched by cancer and to resolve to do everything possible so that no one else we love will have to face this frightening diagnosis again!

It is not too late to begin Relay fundraising—a raffle or bake sale or chili or salad for lunch fundraiser is a great way to spread the Relay spirit and gives a good return for not too much effort.

A new goal for this year's Relay is to recruit 100 survivors—yes, ONE HUNDRED—to walk with us on August 4th. I hope you all are looking for people to invite to our wonderful Relay party!

Next Relay meeting is a Relay Leadership Committee Meeting. We VERY MUCH NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE AND FOR THE KIDS' ACTIVITY AREA! Please consider volunteering for this fun part of our Relay Planning. If you are interested in helping out with any of our Relay Planning please attend the February 26 Planning Meeting—as with most meetings this year it will be at Fairhaven Retirement Home at 435 Starin Road at 6:30 p.m. Email me if you need directions or encouragement or arm-twisting.

Anne Griffiths, Chair
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QUIP FROM KATHY



You may have tangible wealth untold;
Caskets of jewels and coffers of gold-
Richer than I you can never be;
For I had a mother who read to me.

Strickland Gillilan

Your Editor - Kathy Schumacher

What will our theme be in 2007?
Only one of you knows for sure. Be
prepared to share with the rest of
us! ☺

DID YOU KNOW?

1. There are more than 4,580 communities involved with Relay For Life. That means one RFL for every 65,000 Americans. WOW!
2. More than one million people seek cancer information each year.
3. There is still a lack of quality cancer prevention and treatment for underserved populations!
4. Relay for Life is Online. Is Relay Online for you? If so, visit www.cancer.org/relayonline.

IMPORTANT DATES

February 15	Daffodil Days Deadline
February 26	Relay Leadership Meeting
March 5-7	Daffodil Delivery to Floral Villa
March 19	Kick-Off
April 23	Team Captain Round Table
May 18	Pig Roast
May 21	Relay Leadership Meeting
June 25	Deadline for Registration Fee, T-Shirt Order and Logo
July 4	Relay Float in Parade
July 23	Team Captain Event Info
August 2	Bank Night – Commercial Bank
August 3-4	Relay Fun!!!!

MORE INFORMATION WILL BE FORTHCOMING AS EACH DATE APPROACHES!

