

## The Palchak Connection

Hope for a Cure... Begins with Research

Summer 2012

Volume 1 Issue 1

#### **Newsletter Debut**

We are so happy to be sending out the first issue of our semi annual newsletter. Since 2003, the Jacqualyn Palchak Cancer Fund (JPCF) has been supporting local cancer research, providing educational programs and patient services. We hope this newsletter will help spread the word about the JPCF, and that local cancer research is making a difference in the lives of people right here in our community.

#### Access to Clinical Trials

The JPCF and the National Cancer Institute (NCI) both provide funding for the South San Luis Obispo County cancer research program. All the cancer clinical trials open in the South County are NCI trials.

Because of recent changes in the NCI and oversight of our local research program, South County patients now have access to clinical trials organized by "Alliance for Clinical Trials in Oncology", Cancer Trials Support Unit and NCI's central IRB.

In most instances, these are the same research trials a patient would be offered if one traveled to Bethesda, Maryland and enrolled as a patient at the NCI.

The most important result of these changes is that local patients now have access to about 70 of the same clinical trials offered by the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda. This is the largest menu of cancer research trials available in the region.

## Did You Know...

In 1994 Dr. Palchak began doing clinical trials cancer research in the South County. Below are encouraging national statistics:

Annually 500,000 cases of life threatening cancers diagnosed In 1994 240,000 CURED\* Equates to 48% cure rate 295,000 CURED\* Currently Equates to 54% cure rate

*Difference* 55,000 CURED\*

**Equates to approx. population** of entire South SLO County

\* CURED = Cancer that does not return

Dr. David Palchak Medical Oncologist & Clinical Investigator For 18 years, Dr. David Palchak has led an organized cancer research program in South San Luis Obispo County and has offered another option



for cancer patients. Over 100 local patients have participated in various clinical trials and were among the first in the nation to receive advanced treatments for breast cancer, prostate cancer, lung cancer, ovarian cancer and myeloma. Dr. Palchak is a member of two Cooperative

member of two Cooperative Study Groups which must pass the same audits of quality care ONCOLOGY as university cancer centers.



#### **Activities and Events**

❖ For info call Marie Palchak 710-3113

#### **Monthly Nutrition Classes**

Dr. Palchak's Office July 3, 2012 at 4:00 pm August 21, 2012 at 4:00 pm

Yoga Classes with Lisa Jansen Every Friday 11 to 12:15 at Yoga Village in Arroyo Grande This class is available for patients going through treatment or those who have recently completed treatment.

#### **Cancer Survivors' Celebration**

A wonderful celebration of life! Saturday, September 22, 2012 Saint John's Lutheran Church 959 Valley Road, Arroyo Grande

#### **Arroyo Grande Harvest Festival**

Come see us at our booth Sept. 28 & 29

## Health Expo

JPCF participated in the March expo held at the Madonna Expo to promote services. Board member Donna Glass, at our booth.



## **Small Group Cancer Topics**

PCR Oncology and the JPCF are sponsoring a series of small group meetings on specific cancer topics beginning this summer. The object of this series will be to share with you, the National Cancer Institute's approach to treatment of your cancer. The treatments described will be those supported by the NCI through its research programs and are available locally through outreach programs. The first meeting will be on multiple myeloma and is scheduled for Aug. 8.

Reservations are not required, but please call PCR Oncology at 474-9143 for more information.

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## Making a Difference

Help to preserve local research and support advancements in cancer research with a donation to the Jacqualyn Palchak Cancer Fund.

Consider a bequest in your estate planning. You can help ensure that our work continues in the future by designating a gift to JPCF in your will or trust.

Make an annual donation in honor or memory of a friend, loved one or special occasion. Your taxdeductible donation remains here, in our local community, benefiting loved ones, friends and neighbors.

Help us continue making a difference in the fight against cancer.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. Donations can be made on-line at www.palchakcancerfund.org or mailed to: The JPCF

PO Box 1614, Pismo Beach, CA 93448-1614

# In the True Spirit of Aloha

Two months after stepping down as Hospice Medical Director, Dr. Palchak was honored by Hospice employees, supporters and volunteers for his 14 years of friendship, service and leadership.

Barbie and Jim Rodgers hosted a festive Hawaiian Luau with authentic live music and Hula dancers.

Participants of the evening's event made donations and a \$500 check for the Jacqualyn Palchak Cancer Fund

was presented to Dr. Palchak.

Thank you so much for the generosity and recognition from this wonderful group of people. It is truly appreciated.



Pictured left to right: Ashley Hahn and Barbie Rodgers with Dr. Palchak, wife Marie and their daughter Erin Palchak (middle).

### **Board of Directors**

JPCF is a federally recognized 501(c)3 non-profit organization governed by the following Board of Directors:

Marie Palchak, President Theresa Schultz, Secretary Linda Alvarado, Treasurer Bill Cockshott, Member at Large Donna Glass, Member at Large



Board of Directors, left to right: Donna Glass, Linda Alvardo, Marie Palchak and Bill Cockshott, with Dr. David Palchak. Not pictured: Theresa Schultz

## Services Available

The JPCF is here to help meet the challenges of those diagnosed with cancer. Since 2004 we have offered medical social work consults to help link community resources with patient needs.

Thank you to the generosity of our donors. You are making a difference in the lives of people living with a cancer diagnosis.

#### To Contact Us



Call Marie Palchak at 805-710-3113
Visit us on the web at
www.palchakcancerfund.org