

The Optimist

Newsletter of Indian American Cancer Network (IACAN)

Volume 2, January 2011

We at IACAN wish each and every one of you a bright and promising 2011, filled with joy, health and prosperity! With your assistance and support, IACAN had a productive 2010. We wish to share some of the accomplishments with you.

Indian American Cancer network (IACAN): Historical review - from inception to present

Since its inception in 2009, IACAN has achieved several goals. They are identified by the following mileposts towards its mission.

- First meeting at Madras Pavilion:- March 12, 2008, attendance: 27
- First public forum at the American Cancer Society:- October 18, 2008, attendance: 75
- Incorporation in the state of Texas:- February 2009
- Non Profit 501(c)(3) approval from IRS:- April 2009
- Volunteer meeting:- August 1, 2009, attendance: 45
- Formal inauguration of IACAN:- August 16, 2009, Attendance: 180
- Volunteer training session:- September 19, 2009, attendance: 40
- Services rendered – 12 patients/caregivers

In addition to these organizational milestones, IACAN's growth is evident from the following activities conducted in 2010.

- Monthly survivors/caregivers meetings
- Educational outreach events in the community
 - February 28, 2010 (*"Cancer Prevalence among Indians: An Open Dialogue with Leading Experts"*, India House, attendance: 140)

- May 23, 2010 (*"Role of Diet and Complementary Medicine in Cancer"*, India House, attendance: 110)
- October 23, 2010 (*"The Epidemic of Breast Cancer- What Everyone Should Know"*, India House, attendance: 40)
- Informational booths at community health fairs
- Bone marrow donor registration drives (more than 50 registrations)
- Informational articles on cancer-related topics in local newspapers

The Board meets on the third Tuesday of every month from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM at the American Cancer Society. Some of the highlights of its activities:

- Board retreat: December 5, 2010
- Board training conducted by United Way: December 9, 2010

In order to plan the activities for 2011, a questionnaire will be sent to you electronically in January. Please respond promptly. Your feedback is vital to the growth of the organization.

We thank the Asian Cancer Council at the American Cancer Society, Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas, Asian American Health Coalition, The Hope Clinic and The Indo American Charity Foundation for their continued support and funding.

We sincerely thank those who have donated generously time and money to IACAN.

We look forward to your continued support.

Sincerely,
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