



# Florida Cancer Control & Research Advisory Council

January 31, 2014

Agency for Health Care Administration  
All Children's Hospital  
American Cancer Society  
American College of Surgeons  
Association of Community Cancer Centers  
Department of Family & Children's Services  
Florida Osteopathic Medical Association  
Florida Agriculture & Mechanical University,  
Institute of Public Health  
Florida Association of Pediatric Tumor Programs  
Florida Cancer Registrars Association  
Florida Dental Association  
Florida Department of Corrections  
Florida Department of Education  
Florida Department of Health  
Florida Hospital Association  
Florida House of Representatives  
Florida Medical Association  
Florida Nurses Association  
Florida Pediatric Society  
Florida Senate  
Florida Society of Clinical Oncology  
Florida Society of Oncology Social Workers  
FOCAS (Florida Ovarian Cancer Alliance Speaks)  
H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research  
Institute  
Nova Southeastern University, College of  
Osteopathic Medicine  
Office of Open Government - Governor's Office  
School of Medicine of the University of Miami  
Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center  
University of Florida, College of Medicine  
University of Florida, Shands Cancer Center  
University of South Florida, College of  
Public Health  
University of South Florida, College of Medicine

Dear Community Partner:

As chair of the Survivorship Committee of the Governor's Cancer Control and Research Advisory Board (CCRAB), I want to take this opportunity to remind you that June is **National Cancer Survivors Month**. According to data from the 2012 Florida Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System, a population-based health survey collecting data on individual risk behaviors and preventative health practices, there are over 2 million cancer survivors now living in the state of Florida. As such, it is a wonderful opportunity for our Florida communities to celebrate these survivors now living in Florida.

As a dedicated and long standing community partner in the fight against cancer, I know that you are well aware of the importance of honoring and supporting our cancer survivors. I would love to see survivors being honored in all Florida communities this June. With that in mind we are writing to encourage you to begin planning your efforts for National Cancer Survivor Month **now**.

No event to recognize and support cancer survivors is too large or too small. Enclosed are some ideas for celebrating with your own patients. Once you have identified the activity or event your organization would like to conduct, please let us know your plan so that we may share it with others across the state.

Please complete the attached Cancer Survivor Activity/Event Form and send to Sue Higgins at [Sue.higgins@flhealth.gov](mailto:Sue.higgins@flhealth.gov) by April 4, 2014. Ms. Higgins will in turn share your event with the coordinator for your regional cancer control collaborative and it will be posted on the collaborative's website to help raise awareness and promote your efforts.

I thank you for all your efforts on behalf of cancer patients in the state of Florida and we look forward to continuing to work with you as we work to make Florida the healthiest state in the nation.

Sincerely,

Eric Sandler, MD  
Chief of Hematology / Oncology  
Nemours Children's Clinic, Jacksonville  
Chair, Survivorship Committee for CCRAB