



Contact: Sam Caruso, Jr.
Slidell Memorial Hospital
1001 Gause Blvd.
Slidell, LA 70458
985-649-8834

Cancer Survivors, friends join in Celebration of Life for SMH's National Cancer Survivors Day community event

Slidell, LA –June 1, 2009—Slidell Memorial Hospital (SMH) will host a community event celebrating National Cancer Survivors Day on Sunday, June 7 featuring a Celebration of Life with guest speaker cancer survivors and cancer education and information.

The event takes place from 2 to 4 p.m., June 7 at the SMH Founders Building Conference Room, 1150 Robert Blvd.

National Cancer Survivors Day is a day to honor cancer survivors who are living with and beyond cancer, as well as those professionals who are helping to fight the battle against cancer. Now in its 22nd year, National Cancer Survivors Day is observed in more than 700 communities throughout the United States and Canada.

The SMH Cancer Center offers a variety of seminars and free or reduced-cost screenings providing the opportunity for early detection and treatment of cancer. Cancer Center support groups and programs provide patients and their families and friends with information and emotional encouragement from others who have walked the same path.

- Life with Cancer Support Group meets at 1 p.m. the first Wednesday of the month.
- Breast Cancer Support Group meets at 6:30 p.m. the third Wednesday of the month.
- Yoga classes for Cancer patients & caregivers, funded in part by the Leonard C. Thomas Hematology & Oncology Specialists Foundation, meets Wednesdays from 4:45-5:45 p.m.

The Cancer Center also features an Appearance Center featuring wigs, hats and prostheses for patients undergoing chemotherapy or radiation. Information is available by calling (985) 649-8582.

SMH cancer services have been accredited by the American College of Surgeons since 1992. SMH's Cancer Program includes inpatient cancer care, an outpatient infusion center, radiation oncology services using the most advanced radiation therapy in the world, plus support groups, social services, nutritional and pastoral care. A leading supporter of the annual East St. Tammany Relay for Life and sponsor of the event's Survivors Tent, SMH has earned the Company of Excellence Award from the American Cancer Society in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

ABOUT SMH

Slidell Memorial Hospital is a full-service 182-bed acute care not-for-profit community hospital located at 1001 Gause Blvd., in the heart of Slidell. Founded in 1959, SMH is the third-largest employer in St. Tammany Parish, employing 1,100 full, part-time and pool clinical and administrative employees. SMH serves as a primary healthcare resource for families in St. Tammany Parish, LA; Pearl River County, MS; and the greater Mississippi Gulf Coast region.

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SMH ■ 1001 Gause Blvd. ■ Slidell LA ■ 70458