



## ICCCC: Iowa Consortium for Comprehensive Cancer Control

# NEWS

July 2008

Volume 3, Issue 6

### In This Issue

- High Ground
- Flooding Assistance
- Ways to Celebrate a Smoke-Free Iowa
- Save the Date
- In the Headlines
- Cancer Control Resources

### Dates to Remember

October 16:  
ICCCC Fall Meeting  
Johnston, Iowa

October 17:  
IA Cancer Summit  
Johnston, Iowa

## ICCCC Partners Respond to Flooding & Tornadoes:

### High Ground for Cancer Patients

In response to the devastating floods and tornadoes that have swept through Iowa, five organizations dedicated to fighting cancer have established High Ground for Cancer Patients a special initiative to help cancer patients and their loved ones living in any officially declared federal disaster county in Iowa.

The Iowa Consortium for Comprehensive Cancer Control is working with the American Cancer Society, the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center, the Iowa Department of Public Health and the Lance Armstrong Foundation to provide housing, transportation and medical assistance to cancer patients currently receiving treatment.

"Having cancer is hard. But having to deal with the devastating and disruptive effects of these natural disasters on top of it is more than cancer patients and their families should be expected to handle alone," said George Weiner, MD, Chair, Iowa Consortium for Comprehensive Cancer Control and Director of the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of Iowa.

"These organizations expressed a great desire to support cancer patients who have experienced additional hardship inflicted by flood and tornado damage and immediately took action to provide the services they need now more than ever," said Weiner.

The cancer relief initiative was established for cancer patients currently receiving treatment and living in Iowa counties that have been designated a federal disaster area. Assistance of up to \$1,000 is available and is intended to ease the burden of increased transportation, lodging, or other unexpected expenses due to severe storms and flooding.

Both forms, the Provider Verification Form and the Patient Information Form, must be completed and faxed to 319-353-8988 (Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center).  
[click to download forms](#)

If you have questions about the forms, call 319-353-8620. Please mark ATTENTION: HIGH GROUND FOR CANCER PATIENTS on both forms before faxing them.

### LLS Providing Support to Survivors

The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) provides financial assistance to help patients diagnosed with blood cancers cover some costs associated with transportation, drugs and treatment. A maximum of \$500 a year is available through the local chapter. A one-page application signed by the patient's physician is required. In situations where the patient is **already currently enrolled** in the program, LLS is offering to waive some of the normal documentation requirements in order to speed up reimbursement checks for those blood cancer patients affected by recent Iowa disasters.

To obtain an application, contact Wendy Sontag, Patient Services Manager, (800)347-1074 or visit the website [www.LLS.org/ia](http://www.LLS.org/ia) click on "financial support."



**Question of the Month:** Do you have a choice as to what goes in the ICCCC newsletter?



## Great Ways to Celebrate Iowa Going Smoke Free

### ✓ ICCCC Plan Priority Strategy 1A: Tobacco Control

Eliminate the public's exposure to secondhand smoke in workplaces, restaurants, and all other public facilities.

- Submit a Letter to the Editor in your local paper in support of the Smoke Free Air Act and how excited you are Iowa going smoke free.
- Talk to your local business owners including restaurant and bar owners about how excited you are about the Smoke Free Air Act.
- Take that one step farther and create a relationship with your local businesses, especially the restaurant/ bar owners and managers.
- Provide cessation and Quitline information to your local business owners, community members, churches, friends, family, etc.
- Create a weekly event where you and others plan to meet and frequent the new smoke free restaurants and bars to show your continued support. You can choose a new neighborhood every week.
- Take a deep breath of smoke free air on July 1st and enjoy! We deserve it!

For complete information about the Smokefree Air Act visit [www.IowaSmokefreeAir.gov](http://www.IowaSmokefreeAir.gov) or call the Smokefree Air Act Helpline 1.888.944.2247.

**Tips taken from ACS's list of the top ten ways to celebrate a smoke-free Iowa.**

Cancer Control Planning  
Resources:

[www.cancerIowa.org](http://www.cancerIowa.org)

[www.cancercontrolplanet.cancer.gov](http://www.cancercontrolplanet.cancer.gov)

[www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov)

[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

Questions, comments, corrections, meeting dates and times, and/or story ideas, contact:

**Sara Comstock**

Partnership Program Coordinator

319-335-8144 (phone)

319-335-8891 (fax)

[sara-comstock@uiowa.edu](mailto:sara-comstock@uiowa.edu)

## Save the Date

ICCCC Fall Meeting, October 16<sup>th</sup>

Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Johnston, Iowa

Registration information will be sent out at a later date.

Contact Theresa Allen, [Theresa.allen@cancer.org](mailto:Theresa.allen@cancer.org) or Sara Comstock, [sara-comstock@uiowa.edu](mailto:sara-comstock@uiowa.edu) if you have any questions.



## In the Headlines...

### Racers Ready to Swim, Bike and Run

ICCCC Member in the Spotlight, read more <http://www.whotv.com/Global/story.asp?s=8536032>

### Prostate Cancer Video for the Elderly in Iowa

<http://www.uihealthcare.com/depts/med/urology/iowaconsensus.html>

### News from Across the State as Iowa Goes Smoke Free

[Cedar Rapids Gazette](#) [D.M. Register](#) [Sioux City Journal](#) [Iowa City Press Citizen](#)

## Save the Date

*Maximizing Collaboration...  
Minimizing Disparities:  
2008 Iowa Cancer Summit*

*October 17, 2008*

*Hilton Garden Inn  
8600 Northpark Drive  
Johnston, Iowa 50322*



Registration will be offered at [www.trainingresources.org](http://www.trainingresources.org) at the beginning of September. If you have questions, please contact:

Training Resources, a Division of IBHA Phone: 515-309-3315

# Resources

## Wellmark Grant Due Date Change

Due to the Wellmark Foundation's recent significant support toward Iowa disaster relief efforts ([www.embraceiowa.org](http://www.embraceiowa.org)), the timeline for the 2008 community responsive grant cycle two has been modified. Letters of Interest (LOIs) are now due on September 23, 2008.

The Wellmark Foundation's health improvement agenda seeks to fund projects in **two priority areas: 1) childhood obesity prevention and 2) community-based wellness and prevention.**

### Timeline:

**July 21, 2008** – Prospective applicant teleconference 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m (CST)

Teleconference Call-in Number: 888-454-6808

Participant Pass Code: 7825751

**September 23, 2008 - Cycle 2 Letter of Interest deadline**

**November 20, 2008 – Full proposal due (if selected)**

Full information on Wellmark funding opportunities are available at [www.wellmark.com/foundation](http://www.wellmark.com/foundation)

## Addressing Diversity in Clinical Trials

Online Continuing Education for Nurses, Social Workers and Healthcare Professionals.

### CE AVAILABLE UNTIL:

**December 14, 2008**

The online, self-study program Bringing Cures to All Patients: Addressing Diversity in Clinical Trials is designed to help nurses, social workers and healthcare professionals do the following: describe the most prominent causes of cancer health disparities among underserved populations; identify the value of clinical trial participation for these populations and for the advancement of treatment; discuss approaches to recruiting underserved groups and minorities into cancer clinical trials; identify issues in managing and retaining these cancer patients in studies (such as acculturation, values and attitudes; previous experience in research; and trust and perception of healthcare professionals); and apply patient navigation and other strategies to better serve this population.

Estimated time to complete

activity: 1.5 hours

To participate in this online activity, go to <http://www.LLS.org/2007ONS>

## CancerCare: Telephone Education Workshop Series.

**Calls are from 12:30-1:30 C.S.T. 1-800-813-4673 Recorded calls are available at 1-888-337-7533**

- June 4, 2008: [Medical Update on Triple Negative Breast Cancer](#)
- June 11, 2008: [Coping with Nausea and Vomiting from Chemotherapy](#)
- June 19, 2008: [Medical Update on Ovarian Cancer from the 2008 American Society of Clinical Oncology \(ASCO\) Annual Meeting](#)
- June 24, 2008: [The Sixth Annual Cancer Survivorship Series: Living With, Through and Beyond Cancer. Part III: Survivors Too: Family, Friends and Loved Ones](#)
- June 25, 2008: [Medical Update on Head & Neck Cancer from the American Society of Clinical Oncology \(ASCO\) 2008 Annual Meeting](#)
- June 26, 2008: [Updates on Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia/Small Lymphocytic Lymphoma \(CLL/SLL\) Part I: Overview and Treatment Options](#)

[CancerCare: Telephone Education Workshop Full Calendar](#)



**Answer to Question of the Month: YES! You can have input into newsletter content:**

Complete this [survey](#) or e-mail Sara, [sara-comstock@uiowa.edu](mailto:sara-comstock@uiowa.edu) with your comments.