

Relay For Life

A Team Event to Fight Cancer



AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY - RELAY FOR LIFE WALK

Relay For Life is a fun-filled overnight event designed to celebrate survivorship and raise money for research and programs for the American Cancer Society. During the event, teams of 10-12 of your closet friends, business associates, neighbors, or community organizations gather at schools, fairgrounds, or parks and take turns walking or running laps in a team relay event. Teams compete in various contests for prizes, and each team tries to keep at least one team member on the track at all times during the overnight event. A cancer survivors' celebration is also held, and luminary bags are sold to honor those loved ones battling the disease. Off the track, you will enjoy nonstop entertainment, music, games, camaraderie, food, and an overall great time. The Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's national signature event and represents the hope that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten, that those who face cancer will be supported, and that one day, cancer will be eliminated. Students are encouraged to either volunteer for the event or assemble a team and participate in the event.

Contact: Daryl Hayes, Houston Metro Program Manager for Prevention
Phone: (713) 706-5663
E-mail: daryl.hayes@cancer.org

Location: Houston Metro Market
6301 Richmond Ave.
Houston, TX 77057

Website: <http://www.cancer.org>



THE LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society is the world's largest voluntary health organization dedicated to funding blood cancer research, education, and patient services. The Society's mission is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease, and myeloma, and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families.

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society has almost 1 million volunteers nationwide involved in every facet of the organization's operations. Key areas of volunteer activity include: filing, mailings, inventory, packaging, developing websites, and advocacy. The

Society also has several large events each year that depend on our important team of volunteers. Volunteer activities at an event include: distributing food, registering participants, planning and participating in special events, and assisting with the set-up, clean-up, and breakdown.

Students will be able to choose from a wide variety of activities for the service project.

Contact: Cherry Evans, Patient Services Manager
Phone: (713) 680-8088
E-mail: EvansC@tx-gul.leukemia-lymphoma.org

Location: 5005 Mitchelldale #115
Houston, TX 77092

Website: <http://www.leukemia-lymphoma.org>



THE HOSPICE AT THE TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER

The Hospice at the Texas Medical Center cares for terminally ill patients and their families in their own homes or in the Patient Care Center, which is within a short distance of Rice University. Volunteers can learn about the Hospice during an orientation session, which will help them feel comfortable with serving terminally ill patients and their families. The orientation will consist of 4 all-day sessions held on consecutive Saturdays and will count as part of the 12 required volunteer hours. At the end of the training session, a volunteer experience will be designed to accommodate the goals of both the volunteer and the Hospice.

Contact: Ruth Landauer, Director of Volunteers
Phone: (713) 677-7120
E-mail: r_landauer@hospice.tmc.edu

Location: 1905 Holcombe Blvd.
Houston, TX 77030

Website: <http://www.hospiceweb.hospice.tmc.edu>



OMEGA HOUSE AND THE BERING SERVICE FOUNDATION

Omega House is a hospice that offers comfort care as well as psychological and spiritual support to residents and their families and friends. It is an eight-bed residential care facility for terminal-phase AIDS patients. Oftentimes the patients with AIDS have also contracted cancer.

Volunteers interested in serving in the Omega House will need to complete an application. An orientation will only be necessary for those students interested in becoming permanent volunteers. Students will be required to volunteer in at least 4-hour increments and will not be able to volunteer on the third Saturdays of each month.

Students may choose from two projects:

- Project 1. Only 6 students may volunteer at one time in the Omega House.
Service tasks will include interacting with the residents through puzzles, crafts, watching movies, and more.
- Project 2. Only 10 students may volunteer at one time in the Adult Day Care Center.
Volunteer hours are Monday-Friday between 7:30AM and 2:00PM.
Volunteer opportunities are similar to those in Project 1.

Contact: Geri Murgola, Volunteer Scheduler
Phone: (713) 523-7110 ext. 110
Voicemail: (713) 523-7110 ext. 341

Location: 602 Branard (Montrose area)
Houston, TX 77006

Website: <http://www.methodisthealth.com/community/index.htm>
<http://www.bering.org>



THE CHILDREN'S ART PROJECT

For 29 years, the Children's Art Project at The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center has made life better for children with cancer. Through worldwide sales of young cancer patients' original artwork featured on seasonal note cards and gift items, the project has funded \$15.7 million worth of programs that benefit cancer patients and their families. Each year, the project offers Holiday, Everyday, and Valentine collections of

note cards and gift items.

Volunteer opportunities at the Children's Art Project are endless--activities range from the creative to administrative: teaching children new artwork techniques, selling Children's Art Project merchandise, addressing catalogues to interested customers, answering customer calls from across the country, entering customer data in our computer system, and packaging and shipping orders in our mailroom. Volunteer hours are Monday-Friday from 9AM-12PM and 1PM-4PM.

Contact: Demetra Papapanagiotou, Volunteer Service Coordinator
Phone: (713) 792-6266
E-mail: dpapapan@mail.mdanderson.org

Location: Houston Main Building
1100 Holcombe Blvd., Suite 1.200
Houston, TX 77030

Website: <http://www.childrensartproject.org>



SUSAN G. KOMEN BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION HOUSTON AFFILIATE

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation is a national organization established in 1982 by Nancy Brinker in honor of her sister, Susan G. Komen, who died of breast cancer at the age of 36. The Foundation operates with a network of volunteers working through 115 local affiliates and 112 Komen Race for the Cure® events. In addition to funding research, the Houston Affiliate underwrites innovative breast cancer education, screening, and treatment projects for the medically underserved in the Houston community. Volunteers will be able to help with general office duties, including mail-outs, filing, answering phones, and assisting staff members with various tasks. Volunteers will be asked to commit to one shift for this opportunity. Shifts are Monday - Friday, from 8AM-5PM, for 3 hours.

Contact: Susan M. Whitt, Volunteer Coordinator
Phone: (713) 783-9188
E-mail: smwkomen@aol.com

Location: 2425 Fountainview, Suite 210
Houston, TX 77057

Website: <http://www.komen-houston.org>



THE SUNSHINE KIDS FOUNDATION

The Sunshine Kids Foundation is a national non-profit organization dedicated to children with cancer. Established in 1982 in Houston, Texas, we are committed to providing positive group activities and emotional support for young cancer patients. Funded by contributions from individuals, corporations, and philanthropic foundations, The Sunshine Kids provides a variety of programs and events, free of charge, for children who are receiving cancer treatments in hospitals across the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Activities for children differ every month and are often centered around the holidays. Volunteers may call to inquire about upcoming events.

Contact: Sonya Villarreal, Assistant Director of Children's Services
Phone: (713) 524-1264
E-mail: sonya@sunshinekids.org

Location: 2814 Virginia Street (River Oaks area)
Houston, TX 77098

Website: <http://www.sunshinekids.org>



THE SISTERS NETWORK, INC.

The Sisters Network is a national organization for African American women who are breast cancer survivors. It is centrally located in Houston and provides breast cancer patients with individual and group support, educates the community about breast cancer, supports research grants, and advocates for patients and survivors.

The Sisters Network recruits volunteers to assist in every aspect of the organization's functions. Each volunteer is an important component in making each day at the National Office successful and productive.

The 4th Annual Sisters National Conference is slated for April 2002 in Detroit, MI. These conferences provide health professionals, survivors and concerned citizens the

tools they need to educate themselves and their community. Students will be able to assist with preparations for the national conference, help with exhibits, answer e-mails, and update and disperse educational information on the Internet.

Contact: Erie Calloway, Executive Director
Phone: (713) 781-0255
E-mail: sisnet4@aol.com

Location: National Headquarters
8787 Woodway Drive, Suite 4206
Houston, TX 77063

Website: <http://www.sistersnetworkinc.org>



CANDLELIGHTERS CHILDHOOD CANCER FAMILY ALLIANCE

The purpose of Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Family Alliance is to provide emotional, educational, and practical support to children with cancer and their families. In addition, Candlelighters CCFA desires to promote childhood cancer awareness and the need for childhood cancer education and research in our community.

The Candlelighters 11th Annual Charity Golf Tournament will take place on February 17, 2003 at Kingwood Country Club. Volunteers may be able to help with this event. Volunteers may also participate in other activities including assisting staff members in the office on Monday-Friday from 8:30-5:00 or visiting patients in the clinic.

Contact: Judie Smelser, Executive Director
Phone: (713) 270-4700
E-mail: jsmelser@wt.net

Location: 8323 Southwest Freeway, Suite 435
Houston, TX 77074

Website: <http://www.candle.org>



INTERCULTURAL CANCER COUNCIL

The Intercultural Cancer Council (ICC) promotes policies, programs, partnerships, and research to eliminate the unequal burden of cancer among racial and ethnic minorities and medically underserved populations in the United States and its associated territories. The ICC National Network Educational Forum will be held February 22-25 in Washington, DC. Approximately 300 health professionals are expected to attend. Volunteers will be able to help ICC staff members prepare for the meeting.

Contact: April ABD-al-Khaliq, Administrative Support Coordinator
Phone: (713) 798-4617
E-mail: aabdalkhaliq@bcm.tmc.edu

Location: 6655 Travis, Suite 322
Houston, TX 77030

Website: <http://iccnetwork.org>

HOPE THROUGH GRACE, INC.

HOPE Through GRACE is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization founded to complement or enhance existing measures and develop new initiatives to eliminate disparities in cancer prevention and early detection among the uninsured, underserved, and minority communities. The purpose of HOPE Through GRACE is to develop and implement measures that address the two overarching goals adopted by Healthy People 2010 "to increase the quality and years of healthy life of all Americans and to eliminate disparities in health status" - Department of Health and Human Services. In so doing, we will work to reduce the level of mistrust and distrust by constituents who are wary of the health care system and who delay or refuse cancer prevention measures because of this.

HOPE Through GRACE will: a) Offer prevention education; b) Provide help in securing cancer screening; c) Provide help in securing cancer treatment for those whose screening results in a diagnosis; d) Make available minimal funding to bridge insurance gaps for the low-income, uninsured, and underinsured individuals; e) Conduct basic research to further understanding of how beliefs affect and influence health and lifestyle choices made by the population served in this ministry. The scope includes breast, colorectal, prostate, and lung cancers.

HOPE through GRACE is currently in its pilot year. Through funding from the

American Cancer Society, a breast health initiative will commence in January, with three public education classes focused on general information on cancer, nutrition and exercise, and breast health itself. One class will be scheduled each month on the weekend from January-March. Another series of three classes with new topics will follow in April-June, with a grand celebration for both initiatives scheduled in July. Students will be able to help with various aspects of the breast health initiative.

Contact: Grace L. Butler, Ph.D.
Founder and CEO
Phone: (713) 436-HOPE (4673)
E-mail: [hopethroughgrace@aol.com](mailto:hopenhroughgrace@aol.com)

Location: PMB #130, Suite 202
8325 Broadway
Pearland, TX 77584

Website: not applicable at this time



THE ROSE

The Rose is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit breast health care center that provides cancer screening, diagnosis, and support to all women, regardless of their ability to pay for the services.

Volunteer opportunities may include office work as well as involvement in fund-raising events, sponsorship programs, and outreach programs. The sponsorship program will provide a better understanding of the diverse barriers to health care. And students who volunteer in the outreach program may assist in activities in mobile breast health units.

Contact: Pam Lyle, Chief Financial Officer
Phone: (281) 484-6656
E-mail: pyle@b-rose.org

Location: The ROSE Diagnostic Center
12700 N. Featherwood, Suite 260
Houston, TX 77034

OR

The ROSE Joan Gordon Center
3400 Bissonnet, Suite 185
Houston, TX 77005

Website: <http://www.the-rose.org>



HOUSTON CENTER FOR QUALITY OF CARE & UTILIZATION STUDIES

The Houston Center for Quality of Care and Utilization Studies (HCQCUS) is a health services research center of the VA Medical Center and Baylor College of Medicine and is led by Dr. Carol Ashton. The Center's mission is to impact health and health care by conducting and translating outstanding research and by developing influential leaders in health outcomes, quality, access, utilization, and costs.

Student volunteers will have the opportunity to participate in research projects conducted by HCQCUS investigators. These studies are related to racial and ethnic disparities in cancer, heart disease, HIV/AIDS, and arthritis. A Center research project that may be of particular interest to students is the EXCEED Program (Excellence Center to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health), led by Dr. Carol Ashton. The goal of the EXCEED Program is to assess the extent to which problems in doctor-patient communication can be addressed to improve patients' use of medical services and health outcomes. A brief orientation session will be held for student volunteers.

- Contact:** Marvella E. Ford, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Phone: (713) 794-8660
E-mail: mford@bcm.tmc.edu
- Location:** Veterans Affairs Medical Center (152)
2002 Holcombe Blvd.
Houston, TX 77030
- Website:** <http://www.hsrp.med.va.gov>



M.D. ANDERSON CANCER CENTER - PUBLIC EDUCATION OFFICE

The Public Education Office implements cancer education programs for the lay

public to increase the awareness and understanding of cancer. Students will have the opportunity to participate in the planning and implementation of community education programs, health communications activities, and health fairs. Community service hours may be obtained on the M. D. Anderson campus and in the community. Programs are offered weekdays, evenings, and weekends. There will be an orientation prior to volunteering.

Contact: Cassandra Harris, M.S., CHES
Sr. Health Education Coordinator, Public Education Office
Phone: (713) 792-3363
E-mail: clharris@mail.mdanderson.org

Location: Houston Main Building
1100 Holcombe Blvd., Suite 9.030
Houston, TX 77030

Website: <http://www.mdanderson.org>



M.D. ANDERSON CANCER CENTER - VOLUNTEER SERVICES

MDACC Volunteer Services has volunteer opportunities to fit into almost any schedule - and something to challenge every volunteer. Our volunteers provide service and support in programs throughout the institution and partner with nonprofits and the private sector to increase the impact of M. D. Anderson in the community. We have the best of all worlds at M. D. Anderson - the absolute finest in patient care and research, and an army of volunteers enriched by the experiences and background that each person brings to his or her job.

Volunteers will have two options for completing a service project through volunteer services. Please visit the website for more information about volunteer services prior to initiating contact.

Option 1: The first option provides greater flexibility in volunteer activities and requires both a 6-month commitment to the institution, and a volunteer schedule of one day per week for 3-4 hours. Students will also need to attend a formal orientation prior to volunteering.

Option 2: The second option involves participating in episodic volunteer opportunities with no 6-month time commitment, set volunteer schedule, or orientation. Episodic volunteer opportunities include patient contact and non-patient contact activities as well as onsite and offsite projects. Assembling laundry detergent kits, patient education packets, pediatric craft kits, and tray favors are some examples of episodic volunteer activities.

Students choosing this option will need to participate in at least 3 activities to meet the guidelines for the service project.

Contact: Mia Ruiz, Senior Secretary
Phone: (713) 792-7180
E-mail: miar Ruiz@mail.mdanderson.org

Location: 1515 Holcombe Blvd., Box 115
Houston, TX 77030

Website: <http://www.mdanderson.org/departments/volunteer>



M.D. ANDERSON CANCER CENTER - THE LEARNING CENTER

The Learning Center is a free consumer health library where patients and caregivers can find the latest information on cancer care and support, cancer prevention, and general health and wellness issues. Volunteers can help in a variety of ways, including assisting patients and caregivers find the health information they need and offering guidance for Internet searches. All services are available to M. D. Anderson patients and caregivers, as well as the general public. The Learning Center collection includes: general reference and health books, medical reference books, free brochures, medical journals and newsletters, and audio and videotapes.

Contact: Louise Villejo, M.P.H., CHES
Director, Patient Education Office
Phone: (713) 792-7128
E-mail: LVillejo@mail.mdanderson.org

Location: Holcombe Blvd., Box 21
Houston, TX 77030

Website: <http://www.mdanderson.org/departments/tlc>



M.D ANDERSON CANCER CENTER - PATIENT EDUCATION OFFICE

The Patient Education Office (PEO) works with interdisciplinary care teams throughout M. D. Anderson Cancer Center to give patients, caregivers, and the public information

and tools that they can use to make informed health care decisions. PEO staff members, in collaboration with clinical staff, are responsible for assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating educational activities for patients and their family members. The PEO offers a diverse collection of educational resources for cancer patients at all stages of diagnosis and treatment, from pre-admission to post-treatment rehabilitation and home care.

Volunteers will be able to assist PEO staff members in a variety of ways such as performing literacy reviews on educational materials, locating new information pieces for The Learning Center, and updating webpages. The Director of the Patient Education Office also heads The Learning Center.

Contact: Louise Villejo, M.P.H., CHES
Director, Patient Education Office
Phone: (713) 792-7128
E-mail: LVillejo@mail.mdanderson.org

Location: 1515 Holcombe Blvd., Box 21
Houston, TX 77030

Website: <http://www.mdanderson.org/departments/tlc>



CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON MINORITY HEALTH

The Center for Research on Minority Health (CRMH) is a comprehensive investigational, educational, and outreach component of M. D. Anderson Cancer Center. It focuses on cancer and, ultimately, other health issues disproportionately affecting ethnic minorities and the medically underserved. With specifically targeted research studies, and public education and prevention programs, the CRMH hopes to determine why cancer is more prevalent in these populations and what can be done to change that situation. Only 2 students will be able to complete a tailored service project in the CRMH.

Contact: Cynthia Clark, Education Core Coordinator
Phone: (713) 794-5550
Email: cyclark@mail.mdanderson.org

Location: 1515 Holcombe Blvd., Box 536
Houston, TX 77030

Website: <http://www.mdanderson.org/departments/CRMH>



**M.D. ANDERSON CANCER CENTER - HUMAN RESOURCES,
EMPLOYEE PROGRAMS DEPARTMENT**

The Employee Programs department motivates and rewards employees in order to increase morale, maintain performance, and improve employee retention. This volunteer opportunity will require creativity, resourcefulness, and a willingness to do everything from planning and set-up to execution and follow-up. Volunteer service tasks may sometimes be very physical (i.e. packing boxes, hanging decorations, moving chairs and tables, and pushing a cart throughout the hospital). Volunteer service in our department is a diverse job, in which your experiences as a volunteer will change throughout your tenure.

Volunteer opportunities will include filing, data entry, composing e-mails, posting flyers in the hospital, desktop publishing, preparing mail-outs, calling employees, analyzing spreadsheets, moving boxes, and organizing and taking inventory of storage items in the department. Volunteers will have limited (non-treatment related) interaction with patients. Proof of a current tetanus immunization is required. And additional preliminary steps from Employee Health and Volunteer Services may be necessary.

Contact: Kathy H. Lang, Senior Employee Programs Coordinator
Phone: (713) 745-6477
E-mail: klang@mail.mdanderson.org

Location: Nabisco Building
2450 Holcombe Blvd.
Houston, TX 77030

Website: <http://www.mdanderson.org>



THE MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION

The Make-A-Wish Foundation is a non-profit, volunteer organization whose purpose is to grant the wishes of children with life-threatening illnesses to enrich the human experience

with hope, strength, and joy. Since 1980, more than 80,000 children have had their dreams fulfilled through the efforts of Make-A-Wish Foundation volunteers and donors around the world. The goal is to provide a joyful and meaningful experience that benefits the entire family. And wishes can be almost anything: from puppies to Presidents---a wish is limited only by the child's imagination.

The Texas Gulf Coast Chapter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation is one of 80 chapters throughout the United States. Children from 47 counties in the Texas Gulf Coast area benefit from the efforts of this chapter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Contact: Shannon Kraus, Director of Development
Phone: (713) 942-9474 (WISH)
Location: 1604 Bissonnet
Houston, TX 77005
Website: <http://www.wish.org/texgulf>



CANCARE OF HOUSTON, INC.

CanCare of Houston is an interfaith cancer support network rooted in the religious community. In partnership with Houston area congregations, corporations, and hospitals, CanCare recruits and trains volunteers who work one-on-one with cancer survivors and their families. All volunteers have had a cancer diagnosis or coped with cancer in a family member. After extensive training, CanCare volunteers are matched with referrals according to cancer site, age, gender, and family situation. The service is unique in that volunteers provide one-on-one, face-to-face support and encouragement based on shared experience. The formation of a caring, non-threatening friendship creates an atmosphere in which the survivor can be comfortable with releasing and clarifying feelings, examining relationships, and struggling with faith issues that surround a cancer experience.

Contact: Kay Lee, Business Manager
Phone: (713) 461-0028
Email: info@cancare.org
Location: 9575 Katy Freeway, Suite 428
Houston, TX 77024
Website: <http://www.cancare.org>

AFRICAN-AMERICAN BREAST CANCER OUTREACH (AABCO) PROJECT

African-American women are less likely to be screened for or to seek treatment for breast cancer. They are also more likely to die from the disease, according to recent findings by the American Cancer Society. In response, a program spearheaded by the Harris County Hospital District (HCHD) aims to change that for women living in the county. Through a cooperative effort with The University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing and the Texas Cancer Council, the Hospital District has begun its African American Breast Cancer Outreach Project (AABCO) to educate and create awareness of early detection and mammography screenings in the African-American community.

The project targets women in the predominately African-American communities of Settegast, Acres Home, Third Ward, and Sunnyside. Research has shown that a majority of these women are poor and underserved by current health care providers. Organizers hope to establish a network of community and professional organizations that can easily provide women with life-saving information about breast cancer.

Contact: Cheryl Ivory, Case Manager/Outreach Coordinator
Phone: (713) 566-6507
E-mail:
Location: 2525 Holly Hall, Suite 258
Houston, TX 77054
Website: not applicable at this time