

ONE FORCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
Developing Synergies Among Organizations Fighting Ovarian Cancer in New Jersey and the Delaware Valley
Ovarian Cancer Organizations from throughout NJ and the Delaware Valley will come together for the first time on June 12 to coordinate efforts to fight ovarian cancer

Princeton, NJ, 1 May 2010 – The New Jersey Department of Health’s Office of Cancer Control and Prevention (OCCP) is working along with several local ovarian cancer groups to raise awareness of ovarian cancer and promote fundraising efforts for ovarian cancer research. The 1st Annual NJ Statewide Ovarian Cancer Symposium will be held on Saturday June 12 from 9 am-2:30 pm at Educational Testing Service in Princeton. Capital Health is the gold sponsor of the event, along with silver sponsors, Cooper Cancer Institute, Educational Testing Service and The Teal Tea Foundation. The Cancer Institute of New Jersey is sponsoring the panel discussion representing renowned medical professionals from New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The event is free open to ovarian cancer fund raising organizations and foundations, ovarian cancer survivors, advocates, members of the medical community, and members of the NJ County Cancer Coalitions. Jean Shipos, an employee of Educational Testing Service, Executive Director of the Teal Tea Foundation and ovarian cancer survivor is the program chair. . Former NJ Commissioner of Community Affairs, ovarian cancer survivor, and CEO of Cooper Foundation, Susan Bass Levin, will serve as emcee. Panel speakers include: Dr. Gary Brickner from Capital Health; Dr. Lorna Rodriguez from Cancer Institute of NJ; Dr. Generosa Grana from Cooper Cancer Institute; and Dr. George Coukos from Univ. of Pennsylvania.

Leaders of each ovarian cancer organization attending will speak about their missions. Sandy Schussel, President of Brass Ring Coaching, will facilitate a group discussion about ways that all groups can more effectively coordinate efforts to find a cure for ovarian cancer. A statewide ovarian cancer events calendar will be unveiled on the NJ OCCP website. The calendar will be open to all website visitors and the medical community so that patients have access to fund raising events and resource references.

Twelve organizations have planned and are supporting One Force to Make a Difference, including: The Immune Therapy Initiative for Ovarian Cancer, Kaleidoscope of Hope Foundation, Maureen Fund, Mary Anne Mazanec Ovarian Cancer Foundation, Meghan’s Message, National Ovarian Cancer Coalition - Del Val & North Jersey branches, the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund, Ovarian Cancer Subcommittee of the Gynecologic Cancer Workgroup of NJ, Teal Talk On Tour, Teal Tea Foundation, Teal Wings of Hope Foundation and Turn the Towns Teal®.

Ovarian cancer is the leading cause of death from gynecological cancers in the United States with over 22,000 women diagnosed annually and 15,000 losing their lives to the disease.

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