

May 23, 2014

Someone to talk to...
who understands!



Dear Friends of Us TOO and Chapter/Support Group Leaders,

I hope that the arrival of the **June 2014 issue of the HotSheet** finds you well. I just returned from the **AUA (American Urological Association) annual conference**, which provided valuable information about advances in genomics and the use of MRI in diagnosis, as well as many other advances in clinical practice. Next week we'll be attending the **ASCO (American Society for Clinical Oncology) annual conference** in Chicago, which runs from May 30 to June 3. Both events attract a large crowd of industry stakeholders thereby providing an ideal opportunity to raise awareness of Us TOO along with the services and value that we provide to the prostate cancer community.

We've been continuing our collaboration with Jan Manarite from PCRI and representatives from the SNMMI (Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging) to finalize plans for the **Chicago Nuclear Medicine and Imaging Conference**. This free event featuring physician presentations is slated for **Saturday, July 26, from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm** at Northwestern University – specifically, the Hughes Auditorium in the Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Building. Spread the word; hope to see you there!

Earlier this month we hosted pharmaceutical company leaders, medical experts, leaders and members from local Us TOO chapters and support groups at the Us TOO home office for a Chicagoland planning meeting. It was very productive to get input and feedback on some local initiatives that included the Chicago Nuclear Medicine and Imaging Conference, in addition to the **10th Anniversary of the SEA Blue Prostate Cancer Walk & Run** along with the **25th Anniversary of Us TOO** coming up in 2015!

The May 30 deadline is fast approaching for submitting an application to become a **Department of Defense Consumer Reviewer**. Many survivors in the Us TOO network have served in this capacity, which requires evaluating research study applications and actively participating in peer review panel discussions on the relevance of proposed research to address the needs of the prostate cancer community. Please let me know if I can assist you in the application process, which requires a letter of support from an advocacy organization such as Us TOO.

The **PCRI Conference** will be in Los Angeles September 5-7 and will feature Us TOO volunteers participating in prostate cancer support group sessions. PCRI's Jan Manarite highlighted for us several **clinical trials** to evaluate **"focal" therapy**—treatment focused on a portion of the prostate rather than the entire gland. Get more information at <https://tinyurl.com/pa5r6be> or call Jan at 239-208-4400.

Researchers at NorthShore University HealthSystem are recruiting Chicago-area participants for **two studies**. Men who had prostate cancer surgery or radiation in the past three months, and are interested in **penile rehabilitation** to regain pre-treatment erectile function, are invited to call 847-503-4245. If you are a man or the spouse/partner of a man who has had a radical prostatectomy or radiation therapy for prostate cancer one to five years ago, and are interested in information about participating in a study on **erectile dysfunction** and quality of life, call 847-503-4281.

We are finalizing printed pieces and digital components for the annual **Us TOO June fundraising campaign** to help finance the services and resources that are provided by Us TOO at no charge. Please watch for the material and support the campaign through your personal contribution and by forwarding the donation request to your friends, family and peers in the prostate cancer community. Thank you.

My best to you all,

T. N. Kirk, President & CEO



Us TOO International
Prostate Cancer Education
& Support Network

OUR MISSION
*Be the leading
prostate cancer organization
helping men and their families
make informed decisions
about prostate cancer
detection and treatment
through
support, education and advocacy.*

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PCa Support HelpLine:
(800) 80-Us TOO
(800-808-7866)
Email: ustoo@ustoo.org
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