April 26, 2012

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

I am very pleased we are sending along the May HotSheet. Last month I mentioned that it is time to get involved to support our number one advocacy priority, the Department of Defense Prostate Cancer Research Program funding.

I heard from Ann Dodelin last week that the program is now seeking volunteers to serve as Consumer Reviewers again this year. This is a great time for you to help directly with research and help determine how this research money is spent. The deadline for submission is May 25th and you can find the application form on the Department of Defense website at http://cdmrp.army.mil/cwg/apply.shtml.

You will need a letter of support from an advocacy organization such as Us TOO and please let me know if I can help provide one for you by contacting me at the Us TOO office or by email at tom@ustoo.org.

We have included a great deal of material in this month’s mailing. First, there is a Pledge Form and information on the Annual Birdies for Charity fundraising event sponsored by John Deere. Through participation in this event, donation dollars can support Us TOO. I want to personally thank Bill Palos for spearheading this again this year. Note that this form has Us TOO’s charity number listed, #1391. You can copy this form or go to the website at www.birdiesforcharity.com. As Bill reminds me, you can win great prizes and note the deadline for submission is July 13th so you have time to spread the word and get others involved. This is a fun way to support Us TOO.

We have also included multiple copies of information provided by Dendreon on Provenge. This information can be helpful to people who are asking about this treatment approach. Dendreon has also made live face-to-face presentations available and can arrange for a visit to your group. You can find information on this on the Us TOO website at http://www.ustoo.org/speaker-bureau/.

We also have included as a courtesy a copy of the “Cancer Fighters Thrive” magazine. It has several helpful and interesting articles including one on Provenge. As to what you will find in this month’s HotSheet, let me thank Dr. Tomas Beer for highlighting his new book on clinical trials and Dr. Mark Moyad for updating us on recent developments to get information to you on early access to important new drugs.

Finally, as I mentioned last month, it is not too early to plan your September “Prostate Cancer Awareness Month” activities. I strongly encourage you to join me and attend Zero’s 2012 Summit on September 11-13, look for the Us TOO code (ustoo2012) for a 30% discount at their registration site http://zerocancer.org/get-involved/summit/.

Sincerely,

T. N. Kirk, President & CEO