



January 2019

Topics for January's call: New Support Group Leader Survey. New brochure for support groups is being created. Us TOO home office collaborating with Prostate Cancer Foundation on several projects. New support groups in 2019. Receiving donations from grocery stores or restaurants. Creating a space on our site to share topics or speakers you have had at your meetings. Jackie K. our office manager is on medical leave.

SGL Survey coming in February. Please take a few minutes to fill it out. Last year's survey had 84 out of 200 participate. That is an impressive percentage, however, we hope to beat that this year! With your help, we can determine the most important topics for this year's Pathways events.

Tim is working on a new brochure specific to Us TOO Support Groups. Leaders are all excited about this. Tarry Eddington from Missouri feels this will be a great tool to use to help to reach urologists and oncologists in local communities and get the word out about the support groups. He suggests dropping them off at the offices, and Steve Gordon from Sarasota also mentioned dropping off Hot Sheets and building relationships with nurse navigators at the offices. Duane Kent from GA also shared that he finds that oncologists are usually much more receptive to being invited to come and speak at meetings than urologists.

We are collaborating with PCF on some projects. It is our hope to start several new groups this year at some of the top health care facilities in the country. PCF has worked closely with many of these institutions and will be introducing Us TOO to the key directors who can help to make that happen. Through this collaboration, we are also hoping to identify two venues for our Pathways events this year. There will be an email coming out next week from Chuck that will elaborate on other ideas for working more closely with them.

We have three new groups this year so far. They are in New Orleans, LA, Tampa/St. Pete, FL and Manteca, CA.

Howard Beckerman, a new leader from New Jersey, asked if he could collect donations at the meeting to cover costs for coffee, or to purchase a coffee pot. You most definitely can do that! Duane Kent shared that he goes to grocery stores and local restaurants in the community and speaks directly to the manager about charitable causes to ask for donations of coffee or food for meetings. Terri can create a letter for you that you can bring and present to managers to show affiliation with Us TOO that will also provide our 501(c)3 number to prove our non-profit status. If you need a letter, just email terril@ustoo.org.

It was also mentioned that local pharma advocacy reps in your community are usually very willing to provide snacks for meetings.

Steve Gordon brought up the idea for everyone to share topics and or speakers you have had at your meetings that have been well received. Terri will send out an email to request that information, and we can add a section on the SGL site to share those ideas. For example, Myriad is coming to a meeting to discuss Prolaris.

Jackie our office manager is on a short-term medical leave.

If you would be willing to lead a support group for group leaders call once or a few times per year, please let Terri know. This will help out immensely during the months when staff is extremely busy with big events and when travel is heavier than usual. All we ask is that you take a few notes from the call and send to Terri.

The Support Group Leader Resource Page is password protected. The passcode for that is UsTOO2720.