





**Southwest Georgia  
Cancer Coalition**

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Corporate donors were recognized and thanked at the Cancer Coalition board meeting in November. From left to right are board members Clay Banks, representing Equity Group, GA Division; Terri Lupo, representing the Georgia Power Foundation; and Mark Wilson, representing the Harley Langdale Jr. Foundation, with Glenda Battle, Board Chair.



Cancer Coalition Board Member Dr. Ray Moreno of Tift Regional Medical Center discusses the Coalition's Community Cancer Screening Program™ with board members during the November meeting. The program recently expanded into Tift County.



Cancer Coalition staff honored its Albany-area volunteers with a drop-in reception this month. Pictured above are (left to right) Cancer Coalition CEO Diane Fletcher, Volunteer Lark Ledbetter, Coalition Marketing and Communications Specialist Emily Jorgenson, Coalition Health Navigator Charles Greene, Volunteer Jordan Nembhard, and Coalition Health Navigator Beverly Nembhard. Overall, the Coalition has a corps of more than 20 volunteers who help us with fundraising and other efforts throughout the year. Thank you, Volunteers!

*Dear friends of the Cancer Coalition,*

The New Year ushers in an exciting time for our organization, as 2012 marks our 10th anniversary of fighting cancer. We are deeply grateful to all you for believing in our work to reduce the unequal burden of cancer in south Georgia. Your commitment and support is vital to our continued progress.

The Southwest Georgia Cancer Coalition was created in 2002 and with the dedication of our partners over 10 years, our efforts can now be seen throughout the many communities of south Georgia. Local residents and partners alike have come to know us as “the Cancer Coalition” and have seen our services, programs and projects cover a large portion of south Georgia. To better reflect our name recognition as well as our broad coverage, [beginning January 1, 2012, we will be known as the Cancer Coalition of South Georgia](#). Also effective January 1, our service area will include Atkinson County for a total of 32 counties.

Our name will change, but our mission remains the same: to ensure south Georgians have available to them high-quality cancer education, prevention, screening, treatment and research. All of us look forward to a future when south Georgia is not known for its suffering from cancer, but rather for how well we have conquered cancer.

As always, please feel free to contact me anytime. My best wishes to you and your family for happiness and good health this holiday season and throughout the New Year!

Warm regards,  
Diane Fletcher, CEO

Fighting Cancer... Right Here. Right Now.

**CANCER**  
COALITION  
of SOUTH GEORGIA

## Workshops provide area men vital prostate cancer information



Forty-one men recently took part in workshops that provided them with valuable information about prostate cancer. Except for some forms of skin cancer, prostate cancer in the United States is the most common cancer in men, and the second most common cause of death from cancer among white, African American, American Indian, and Hispanic males. Funded by the Georgia Department of Public Health and coordinated by the Cancer Coalition, the workshops held in Camilla and Dawson featured guest speaker Matthew Ard, PA, of Albany Area Primary Health Care. Dinner and the presentation were both provided at no cost.

## Cancer Care Grants (cont'd from page 1)

The Southwest Georgia Community Action Council Inc. (SGCAC) is located in Colquitt County and administers to the needs of the residents of the 14 counties it serves by helping them attain and maintain self-sufficiency. According to SGCAC Community Services Director, Denise Bell, the Cancer Care grant will allow the agency to help low-income families dealing with cancer by providing assistance with rent, mortgage, utilities, and medications.

"Many of the clients served by our agency are experiencing financial crisis due to coping with a cancer diagnosis," said Bell. "The increased demand on a family budget due to costs of treatment and medication, and often coupled with lost wages, results in high levels of stress and even risk of homelessness."

Grady County Help Agencies Inc. was established in 1984 as a collaborative effort among churches and service organizations who sought to provide help for needy citizens. The Help Agency is staffed by 28 volunteers and 13 board members. The Help Agency cancer patient program helps their clients with cancer by providing counseling, food, clothing and vouchers for utilities, rent, medicine and other needs.

"Our mission is to provide emergency assistance to those in need as efficiently and fairly as possible," said Cindy Johnson, treasurer of the agency's board of directors and also an active volunteer at the Help Agency. "We do our best to help any Grady County citizen who is having an emergency situation, and having a special fund set aside for cancer clients will increase our ability to help ease that burden for so many more of those affected by the disease."



As we count our blessings this holiday season, we are most grateful for the thoughtful support of those who dedicate their time and resources to the fight against cancer in south Georgia.

May you be blessed this holiday season and enjoy a prosperous, healthy Happy New Year!

**The Southwest Georgia Cancer Coalition Staff**

## Southwest Health District, Cancer Coalition partner to promote Georgia Tobacco Quitline

If your New Year's resolutions for 2012 include that you'll quit using tobacco, you're not alone. There are people waiting to help you make this one easier to keep.

A record number of U.S. smokers and smokeless tobacco users are picking up the telephone and calling quit lines for help in breaking their addiction, and the State of Georgia, Southwest Health District, and the Southwest Georgia Cancer Coalition are in the midst of a campaign to let people know how to do just that by directing them to the Georgia Tobacco Quitline – 1-877-270-STOP.

In Georgia, one out of every six deaths each year are due to tobacco-related diseases, and approximately \$1.8 billion in health care costs among adults aged 18 years and older is attributed to tobacco use.

"Statistics show that there is a large percentage of tobacco users who actually want to quit, they just don't know that there are resources that can help," said Remy Hutchins, Health Promotions and Infectious Disease Coordinator with Southwest Health District. "With the resources that are available, such as the Georgia Tobacco Quitline, it's easier to take that first step." Among current adult smokers in the United States, approximately 70% report that they want to quit completely.

The Georgia Department of Public Health announced in July that nicotine replacement therapy support would be offered to individuals living in the 14 counties of the local public health district who seek help. Administered through the Quit Line, the program offers uninsured adult callers age 18 and older nicotine patches or gum at no cost.

With funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Office of Smoking and Health, the two local agencies have initiated a billboard, print, web, and television media campaign to make individuals aware of the Quit Line, which provides free, confidential counseling tailored to tobacco users ages 13 and older regardless of insurance status. The campaign also warns of the effects of second-hand smoke, citing testimony from one smoker whose non-smoking wife died from exposure to his addiction.

Southwest Health District Program Manager and Deputy Health Director Brenda Greene stressed that the Quit Line not only helps those who want to quit smoking, but spit tobacco users, as well. According to the 2010 Data Summary supplied by the Georgia Department of Community Health, more than 340,000 adults in the state currently use smokeless tobacco.

"Our mission is to get the Quit Line phone number out there in front of as many people as possible," said Denise Ballard, Vice President of Cancer Prevention and Control with the Cancer Coalition. "By having multiple opportunities to see the message on television, on billboards, in newspapers and magazines, hopefully it will resonate with those who want to quit, or people close to them who can encourage them to take that first step and call."

Counties in the Southwest Health District are Baker, Calhoun, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Terrell, Thomas, and Worth.

For more information about the Georgia Tobacco Quit Line and nicotine replacement therapy, contact the Georgia Tobacco Quit Line at 1-800-270-STOP (7867).



# Quit yet?

Think about this:

If you stop smoking right now, you will eliminate one of the most important triggers of your child's asthma.

Parental smoking causes bronchitis, pneumonia, ear infections and makes your child's asthma worse.

If you stopped smoking right now, you'd breathe more easily.

And so would your children.

You can do it. We can help.

To learn more about quitting tobacco for life,  
please call the

**Georgia Tobacco Quit Line:**

**1-877-270-STOP**

**(7867)**

today.

*Free to all Georgians*

[www.livehealthygeorgia.org](http://www.livehealthygeorgia.org)



**Early Kicks Tobacco**  
Early County  
Tobacco Coalition

**SOUTHWEST GEORGIA  
CANCER  
COALITION**  
Fighting Cancer... Right Here. Right Now.  
[www.swgcancer.org](http://www.swgcancer.org)

Funding provided by the Georgia Department of Public Health



Billboards promoting the Georgia Tobacco Quit Line were placed throughout the region in Sylvester, Camilla, Leesburg, Bainbridge, Thomasville, Cairo, Moultrie and Albany.



## Memorials and Honorariums

October 15, 2011-December 15, 2011

### In Memory of

James T. Brooks  
Billy Carter  
Mrs. Maxine Culpepper  
Mrs. Dobie Flechter  
George Hotz  
Mrs. Mary Howe  
D. Ray Huskey  
Mrs. Mary Jane Moody Ramsey  
Mrs. Rosa F. Sapp

### By

Pamela Cartwright  
Jana Carter  
Jackie and Dale Ammons  
Eugene and Florence Miles  
Dr. Jim Hotz and Family  
Phil and Susan Greene  
Parker Ray Huskey  
Kay Fuller  
Dr. and Mrs. Walter W. Judge

### In Honor Of

William and Sharon Hughey

### By

Joel Wernick

**Thank you to our donors.  
Your support means so much in the fight against cancer in south Georgia.**

Fighting Cancer... Right Here. Right Now.

**CANCER**  
COALITION

of SOUTH GEORGIA

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