

March 21, 2014

Someone to talk to...
who understands!



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

The [HotSheet—April 2014 edition](#) is here. I'd like to acknowledge and thank Astellas/Medivation for their recent commitment to help sponsor the development and distribution of the *HotSheet*. Also, thank you again to Takeda/Millennium and Bavarian Nordic for their ongoing sponsorship for this publication.

We kicked off the month with our [board of directors](#) meeting on March 7th and 8th. We have four new members on the board and there are two open board positions to fill. Please help to spread the word or let us know if you are interested in applying. Board meeting agenda items included the 25th anniversary of Us TOO in 2015, redesign and updating of the Us TOO website, fundraising campaigns, and the **10th anniversary of the SEA Blue Prostate Cancer Walk & Run, scheduled for Sunday, September 14, 2014** at Lincoln Park in downtown Chicago.

As a thank you for support in 2013 and to **kick-off the 2014 SEA Blue event**, Wellness Place, Us TOO and UroPartners hosted an intimate gathering sponsored by UroPartners for some of the top SEA Blue sponsors and fundraising team leaders. The [event website is up](#) and ready to accept registrations and donations. Please help us make this year's 10th anniversary of the SEA Blue Prostate Cancer Walk & Run bigger and better than ever!

Be sure to check out some of the other activities across the country featured on our [website calendar](#) of awareness/fundraising events, which includes the [Howdy Honda Cap 2K](#) swim event in Austin, the Quad Cities Marathon [1 Mile Walk for Prostate Cancer](#), [Dad's Day 5K](#) Run & Walk in Houston, and the [Bachelor Classic](#) golf tournament in Kentucky. Please consider helping us establish similar events near you.

The issue of PSA and early detection continues. As you may recall, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) recommended against the use of the PSA test as a screening tool to help detect early stage prostate cancer in otherwise healthy men in 2012. During that time, Us TOO encouraged your support for a petition and sought your feedback to effectively advocate and provide commentary about PSA guideline changes. We are pleased to see Theragenics' 2013 **PSA awareness research**, which was conducted in response to the USPSTF and other controversial PSA guidelines. A brief video on www.PSAdebate.com features Dr. Mark Scholz citing results from the survey of 1,539 men. Among other findings, 80 percent of respondents were unaware that the USPSTF has recommended against screening for prostate cancer in healthy men. Also noteworthy on the education front is the recently announced [PCRI Conference](#) September 5-7 in Los Angeles. Take action and get connected!

Wednesday evening I was involved in a **Cure Panel Talk Show on Prostate Cancer Active Surveillance** featuring Laurence Klotz, MD and several very active members of the prostate cancer community such as Mike Scott, Tony Crispino and Walter Green. This session contains great up-to-date information for men dealing with low grade localized prostate cancer and the recording can be found at <http://www.curepanel.carefeed.net/event/rsvp/24/>.

Although the focus at Us TOO is primarily on prostate cancer education and support, we also support research through our ongoing involvement in the Department of Defense (DoD), Congressionally Directed Medical Research (CDMRP) **Prostate Cancer Program (PCRP)**. Thanks in part to our advocacy efforts, Congress appropriated \$80 million for the PCRP for FY14. Many survivors in the Us TOO network have also served as DoD consumer reviewers. We have recently heard they are seeking applications again and urge you to investigate this opportunity to serve. Please let me know if you are interested in [serving as a consumer reviewer](#). A letter of support from an advocacy organization such as Us TOO is required and the deadline is Friday, May 30th.

Earlier this week we sent an email asking for volunteers to help respond to calls from the **Us TOO Prostate Cancer HelpLine**. We're very excited by the collective enthusiasm for peer support in the prostate cancer community from more than 60 people who have already expressed interest in volunteering; thank you! Please let us know if you've not yet replied but are interested in joining the Us TOO HelpLine response team.

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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