



CHAPTER LEADER NEWS

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Editor: Karen Bacher, Program Director

HELPFUL HINTS FOR RUNNING YOUR CHAPTER

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Welcome to our newest Us TOO Chapter:
Us TOO Gibbs Regional Cancer Center of Spartanburg, SC

The following unique meeting ideas were submitted by chapters:

Rex Zeiger, leader of the *Us TOO La Loma Chapter* in Arizona, suggests that chapters consider hosting a speaker on the new Medicare drug coverage plan. Those who wish to participate in the plan have until May 2006 to enroll without penalty. A speaker can help members determine if the plan is right for them. Speakers can be found by contacting AARP, your local Medicare offices, local hospital or local participating health plan provider. Questions for Rex? Contact him at zeiger2123_@msn.com.

The *Us TOO Metro Big Apple Chapter* has schedule a winter program on the da Vinci Prostatectomy. Dr. David Samadi, Director of Robotic Laparoscopic Surgery will be the presenter. Dr. Samadi looks forward to speaking to as many groups as possible regarding this new technique. To contact Dr. Samadi email him at: ds2148@columbia.edu or call 212/305-9722.

Helpful Hints:

Us TOO Alamo Chapter addresses all meeting notices to "Mr. & Mrs." to help spouses feel welcome.

Central Illinois Us TOO Chapter offers door prize drawings at chapter meetings

to encourage attendance. Recent prizes included two tickets to a local theatre production.

Special chapter activities:

Us TOO Southeast Texas hosted a special dinner meeting honoring local urologists and survivors. The event drew over 220 attendees! To learn how the chapter implemented such a successful event, contact Leader Dean Calcott at 409/832-3405 or email Alternate Leader R.O. Williams at row5921@earthlink.net.

Us TOO Hilton Head SC participated in a prostate cancer screening event in honor of prostate cancer awareness month. Four doctors spent 20 hours screening 250 men!

Us TOO Beaumont MI hosted a special meeting featuring Mr. Phil Smith, State Service Director of the Vietnam Veterans of America, State of Michigan Council. His topic included current issues of prostate cancer and other cancers related to Agent Orange. Veterans of WWII, the Korean and Vietnam wars were all on hand to have their questions answered. Mr. Smith welcomes questions from all veterans and can be reached via the website: www.vvasmitp@vba.va.gov.

Keep those hints, ideas and reports coming! Email to karen@ustoo.org.



A Message from Jim — By Jim Kiefert, Board Chairman

2005 was a year of change for Us TOO. Our new CEO started his first year, joining us on his birthday in Oct. of 2004. It was a great present for all of us. Tom Kirk brings a great deal of energy and new fresh ideas. I was elected chairman of the board beginning my term in January of 2005. I had served as treasurer for two years and was honored to be elected chair. I also have been a chapter leader for years and have started many new Us TOO chapters. From the start, Tom and I spent hours talking about what we felt we could do to provide leadership for our organization. Lew Musgrove and John Page had done a great job so we had some big shoes to fill.

We felt we could start anew, with no preconceived ideas about relationships with other prostate cancer organizations. We wanted to be collaborative and cooperative. We all want to do what we can to support research, encourage men to get screened, and to help men make treatment decisions that meet their values and needs. We looked at all the other prostate cancer organizations and realized that Us TOO is unique in that our whole reason for existence is to support Chapters. What makes our organization strong and unique is our network of chapter leaders and Regional Directors.

Our board concurred and has supported our focus on Chapters. Russ Gould has done an outstanding job as chair of our Chapters committee and Karen Bacher, our new Us TOO staff member has done a great job of communicating with you and providing support. Us TOO has mainly depended on support from pharmaceutical companies. We realized we needed to diversify our funding so we can continue providing services like our Hot Sheets and other educational materials for our chapters. For this reason we are requesting financial support from our chapter members and other interested people. We would like to encourage you to remind chapter members that our Home Office needs financial support to continue providing services and materials for them.

We all wish you happy holidays. These can be stressful times for chapter members and their families. It often reminds us of our fallen brothers. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Please remind chapter members that they can make a donation at www.ustoo.org. Respectfully, Jim Kiefert, Board Chairman

What Strategies Can Chapters Use To Reach Newly Diagnosed Men?

1. Ask chapter members to post chapter flyers in their doctors offices (urologist, oncologist, radiologist and even their family doctor) and at their local barbershops! Make sure flyers have the Us TOO logo and your chapter contact information. In some chapters, local pharmaceutical representatives will distribute your flyers for you when they visit the doctors in your area.
 2. Get the word out in your local community. Start a speakers bureau and offer to make presentations to community groups such as civic clubs and senior groups. Try to participate in community health fairs and exhibits. Ask to post an exhibit at your local library.
 3. Ask your local utility companies to include an Us TOO flyer in with their monthly bills.
 4. Contact your state government programs for the aging and make sure they are aware of your chapter.
 5. Donate books on prostate cancer to your local libraries and make sure you include information about your chapter on the inside of each book cover. When distributing *HotSheets*, place a sticker on each issue with your chapter contact and meeting information.
 6. Place a brief article or announcement about your chapter in your members' church bulletins.
 7. Make sure your local American Cancer Society office knows about your chapter so they can refer men to your group if they don't have a support group of their own.
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Introducing the Us TOO Planned Giving Program

Help build a legacy of support & hope - by making a planned gift! The programs and services provide by Us TOO International are made possible by generous donations from committed and concerned people just like you! Us TOO is 100% funded by donations from individuals, corporations and health related grant awards. Your planned gift to Us TOO helps ensure the future of prostate cancer patient focused support programs nationwide and abroad. Your financial advisor will be able to provide an overview of the numerous charitable giving vehicles appropriate for you and how they may benefit your family or loved ones.

Planned giving can be as simple as designating a gift through your will, gifting life insurance policies or securities, or designating Us TOO as a beneficiary on a retirement account. When establishing your will, we hope you will consider a bequest to Us TOO International to help us continue to be the primary source of support and information for prostate cancer patients, their families and friends. You can find more information about planned giving options at www.ustoo.org.

Helpful Internet Resources

Medical World Search www.mwsearch.com

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
www.aamft.org

Cancer News on the Net www.cancernews.com

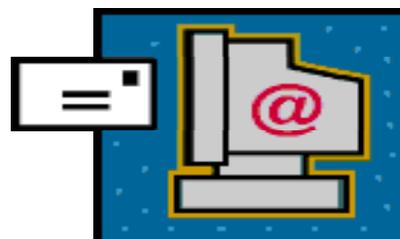
Oncology.com for up to date cancer news www.oncology.com

OncoLink from the University of Pennsylvania www.oncolink.com

American Medical Association www.ama-assn.org

CancerFacts.com presents information for patients, families and caregivers www.cancerfacts.com

Featured Question: What does your chapter do to encourage participation of wives, friends and loved ones in chapter activities? Email your strategies to karen@ustoo.org to be posted in our next issue. Everyone who submits a strategy will be entered into a drawing for a prize.



FOR CHAPTERS TO RECEIVE NEW RESOURCES AND ADVOCACY ALERTS: WE MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE EMAIL ADDRESS FOR EACH CHAPTER. PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ADDRESS TO: [KAREN@USTOO.ORG](mailto:karen@ustoo.org)

Helpful Resources Focusing on Drug Assistance Programs

The following programs offer assistance to patients who struggle to afford their prescription medications. Each program has its own set or eligibility criteria, most focus on type of drug needed, income level and ability, or lack thereof, to obtain prescription coverage from other sources. Please contact the program directly to obtain eligibility information.

AstraZeneca Foundation Patient Assistance Program 800/424-3727

GlaxoSmithKline's Commitment to Access Program 866/265-6491

Helping Patients Program 800/762-4636

Partnership for Prescription Assistance 888/477-2669

Eli Lilly's Patient Assistance Program 800/545-6962

Merck Patient Assistance Program 800/994-2111

PACT Plus (Aventis) 800/996-6626

Patient Advocate Foundation's Co-Pay Relief Patient Assistance Program 866/512-3861

Together Rx Access 800/444-4106

OncoLine Roche Patient Assistance Program 800/443-6676

**Us TOO International
Prostate Cancer
Education & Support
Network**

5003 Fairview Ave.
Downers Grove IL 60515

Phone: 800-808-7866

Fax: 630-795-1602

E-mail: ustoo@ustoo.org

Contact Karen Bacher
Us TOO Program Director
at Karen@ustoo.org

Visit our website
at www.ustoo.org

Us TOO Banners now for sale to chapters. Currently we have banners available for short term loan to chapters at no charge. If you would like to purchase your own banner for your chapter, you may do so at a cost of \$50. To view the banners, visit the chapter leader resource page on our website at www.ustoo.org To order, contact Jackie at the Us TOO Headquarters.

Us TOO Receives 4-Star Rating in Fiscal Evaluation

On November 4, 2005, Us TOO International received notification that it has received Charity Navigator's highest rating for sound fiscal management. Us TOO received a rating of four out of a possible four stars, an improvement over last year's three star rating. Charity Navigator is an independent charity evaluator, and works to advance a more efficient and responsive philanthropic marketplace by evaluating the financial health of America's largest charities.

"We are happy to announce that Us TOO International has earned a 4-star rating for its ability to efficiently allocate and grow its finances," states Trent Stamp, Charity Navigator Executive Director in his announcement letter. "Less than a quarter of the charities in America received our highest rating, indicating Us TOO International outperforms most charities in America in its efforts to operate in the most fiscally responsible way possible."

"This 'exceptional' rating from Charity Navigator differentiates Us TOO International from its peers and proves that it's worthy of the public's trust. The rise in your rating is an exceptional feat, especially given the economic challenges many charities have had to face in the last year."