



PREMIER CARES FOUNDATION

ANNUAL
NEWSLETTER
2021

12TH ANNUAL PROSTATE CANCER WALK

Every September, Premier Cares Foundation holds a community event to raise funds and awareness for prostate cancer.

On Saturday, September 25, over 200 people gathered at Eastdale Village, the home of Premier Medical Group's Urology offices. Participants walked a 1-mile loop in honor of loved ones and those who are battling the disease. This event raised over \$50,000 for those who need support during their cancer challenges.

Local singer, Maria Hickey kicked off the Walk with an inspiring rendition of the National Anthem and the day was emceed by Annie from Q92. Participants were treated to live music from The Band Hudson, a dance performance from Queen City Dance, and even on site massages from Samantha Fulton of FulBeing Physical Therapy.



Dr. Neil Kocher at Premier Medical Group's "Ask the Doctor" table.



Event sponsors were on hand to cheer on the walkers and offer information about their companies and provide complimentary items.



Dancers from Queen City Dance perform in front of Lutheran Care, the half-way point of the walk route.

The popular, "Ask the Doctor" table featured Dr. Neil J. Kocher a Urologist at Premier Medical Group. This is a unique opportunity to casually chat with a medical expert about concerns related to prostate cancer.

Guest speakers included Premier Cares Foundation Board President,

Rose Polito and Tim Faulds lead the walk.

Dr. Evan Goldfischer, Executive Director, Gia McCormack, and New York State Senator Sue Serino. The 2021 Survivor Speaker was Hudson Valley resident Mark Reynolds. Mark spoke from the heart about his journey with prostate cancer and the importance of early detection through prostate cancer screening.

We look forward to seeing everyone next September!



2021 survivor speaker, Mark Reynolds.

OUR MISSION

The mission of Premier Cares Foundation is to provide support, education, awareness, and financial assistance to individuals in our community lacking sufficient funds to address significant urologic and digestive issues including but not limited to prostate and colon cancer.

MUCH TO BE THANKFUL FOR: A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR.....



Gia McCormack,
Executive Director

It's hard to believe another year has quickly passed us by, and despite some challenges due to COVID-19, our dedicated

staff and volunteers

have continued to work diligently to provide financial support, education, and awareness to individuals in our community lacking sufficient funds to address urologic and digestive issues.

The pandemic forced us to postpone our Annual "Challenge Your Colon" Chili festival, but with some out of the box thinking and determination we held a Virtual BBQ & Brew fundraiser which was

a great success.

Working alongside the accomplished Tomáš Monosi from Tomáš Tapas and the knowledgeable Tim Langley from Half Time Beverage, we were able to create a delicious dinner for our guests to enjoy while watching a video about our Foundation from the comfort of their homes.

The 12th annual Prostate Cancer Walk, held on September 25, was one of our most successful walks to date. Taking place at the new Eastdale Village in Poughkeepsie, over 200 participants (and a few four-legged friends) walked in honor of loved ones who have been affected by prostate cancer.

Through the fundraising successes of both the Walk and BBQ & Brew events, we raised nearly \$90,000 towards our Care Fund.

I remain grateful for the support

we continue to receive from all of our sponsors and donors and I am excited to continue the important work we contribute to in the Hudson Valley. We have been able to continue helping GI and urologic patients receive financial support through our Care Fund and other local programs. I am confident that these funds have made a significant difference for patients in our community who need it the most and am proud of the work of our Foundation.

On behalf of our board and staff, we look forward to seeing you in the year ahead and wish everyone a peaceful Thanksgiving and holiday season.

Warmly,

A stylized, cursive signature of the name "Gia" in blue ink.

Gia McCormack

.....MEET DOLORES VOLEK - MARKETING DIRECTOR, PREMIER MEDICAL GROUP AND PCF VOLUNTEER



Dolores "Dee" Volek

Premier Cares Foundation (PCF) is fortunate to have the support of dozens of dedicated volunteers. Their hard work and skills allow the Foundation to thrive, grow, and help countless members of the community who need assistance throughout the year.

Dee Volek first learned about Premier Cares Foundation through her position as Marketing Director at Premier Medical Group. Almost eight years later, she is one of the most valuable and talented volunteers the Foundation is fortunate to have.

Why is the Foundation important to you?

Premier Cares Foundation is important to me because it helps patients in our local community as they cope with urologic and digestive diseases. Having seen how financially crippling these diseases can be, it is so nice

to know that the charity is able to help these patients in their time of need.

What do you enjoy most about volunteering?

I enjoy volunteering at PCF's events as it helps raise awareness about prostate and colon cancer and the importance of getting screened.

How do you spend your free time?

Sad to say that my schedule is so busy, I do not have any real hobbies. But, I do enjoy spending time with my family and friends, volunteering for local charities, and traveling.

Anything else you'd like to share?

I'd like to encourage everyone to learn about all of the good that Premier Cares Foundation does for our community. Also, if you ever have the opportunity to volunteer, you should!

PCF's events are always so much fun for the whole family and I encourage everyone to attend.

SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT: PFIZER ONCOLOGY



Jennifer Stewart, Pfizer Oncology Account Specialist at the 2021 Prostate Cancer Walk.

It would be impossible to do the work we do throughout the year without the support of our Annual Sponsors. They invest their resources, staff time, promotional materials, and information on cutting edge treatments for many of the illnesses we are focused on.

Though Pfizer has been a supporter of Premier Cares Foundation for many years, in 2021 they showed how passionate they are about helping local patients by becoming an Annual Sponsor.

In addition to adding resources to our Care fund, Pfizer's support has also introduced our community to their program, This is Living with Cancer™. This program is an online platform that provides tools and resources to support those who have been affected by cancer. The app version was designed to help manage some of the daily challenges faced by people living with cancer. For more information about the program and to find out more, visit www.ThisIsLivingWithCancer.com. Thank you, Pfizer!

In addition to Pfizer, Premier Cares Foundation would like to thank our other Annual Sponsors: Premier Medical Group, Ashworth Creative, and Nuvance Health. We appreciate everything these organizations do for our Foundation and for the entire Hudson Valley community.



THE CARE FUND AT WORK

Premier Cares Foundation established the Care Fund as a way to reach patients throughout the entire Hudson Valley region. Funds raised by the Foundation are distributed through partnerships with the Community Action Partnership for Dutchess County, Family of Woodstock and Jewish Family Services of Orange County.

These agencies are poised to respond immediately to the needs of their communities. Premier Cares Foundation provides the resources these agencies need to respond efficiently when a situation arises that meets our scope of criteria. Basic criteria includes financially-challenged urologic and gastrointestinal

patients in the Hudson Valley who desperately need help while they fight their illness.

Since 2013, nearly \$100,000 has been provided to local patients to pay for medication not covered by insurance, housing, transportation, utilities and other expenses.

This year, Premier Cares Foundation was pleased to present a check for \$5,000 to Family of Woodstock



Sara Capozzoli, Director of Development presented a check to Carroll Sisco, former Team Leader at Family of Woodstock in May this year.

located in Kingston, New York. These funds will be dispersed to patients in the Ulster County area.

Make a gift to the care fund and help local patients! Visit premiercaresfoundation.org or mail your donation to Premier Cares Foundation, P.O. Box 93, Pleasant Valley, NY 12569.

PREMIER CARES
FOUNDATION
P.O. Box 93
Pleasant Valley, NY 12569

SAVE THE DATE: SPRING WINE DINNER & COCKTAIL RECEPTION



Premier Cares Foundation has partnered with 1915 Wine Cellar and 40 Cannon to present an expertly paired, intimate wine dinner and lively cocktail party on Saturday, May 14, 2022.

Funds raised will benefit the Foundation's Care Fund and local patients who are battling GI and Urologic diseases.

Stay tuned to our emails, Facebook, and website for more information on this event including sponsor opportunities and tickets.



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PREMIER CARES FOUNDATION
Post Office Box 93
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The annual, "Challenge your Colon" Chili Festival was replaced in 2021 with a Virtual BBQ and Brew event. Premier Cares Foundation offered participants the opportunity to enjoy delicious smoked BBQ meats and savory side dishes at home, while watching Tomáš Monosi, chef and owner of Tomáš Tapas, discuss his process for smoking meats and also learned about his personal story about becoming a restaurateur.



Virtual guests also were treated to sampling 6 paired beers while learning about the beer and food pairing from Half Time Beverage's Tim Langley.

With the help of our sponsors, volunteers, and participants, this event raised \$34,000 for the Care Fund. If you would like to watch the video, produced by Ross Media, visit <https://bit.ly/3CSBB6U>.

The Chili Festival returns in 2022!
SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, March 27!

