

Reaching through the darkness to give hope to those fighting the battle of cancer.

Hope Happenings

Volume 1, Issue 1

September 2011

Special points of interest:

- Upcoming event
- Who we are
- Donation needs
- Volunteer info

Inside this issue:

Touching Lives...	2
Kate's race update	3
Volunteers needed	3
Event Details	4
Donation needs	5

The new director of Hope Cancer Ministries, Christine Schroeder

Christine has been involved with Hope since 2010; she started out as the Community Relations Director, and accepted the Executive Director position in June 2011. Christine is a respiratory therapist by trade and left her job as Director of Respiratory care at Carolinas Medical Center to serve others. Through prayer and much urging, she became an employee of Hope. She worked to bring more awareness to Hope and our mission, as well as helping increase donations and outreach. Having personal family members who have been touched by cancer and its long term effects, she knew she was making the right decision to step out on faith. Although she felt the need to serve others and feels such joy working to carry out this mission; it's the sense of fulfillment she has every day when she leaves "work" knowing that she helped make a difference.



Christine has a wonderful husband, Tim shares her commitment and volunteers his time to see all the new clients. He's the unofficial nurse of Hope Cancer. Her daughter Chelsea, a very creative and inspiring artist can be found somewhere at Hope helping out. Her son, Tim, Jr. (19), will volunteer his time, when he's home from college to help at events and projects that require some extra muscle. She has lofty goals for Hope this year and is working tirelessly to bring more awareness and donations to the ministry. Please take a moment to let Christine know how much you appreciate her dedication and leadership and always keep her in your prayers.

Mrs. Southern Piedmont, Lindsay Merritt

Mrs. Southern Piedmont has chosen Hope Cancer



Lindsay Merritt, the reigning Mrs. Southern Piedmont is a second grade teacher at Koontz Elementary School. Lindsay is a wife, and mother in addition to a child advocate and volunteer for many non-profit organizations. Here's what Lindsay had to say about helping Hope, "What I love about being a volunteer and speaker with Hope Cancer Ministries is that they not only provide support for those suffering from cancer, but also their families, caregivers, and those grieving." Lindsay was 3rd runner up in the Mrs. North Carolina pageant in June of this year. We are please to congratulate her on her finish and thank her for all her hard work to bring more awareness to Hope's goal. Please join her and our volunteers as we work to raise funding so that Hope can reach out to more people here in our community, Right here, RIGHT NOW



“And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”
HEBREWS 13:16

Touching lives and giving HOPE

Unfortunately, Cancer has touched the life of most of us. By the time someone turns 30, they have a 97% chance of a close friend or family member being diagnosed with Cancer. Just the mention of the word Cancer fills our heart with fear and dread. It is a terrifying diagnosis. Cancer is a powerful enemy to face but it is not all powerful. Cancer patients and their families do not need to face it alone.

Hope Cancer is the hand that reaches into that darkness. It exists to provide spiritual, emotional and practical support for cancer patients and their families. We support the patient, caregiver and griever. We provide prayer, cards of encouragement, hot meals, food pantry items, help with bills, housekeeping, yard work and most of all a compassionate volunteer or staff member to talk with.

Consider Patty, a 55 year old woman diagnosed with cervical cancer 5 years ago. She battled through it and was in remission. She had returned to her job as a cook in a local restaurant. Recently, she was diagnosed with stomach and oral cancer. She started chemotherapy and radiation. Every day she went to the cancer center for her treatment. A few weeks ago when she came home, she found someone had kicked her back door in and robbed her. She had lost everything. Her social worker referred her to us on a Monday. She had no electricity, no stove, no refrigerator and no food.

We met with her on Tuesday to bring her food that did not need to be refrigerated or cooked and a check payable to Duke Energy to restore her power. We prayed with her and she said she never lost hope because she knew God would not forsake her. We sent an email out to our volunteers to ask if anyone had appliances they could donate. Friday night at 5 pm that same week, she had power restored to her home, a stove had been donated and Hope Cancer volunteers delivered a fridge which had been donated by another volunteer. We handed her a box of food from our pantry and a food card to purchase perishable food. She hugged all of us so tight. She cried when she said God had delivered her through our actions.

How we wish to convey in this article what a joy it is to serve with this ministry. It is such a blessing to watch God put us all together at Hope Cancer to help someone like Patty. It started with the ministry assistant who took the information from the social worker, the volunteers that donated food, the people who support our ministry so we could pay the electric bill, the people that pray for us and finally the volunteers who donated and delivered the refrigerator. Together we made a difference.

Quick update on this story: Thursday, August 25th, we had a new volunteer pick Patty up to take her to her follow up appointment. The volunteer is new with Hope Cancer and is a breast cancer survivor. They actually grew up together; their mother's were great friends and had lost contact. It was such an exciting reunion for them, and through Hope not only did we offer support, food and transportation but we've managed to reunite friends that will continue to support each other through whatever may come their way.

Volunteers needed

**SAVE the
DATE
Saturday,
October
22nd**

We are always in need of volunteers to help with our clients. You don't have to have special skills or talents, just a heart for helping others. You will receive training at our Volunteer Workshop before you are paired with a client. Even if you can't offer your time to become a one-on-one partner, you can help with any of our fundraising events, clerical work in the office or organize the food pantry or handyman (woman) services. If you are interested please contact Susan Vellejo, our volunteer coordinator via e-mail at susanv@hopecancer.org.

If you are interested in serving on our Board of Directors, please contact Christine Schroeder via e-mail at christines@hopecancer.org, she would love to speak with you about joining the team to minister through serving.



Changing Leaves, Changing Lives Kate's Race

We were very disappointed to cancel Kate's race in June, but pleased to announce the Changing Leaves, Changing Lives; Kate's Race 10k/5k run/walk on Saturday, October 22nd at McAlpine Creek Park. Our goal is to bring everyone together that makes Hope Cancer Ministries possible. There are many different ways you can support and/or be a part of this event.

Kate's Race - This event will start at 6:30 a.m. Registration information can be found on page 4.

Memorial Wall - We will have a wall to honor all of our current clients of Hope Cancer who are fighting this battle and would love for you to place the pictures of people in your life that are also fighting this battle. We will also honor the memory of those who have lost their fight with cancer. We would love to have you place the pictures of those people on the wall. If you do not have a picture, we will have hearts for you to fill out on that day that can be placed on the wall. We will also be releasing balloons to honor everyone.

Caps Against Cancer - If you are able, please bring gently used or new caps or hats for our Cancer Patients. *Caps Against Cancer* will be there to collect them.

Drive-Thru Donations - We will have a tent set up in the McAlpine Park parking lot on the morning of the race for you to drive through and make donations:

\$25.00 Food Cards (Food Lion or Walmart)

Ensure or Boost (any flavor)

Groceries for our food pantry (see website for items needed)

Kids Activities - We will have activities for the kids of the racers and volunteers. Athletic Revolution will be organizing those activities, along with the Kids Fun Run.

Volunteers are needed, if you're interested please e-mail info@hopecancer.org.

Changing Leaves, Changing Lives

Kate's Race event info.

Event Details:

Entry Fees

10K Run \$35.00
5K Run/Walk \$35.00
Kids Fun Run \$15.00

Registration Information

[Online Registration](#) (credit card only)

Available until 11:59 pm on October 20, 2011 (Thursday night at midnight)

Race Day

Registration & chip pick-up begins at 6:30 am.

Packet Pick-up

Saturday, October 22nd (Race Day)
McAlpine Creek Park 8711 Monroe Rd.

Friday, October 21

Omega Sports in Arboretum
8036 Providence Rd. Charlotte, NC

If you did not register before October 20th: You may also register and pick up your packet at the following Omega Sports Location:

Arboretum: Friday, 10:00 am - 7:00 pm

You can also register online through midnight on October 20th, but please allow at least 24 hours before you come to pick up your race packet. If you do not bring in your online registration con-firmation, your packet will not be guaranteed.

T-Shirts

Guaranteed for those registering before October 15th. Race week registrants, while supplies last.

Individual Awards

Individual Awards for the 5K and 10K:

1st M/F Overall
Free Pair of running shoes - \$100 value

2nd M/F Overall
Free Fuel Belt - \$40 value

3rd M/F Overall
Free Omega Sports Tech Tee - \$20 value
Top Sponsorship Award
Dinner for two at Bonefish Grill

Awards will be presented at the awards ceremony and will not be mailed after the event.
Awards will be kept at Omega Sports for two weeks.

*But just as you
excel in
everything-in
faith, in speech,
in knowledge, in
complete
earnestness and
in your love for
us-see that you
also excel in this
grace of giving.*

2 Corinthians 8:7



Hope Cancer Ministries

P.O. Box 19967
Charlotte, NC 28219
Phone: 704.364.1440
After hours: 704.577.1209
E-mail: info@hopecancer.org

Hope Cancer is the hand of faith,
reaching out in the dark.

Hope Cancer Ministries (HCM) is a faith-based ministry, which interacts with individuals, churches and other organizations to offer spiritual and emotional support along with practical ministry in Jesus' name to cancer patients, caregivers and those who are grieving. We are a non-profit corporation (501(c)3 Tax Exempt Organization) and we are primarily supported by donations from individuals, organizations, and corporations. Client services are provided free of charge and regardless of faith or religious affiliation. Our primary directive is simple. It is to show our love of Jesus Christ by serving those families affected by the devastating diagnosis of cancer.



Donations needed

We are in desperate need of donations. With the economy, long hot summer, and forthcoming winter months our pantries are bare. Monetary donations are always welcomed and greatly appreciated-we're able to help with rents, power and water bills with these donations. Lately we've had a large number of food requests. Because our clients are patients fighting cancer, families of patients or caregivers to patients there are very specific nutritional needs. Fresh fruits and vegetables are always needed-and gift cards to Bi-Lo, Food Lion, etc will enable them to purchase these items. All grocery items are needed to build up our pantry supply for the winter months. We are in need of Ensure, all flavors and sizes.

To help keep the costs down for Kate's race, we are in need of a large "catering" tent for the day of the race, or donation of rental costs. We need handymen/women to help hang wiring and pictures for our Memory/ In Honor of wall.

