

PHEN

Prostate Health Education Network, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Prostate Health Education Network Expands Partnerships for Education, Support and Outreach (PESOs) into Worcester Community

Kicks-Off Successful Partnership with UMass Memorial Medical School

Group to Meet on Wed., Nov. 11th at UMass Memorial Medical Center

(Boston, MA)—Oct. 21, 2015—The Prostate Health Education Network (PHEN) announced today that it has expanded its monthly support group meeting from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute to its newest location, at the UMass Memorial Medical Center, in Worcester, Mass.

“This is an exciting time, our PHEN survivor network is growing and we have had an enthusiastic response from the Worcester community,” said Richard Salmon, PHEN Survivor Network member and Worcester Support Group Leader. “Worcester is the second largest community for men of color in Massachusetts. Our goal is to help educate black men within this community about their prostate health and work to eliminate the African American prostate cancer disparity.” Black America suffers the nation’s largest prostate cancer burden with incidence and mortality rates 60% and 150% higher, respectively, than all other men.

The Worcester support group started in June 2015 and so far has 15 members and that number is growing. The group meets at the University of Massachusetts Ambulatory Care Center Building (**55 N Lake Ave, Worcester, MA 01655, Room AC4248A/B**), on the second Wednesday of every month, at 5:30 p.m. They began meeting as part of PHEN’s Partnerships for Education, Support and Outreach (PESO) program, and includes community partners from the Worcester community: UMass Medical School; the Central Regional Health Office of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health; Mosaic Cultural Complex; and the Worcester Black Clergy Alliance. PHEN’s community partners will undertake prostate education support and outreach projects in Worcester, such as meeting men in churches, barbershops, health fairs and prostate cancer screening events, to reach them outside of a medical setting.

“The launch of the PHEN Worcester support group is an amazing opportunity for UMass Memorial Medical Center,” said Mitchell H. Sokoloff, MD, founding chair of the Department of Urology, UMass Memorial Health Care. “We have started an invaluable dialogue between the support group members and our own faculty and executives,

PHEN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Prostate Health Education Network, Inc.

wherein the support group is providing feedback to our urology team on best practices moving forward to help serve the medical and cultural needs of our African American patients and their families.”

- MORE-

PHEN monthly support group meetings began in Boston, Massachusetts, in 2003, where they take place at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The support group meetings bring prostate cancer survivors and their families together to learn about new prostate

cancer developments, treatments and clinical trials. The meetings also serve as a forum for men to share their stories amongst each other and provide mutual support. Each meeting is conducted as a live webcast and features educational presentations from leading medical and cancer specialists from around the country. The goal of the webcast is to help educate men and their families from wherever they choose to tune-in, whether it is via laptop, mobile device or tablet.

The next PHEN Worcester support group meeting will take place, on Wednesday, November 11th, at 5:30 p.m., at the University of Massachusetts Ambulatory Care Center Building (**55 N Lake Ave, Worcester, MA 01655, Room AC4248A/B**). The meeting is FREE and open to the public.

###

About PHEN

The Prostate Health Education Network (PHEN) is the leading patient education and advocacy organization addressing the needs of African American prostate cancer patients and survivors. About 1 in 5 African American men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during his lifetime; with the highest prostate cancer incidence and mortality rates in the United States. Based in Quincy, Mass., PHEN, a 501(c)(3) organization, was founded in 2003 by Thomas A. Farrington, a prostate cancer survivor. PHEN Initiatives include monthly live educational webcasts, the Annual Father's Day Rally, educational symposiums with church partners, and the Annual African American Prostate Cancer Disparity Summit in Washington, DC. For more information, visit PHEN's website: www.prostatehealthed.org.

Contact:

Tomeeka Farrington
(617) 423-0040

Tomeeka@spotlightcommunications.net