



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 5, 2012

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Cancer Survivors, Caregivers needed as volunteers

Houston, TX... The new year is here! As people set their goals for 2012, CanCare has an opportunity for cancer survivors and caregivers who have considered the idea of using their own experience to help others. CanCare, Inc., a Houston-based nonprofit organization that offers emotional support to cancer patients and their families through a network of more than 600 volunteers, has announced volunteer training classes to be held February 17-19, 2012.

To become a CanCare volunteer, you must either be a cancer survivor who has been finished with treatments for at least six months, or have been the caregiver/family member of a cancer survivor. CanCare volunteers act as mentors to patients during their treatment, and work with family members to provide encouragement and hope.

CanCare's Director of Program Services, Kim Akel shares, "Once a cancer patient or caregiver has completed treatment, they become a wonderful symbol of survivorship to someone facing a new diagnosis; however, it is the CanCare training that properly equips individuals to walk alongside someone who just heard those three words, 'you have cancer.' Our 3-day training is what separates our one-on-one matching program from any other one in the nation. It is guided in a way that allows survivors and caregivers to process their cancer journey, and learn how to use their experience to help someone who is newly diagnosed."

In addition to helping others in a one-on-one setting which is often done by telephone, opportunities are available for volunteers to make hospital visits to cancer patients by volunteering in Houston-area hospitals. Applicants must go through an interview process before attending the training session. For more information about becoming a CanCare volunteer, call the CanCare office at 713-461-0028 or visit www.cancare.org. All of CanCare's services are confidential and provided without charge. CanCare, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization.