



## February 2022

Dear Zoya,

*We are here for you ...* in more ways than ever before. Our redesigned, user friendly website is just days from launch, and we cannot wait for you to check it out. Stay tuned!

In the meantime, join us for our upcoming OCAOSW support and educational sessions:

- February 17, 4-5PM: [Virtual Support Group Moderated by Susan Hedlund](#)
- March 9, 5-6:15PM: [Coping with Chemotherapy](#)
- March 15, 4-5PM: [Virtual Support Group Moderated by Susan Hedlund](#)
- March 16, 6-7:15PM: Healthy Eating with Cancer-Fighting Foods (Co-Hosting with our friends at the [Pink Lemonade Project](#)). Registration coming soon.

Warmest regards,

Zoya Kumar

Executive Director

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### Quick Links

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## In Her Own Words:

### Carol Brooks

Like most of us, the diagnosis of...read more [here](#)



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## Health Disparities Require Intentional Action

Women from the African diaspora are disproportionately affected by high-grade and aggressive ovarian tumors. In the United States, mortality due to ovarian cancer is decreasing overall. However, Black women continue to have lower survival rates and higher rates of recurrence than non-Hispanic white women. They are also more likely to develop resistance to chemotherapy.

Data from the US National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, show that the frequency with which various subtypes of ovarian tumors are diagnosed in Black women differs from that in white women. For example, Black women are more likely to have germ-cell and stromal-cell tumors, and less likely to have epithelial ovarian cancers. Read more [here](#).

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## The PATHFINDER 2 Study Open for Enrollment

Too often, cancer goes undetected until it is at an advanced stage. Thinking about the possibility of having cancer can feel overwhelming, but taking steps to find

cancer early can help you feel more in control of your health. The earlier that cancer is found, the higher the chance of survival.

The PATHFINDER 2 Study will evaluate the performance of a multi-cancer early detection test, called Galleri, that can detect many types of cancer through a simple blood draw. This test is being studied and is not approved or cleared by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). It is not meant to replace the cancer screening tests your healthcare provider may recommend, such as colonoscopy or mammography.

The PATHFINDER 2 Study is currently open to men and women aged 50 years or older who meet eligibility criteria and receive care at participating health systems. Participants in previous or ongoing GRAIL sponsored studies are not eligible to participate in the PATHFINDER 2 Study.

To see if you are eligible to enroll, please contact the PATHFINDER 2 Study Team [here](#).

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### **Save the Dates: September 21-23, 2022**

#### **Virtual Ovarian Cancer National Conference**

The Uniting for Hope Ovarian Cancer National Conference, presented by Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance, is the largest and longest-running ovarian cancer conference. It brings together patients, caregivers, survivors, advocates and friends to learn about the latest developments in diagnosis, treatment and quality of life for women with ovarian cancer. The conference offers opportunities to learn, connect and support, all from the comfort of your own home. Registration will open soon.

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#### **No Out of Pocket Genetic Re-Testing**

Have you previously tested for BRCA1/BRCA2 full testing or for Lynch Syndrome prior to 2013? If so, you may qualify for update testing at no out of pocket expense. Check with your geneticist or provider for more information.

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#### **Story Time: Seeking IHOW Authors**

*In Her Own Words* is one of the most read and appreciated articles in our newsletter and on our website. If you're interested in sharing your journey with our community, please contact [Diane O'Connor](#).

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#### **Camp Mak-a-Dream in Gold Creek, MT Retreats**

Please visit this [page](#) for details on event and programming changes based on current recommendations and restrictions surrounding the COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) situation.



For more camp information, click [here](#).

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## Easy Ways to Make a BIG Difference



Set up a Facebook Fundraiser to benefit the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Oregon and Southwest Washington.

Follow these [easy instructions](#).

You'll make a big difference in the lives of survivors by helping fund our emotional and financial support programs.



Make a difference when you shop! Please consider linking your online Amazon shopping account to the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Oregon and SW Washington. For every dollar spent, [OCAOSW](#) receives a [donation from AmazonSmile](#) and that is surely something to smile about!



You can help the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Oregon and SW Washington earn donations just by shopping with your Fred Meyer rewards card! To learn more, login to your [Fred Meyer account](#).

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