

Updated March 2010

SAMPLE LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear [NAME OF EDITOR]:

National Cancer Survivors Day® is Sunday, June 6, 2010. On this day, [CITY/ TOWN] will honor our citizens who are living with and beyond cancer. We will join hundreds of communities worldwide in celebrating life as part of the 23rd annual NCSD. Celebrations will be held throughout the United States, Canada, and other participating countries, including the [EVENT] organized by [ORGANIZATION] here in [CITY/TOWN]. We want to invite everyone to our community's celebration.

A "survivor" is anyone living with a history of cancer – from the moment of diagnosis through the remainder of life, according to the National Cancer Survivors Day Foundation. In the United States, there are over 11 million people living with a history of cancer. These people are living proof that a cancer diagnosis is not an automatic death sentence.

Major advances in cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment have resulted in longer survival. However, a cancer diagnosis can leave a host of problems in its wake. Physical, financial, and emotional hardships often persist after diagnosis and treatment. Survivors may face many challenges such as hindered access to cancer specialists and promising new treatments, inadequate insurance, financial hardships, employment problems, and psychological struggles. Despite these difficulties, cancer survivors can live active, productive lives.

To improve the quality of life of cancer survivors, more resources and research are needed. The National Cancer Survivors Day Foundation, along with national sponsors, Bristol-Myers Squibb, *Coping*® magazine, and Lilly Oncology, encourages a greater commitment to resolving the issues of cancer survivorship.

As the organizers of this local event, we are encouraging everyone to attend the celebration to show his or her support for our community's cancer survivors, their families, friends, and healthcare providers. For more information, call [LOCAL NUMBER], or visit [WEB SITE].

Sincerely,

[NAME]

Chairperson, National Cancer Survivors Day

[ORGANIZATION NAME]

[CONTACT INFORMATION]

Caution:

- *Do not use in present form.*
- *Replace bracketed material with local names and data.*