

June, 2013

Dear Friends:

I am pleased and proud to serve as the Honorary Chair of PurpleStride Cincinnati 2013 to benefit the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. This 5K Run/Walk will be held on Saturday, September 28 at Sawyer Point.

As the Medical Director, University of Cincinnati Barrett Center for Cancer Prevention, Treatment and Research, I have seen too many patients lose their lives to pancreatic cancer. Pancreatic cancer is the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States, and its five-year survival rate is only 6%. This is horrendous. The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is committed to doubling the five-year survival rate by 2020, and I strongly support this goal.

- Pancreatic cancer is expected to become the second leading cause of cancer death by 2020, and possibly as early as 2015;
- Pancreatic cancer has the lowest survival rate of all major cancers but receives just 2% of federal cancer research funds;
- The five-year survival rate has not changed significantly in decades. Only six out of 100 patients will be alive five years after diagnosis;

There are no early detection methods; there is no cure.

My experience with pancreatic cancer and its patients has driven me to action; we cannot allow this disease to continue to devastate so many lives. Events like PurpleStride will help the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network double the pancreatic cancer survival rate by 2020 and continue to provide hope and encouragement to patients and their families.

I have had the pleasure of meeting many volunteers of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network Cincinnati Affiliate, and I am looking forward to meeting other passionate supporters of this cause. Please join us and hundreds of your fellow citizens to know it, fight it, END IT!

Sincerely,

William L. Barrett, MD
Medical Director
University of Cincinnati Barrett Center
PurpleStride Cincinnati 2013 Honorary Chair