

Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

November 2012

WHEREAS, in 2012, an estimated 43,920 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the United States, 37,390 will die from the disease, and approximately 3860 of those deaths will occur in California;

WHEREAS, there were 451 deaths in Alameda County from pancreatic cancer between 2008 and 2010;

WHEREAS, pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest cancers, is the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States, and is the only major cancer with a five-year relative survival rate in the single digits at six percent; and

WHEREAS, when symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is usually too late for an optimistic prognosis, and 74 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis while 94 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first five years; and

WHEREAS, of all the racial/ethnic groups in the United States, African Americans have the highest incidence rate of pancreatic cancer, between 34 percent and 70 percent higher than the other groups and;

WHEREAS, There is no cure for pancreatic cancer, there have been no significant improvements in survival rates in the last 40 years, and pancreatic cancer research constitutes approximately 2 percent of the National Cancer Institute’s federal research funding, which is significantly less than other forms of cancer receive; and

WHEREAS, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is the first and only national patient advocacy organization that serves the pancreatic cancer community in Alameda County and nationwide by focusing its efforts on public policy, research funding, patient services, and public awareness and education related to developing effective treatments and a cure for pancreatic cancer; and

WHEREAS, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and its affiliates in Alameda County support those patients currently battling pancreatic cancer, as well as to those who have lost their lives to the disease, and are committed to nothing less than a cure, and the good health and well-being of the residents of Alameda County are enhanced as a direct result of increased awareness about pancreatic cancer and research into early detection, causes, and effective treatments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that this Board of Supervisors, County of Alameda, **does hereby proclaim the month of November as “Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month” in Alameda County.**

NATE MILEY, President
Supervisor, Fourth District

November 20, 2012

KEITH CARSON, Vice-President
Supervisor, Fifth District

SCOTT HAGGERTY
Supervisor, First District

RICHARD VALLE
Supervisor, Second District

WILMA CHAN
Supervisor, Third District