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**HISTORY & MISSION**

The Yul Brynner Head and Neck Cancer Foundation was created by the late actor after an abnormality was found on his vocal cord in the 1980s. With the combined vision of Yul Brynner and the knowledge and experience of Dr. George Sisson, the Yul Brynner Foundation was incorporated in Chicago in 1984 for the purpose of educating the public about the harmful effects of tobacco and its relationship to mouth and throat cancer.

In 1997, the Association for Head and Neck Cancer Awareness was formed by Terry Day, MD, in Nashville, Tennessee. The Association and the Yul Brynner Foundation soon combined efforts, propelling Dr. Day to be elected president of the Yul Brynner Foundation.

In 2006, the Yul Brynner Head and Neck Cancer Foundation was officially named the Head and Neck Cancer Alliance. Today, our mission is to advance prevention, detection, treatment and rehabilitation of oral, head and neck cancer through public awareness, research, advocacy and survivorship. Through united and collaborative efforts, HNCA provides support to head and neck cancer patients throughout the year, supports ongoing research in head and neck oncology, and educates the public in the disease process, treatment, and prevention of oral, head and neck cancers.

**ORAL, HEAD AND NECK CANCER INCIDENCE**

According to a World Health Organization review, oral, head and neck cancer is the sixth leading cancer by incidence worldwide. Head and neck cancer appears in the nasal cavity, sinuses, lips, mouth, salivary glands, thyroid gland, throat, or larynx (voice box). Based on the most recent statistics available, the annual incidence of head and neck cancers worldwide is more than 550,000 cases with around 300,000 deaths each year. In the United States, over 65,000 new cases (not including thyroid cancer) are expected to be diagnosed each year. These cancers are more than twice as common in men as they are in women.
**2019 HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Over 250 Screenings Conducted
- 17 Participating Countries, including Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Greece, India, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia, South Africa, Iran, United Kingdom, and the United States
- 41 Participating U.S. States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico
- 8,115 Individuals Screened (based on 104 sites reporting results)
- 743 Individuals Referred for Follow-up of Suspected Cancer

**ORAL, HEAD AND NECK CANCER AWARENESS PROGRAM (OHANCA®)**

Each year, we work closely with local hospitals, clinics and medical centers to provide free head and neck cancer screenings for community members in hundreds of locations throughout the US and abroad. The goals of this initiative are to raise awareness of head and neck cancer and to encourage adults who are at high risk to take advantage of free screenings. The key message of the campaign is that early diagnosis is key to successful treatment of these types of cancers.

Special thanks to **Bristol-Myers Squibb** for its sustaining support of this program.

Moffitt Cancer Center, Tampa, FL
Gas Card Program

HNCA believes no patient should be left unable or unwilling to travel to their treatment due to financial concerns. To help offset some of the financial obstacles that may stand in their way, HNCA offers our Gas Card Program, which provides a one-time grant of a $50 BP or Exxon gift card to head and neck cancer patients to help with transportation costs to and from treatments.

2019 Highlights:

- In 2019, HNCA provided nearly 900 patients with gasoline gift cards totaling $45,000, the largest amount ever.

From Our Patients:

“Thank you so very much. You have no idea how much we are in need of gas money to transport my husband to his daily radiation and other doctor appointments. Again, thank you.”

“We are thankful for the gas card you provided for our transportation expense. This has been a great help. We still have four more weeks to travel to his appointments. But your support was greatly appreciated.”

“Just a note to extend our most sincere thanks for the Exxon gas card you recently sent. We appreciate your help so very much, especially during this time of year.”

“Thank you for your kindness & thoughtfulness during this time of need, for the gas gift card for my husband for his radiation treatments. It will definitely be used and very much appreciated.”

Christine Tatum, volunteer organizer of the Smash Cancer tennis tournament held in Wilmington, NC, raises funds each year for the gas card program.
2019 HIGHLIGHTS:

• HNCA welcomed 10 new Ambassadors to the program for a total of 20 Ambassadors.

• Ambassadors presented at various HPV-related state conferences, awareness events, and educational and outreach programs.

• Ambassadors participated in surveys seeking to bring the patient voice to new drug and treatment development.

• Ambassadors were selected and profiled in public awareness campaigns, including Merck’s With Love, Me.

AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

We strive to empower patients and survivors to share their journeys by understanding their disease, managing their treatment plan, celebrating their milestones and moving forward. The HNCA Ambassadors are dedicated to educating the community-at-large about these cancers. Our ambassadors are cancer patients, survivors and/or caregivers whose inspirational journeys give true meaning to what happens when you are diagnosed with cancer, during and post-treatment.

HNCA Executive Director Amanda Hollinger and HNCA Ambassador Tom Bennett presenting at the South Carolina Immunization Task Force conference.
A LOOK AHEAD TO 2020:
HEAD AND NECK CANCER SURVIVORSHIP SYMPOSIUM

Planning is well underway for the inaugural Head and Neck Cancer Survivorship Symposium, presented in partnership with the American Head and Neck Society. Scheduled for July 18, 2020, in Chicago, IL, this program will bring together survivors, caregivers, and clinicians for a day of education and connections covering topics such as Care Partner Needs, Family Dynamics, Oral Care, Psychosocial Issues, Swallowing, Exercise, and Becoming a Champion for your Community. HNCA, its partners, and the Symposium planning committee are busy fundraising to provide travel support for attendees.

If you’d like to help cancer survivors get to this one-of-a-kind event, donate today! Your gift is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Learn more, sign up to receive program updates, or reserve a seat.
A LOOK AHEAD TO 2020:
ORAL, HEAD AND NECK CANCER AWARENESS PROGRAM
(OHANCA®)

We are pleased to welcome voice actor Rob Paulsen as our official spokesperson for 2020. Paulsen will serve as the face and voice of HNCA’s Oral, Head and Neck Cancer Awareness® Program (OHANCA®), which celebrates its 22nd year in 2020. The cornerstone of the annual initiative is Oral, Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Week, scheduled for April 13-19, when dozens of free oral, head and neck cancer screenings and awareness programs take place around the world.

Paulsen is known for voicing some of the most iconic cartoon characters of all-time. His voice has been featured in series such as Animaniacs, Pinky and the Brain, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, and Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius. Paulsen will now use his famous voice to help raise awareness of oral, head and neck cancer, encourage those at risk to get screened for oral cancer, and promote the importance of early detection and prevention via HPV vaccination.

Diagnosed with HPV-attributed stage III squamous cell carcinoma in 2016, Paulsen faced terrifying uncertainty as a voice actor confronting throat cancer. Read his story here.
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Moffitt Cancer Cancer, Tampa, FL
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Dr. Michael Moore and Dr. Cherie-Ann Nathan Accepting the certificate of recognition for the HNCA’s contribution to the meeting at the HPV Vaccination Roundtable National Meeting.
Board Chairman, Dr. Terry Day and HNCA President, Dr. Michael Moore attending a Stand Up to Cancer event.
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