



WEST CENTRAL GEORGIA  
CANCER COALITION



## June Newsletter 2022

"West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition's mission is to bring awareness to cancer prevention and screenings. We serve 13 counties in West Central Georgia & East Alabama and are leading the journey to a cancer free community!"

-Cheryl A Johnson, President & CEO

Find Out More About  
Us!

NATIONAL  
CANCER  
SURVIVORS  
MONTH



# Calendar of Cancer Awareness Months

January	February	March	April
 Cervical Cancer	 Colorectal/Bile Duct Cancer	 Anus Cancer  Colon Cancer  Kidney Cancer  Multiple Myeloma	 Testicular Cancer  Esophageal Cancer  Head & Neck Cancer
May	June	July	August
 Melanoma & Skin Cancer  Brain Cancer  Bladder Cancer	 National Cancer Survivor Month	 Sarcoma/Bone Cancer	Choose Hope has donated over 100%000 to Cancer Research
September	October	November	December
 Childhood Cancer  Leukemia  Lymphoma  Ovarian Cancer  Prostate Cancer  Thyroid Cancer  Uterine Cancer	 Breast Cancer  Metastatic Breast Cancer  Liver Cancer	 Smoking Cessation  Lung Cancer  Neuroendocrine Cancer  Pancreatic Cancer  Stomach Cancer	 <p>                         CHOOSE HOPE®                          1-800-448-HOPE                          www.choosehope.com                     </p>



## Volunteer Spotlight: Wanda Rutledge

**Wanda Alexander Rutledge** was born in Columbus, Georgia to the late Mr. Walker and Mrs. Ruby Alexander. She is



six of seven children. Wanda has a rich and varied educational background to include graduating from William H. Spencer High School in 1966. She did further studies at Columbus College, now Columbus State University and TIC University.

Wanda is a member of Greater St. Mark A.M.E. Church where she has served in many capacities and organizations. She served as Youth Director for many years and is presently a Steward, Missionary and Stewardess. She is employed by Kinetic Credit Union where she is presently the Community Relations Vice President. Wanda is a Certified Trainer for Achieving Service Excellence and for Coaching for Service Excellence.

Wanda serves on the Mayor's Commission for Unity, Diversity, and Prosperity, the Board of Directors of The Literacy Alliance, and the West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition. Wanda currently serves on the Paint the Town Pink Campaigns for WCGCC.

Wanda is married to Al Rutledge and they have two sons: Al Rutledge, Jr. and Andre K. Rutledge, both graduates of Albany State University. She has three wonderful grandchildren, Alexis, Kenyon and Braydon. She has five god children: LaJuanda Arrington, Cherie (Marco) Howard Elcock, Wilbert Williams, II, Gavin Scott and Vincente Andrews.

### **How long have you been involved with WCGCC?**

I'm not sure how long I've been involved but a mighty long time, it seems. The first PTTP (Paint The Town Pink), I believe was at Ashley Furniture and I was involved then.

### **Why did you get involved with WCGCC and what is your role?**

I got involved with WCGCC because of the current President/ CEO. My role as a Board Member is to support the staff in whatever the needs are to the best of my ability. On PTTP, you probably already know the things I do with that....lead my team, handle registration, secure sponsorships, and assist where needed.

### **Special Interest: What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?**

I enjoy helping people and it's as simple as that. I enjoy traveling (not able to now), reading, cooking and eating. I enjoy the theater as well.

### **How would you best describe the WCGCC?**

WCGCC is an organization that is supportive in many ways to the people who are survivors and/or going through their cancer journey. One thing that stands out is its ability to improve the quality of life for cancer patients, survivors through its educational programs, free screenings and assistance with everyday needs (such as assistance with paying utilities, or transportation to appointments) through the Neighbors Helping Neighbors Program.

---

# Intern of the Quarter: Alana Robinson



**Alana Robinson** is currently a first-year graduate student studying Criminal Justice obtaining her Masters degree in Applied Social Sciences at Florida A&M University. In May of 2021, while attending the University of West Georgia, she walked across the stage proudly with her Bachelors of Science in Criminology with a certificate in Forensic Science.

Alana knew it was her passion to become an forensic pathologist/analyst working for the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). By being involved on and off campus, that dream will become reality for her one day. Throughout the summer, she has given back her time to the community by working and volunteering with WCGCC and partaking in events and social gatherings.

After receiving her Masters, she has plans on working with the Midland, Georgia very own Georgia Bureau of Investigations.

---

## BIKERS BATTLING CANCER



Have you ever wondered what it would be like to ride the great rivers of the United States?

Bikers Battling Cancer supports those with cancer by raising money that assists those going through cancer to meet their medical and personal needs.

**Biker Stephen Wilson**, will follow northern rivers west across the United States and then come back along southern rivers as I raise money for the West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition.

*Northern Route:* June 6th Beginning where Chesapeake Bay joins the Atlantic, I will follow the Susquehanna to its source before dropping down to Pittsburgh to pick up the Ohio. Then on to the Mississippi and up the

Missouri to its source. Crossing the Rockies, I will follow the path of the Clearwater River through Idaho to where it joins the Columbia before continuing to the Pacific.

*Southern Route:* Dropping south to where the Colorado River enters Mexico at Yuma, AZ to follow it to its source in central Colorado. After that I will drop down to the Arkansas and across the plains to the Mississippi. Then north again to the Ohio before tracking the Tennessee River into Alabama and home, June 26th.

People continue to contract cancer, and the need never ends. Please help by supporting the West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition as they assist people in meeting their daily needs. Help us help those with cancer, and I invite you to join me in prayer for those with cancer as I ride **June 6-26th**.

[Bikers Battling Cancer Facebook Page](#)

[Bikers Battling Cancer Website](#)

---

# FAITH- BASED INITIATIVE



WEST CENTRAL GEORGIA  
CANCER COALITION

PROUD PARTNERS OF  
**WCGCC**

— FAITH-BASED INITIATIVE —

Reducing the burden of cancer in the communities that we serve.  
We are neighbors helping neighbors.

JOIN US FOR EDUCATION & AWARENESS

BREAST CANCER | PROSTATE CANCER | COLORECTAL CANCER | CERVICAL CANCER | WELLNESS



## 2022 Faith-Based Initiative (FBI) Participating Churches

### **First African Baptist Church**

Columbus, GA, Pastor: Rev. Rodrick B. Green

### **Friendship Missionary Baptist Church**

Columbus, GA, Pastor: Rev., Dr. Emmett Aniton, Jr.

### **Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church**

Phenix City, AL, Pastor: Rev. Pryce Battle, Sr.

### **New Beginnings Baptist Church**

LaGrange, GA, Pastor: Rev. William E. Harris

### **Revelation Missionary Baptist Church**

Columbus, GA, Pastor: Rev. Valerie Thompson

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**June 5, 2022 - National Cancer Survivors Day**

**June 13-19, 2022 - Men's Health Week**

**June 16, 2022 - World Kidney Cancer Day**

**June 16 – 20, 2022 - National Black Family Cancer  
Awareness Week**

---



## **How to Prevent Cancer or Find It Early**

You can lower your risk of getting many common kinds of cancer by making healthy choices. Screening tests can find some cancers early, when treatment works best. Vaccines (shots) can help prevent several kinds of cancer. Learn more about how to lower your risk of getting cancer.

### **Screening Tests**

Getting screening tests regularly may find breast, cervical, and colorectal (colon) cancers early, when treatment is likely to work best. Lung cancer screening is recommended for some people who are at high risk.

### **Vaccines (Shots)**

Vaccines (shots) also help lower cancer risk. The human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine helps prevent most cervical cancers and several other kinds of cancer. The hepatitis B vaccine can help lower liver cancer risk.

### **Healthy Choices**

You can reduce your risk of getting cancer by making healthy choices like keeping a healthy weight, avoiding tobacco, limiting the amount of alcohol you drink, and protecting your skin.

---

# OUR PROGRAMS

## **Community Outreach & Education**

Our outreach & education program that we offer is an opportunity for us to participate in faith based and community events. We provide an opportunity to be engaged as a volunteer Community Health Advisor through our faith-based initiatives. We also offer education on breast, colorectal, cervical, and prostate cancer. Additionally, for the middle and high school students along with parents, mentors and/or guardians we offer Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) education.

For additional information, please call 706-660-0317.

## **Screening and Survivorship Program**

Our Survivorship Program encourages cancer survivors to exercise, in consultation with their healthcare provider, how to maintain good health and the importance of eating healthier. Through our screening program, we offer breast cancer screenings for the uninsured and the underinsured. WCGCC provides navigation services which helps navigate a client through the

healthcare process.

For more information, contact **Darla Spencer** at 706-660-9516 ext. 203 or email at [dspencer@wcgcc.org](mailto:dspencer@wcgcc.org).

The Knockout Crew-Young Adult Breast Cancer Survivors believes in fighting cancer as a team! We welcome all Young Adult Breast Cancer survivors to join us on Facebook & cheer each other on to fight against Breast Cancer.

### **Knockout Crew-Young Adult Breast Cancer Survivors Facebook Page**

For more information, contact **Folayan Williams** at 706-615-9846 or email at [duckydenise81@yahoo.com](mailto:duckydenise81@yahoo.com)

## **Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) Program**

NHN program is a cancer assistance fund that was created to help those individuals who have been diagnosed with cancer and are in active treatment via chemotherapy infusion or radiation to help reduce the financial burden which is caused during the treatment journey. Please go to our website to get more information look under the education & resources tab at [www.wcgcc.org](http://www.wcgcc.org).

For more information, contact **Geraldine Malone** at 706-660-9516.

---



West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition is one of the charitable organizations you can benefit with every purchase! Go to [Smile.Amazon.com](http://Smile.Amazon.com), search and select West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition, Inc. and a portion of each of your purchases will be donated to WCGCC. Thank you in advance!

---

The West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition's Mission & Vision is To develop programs of excellence in cancer-related education, communications, prevention, early detection and screening, treatment, and research in this region.



# STAY CONNECTED

Stay updated with regional and community updates by following us on social media!

Feel free to reply to this email with any updates you'd like us to include in our next newsletter, or visit us at [our website!](#)



West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition | 633 19th Street, Suite B, Columbus , GA 31901

[Unsubscribe cjohnson@wcgcc.org](mailto:cjohnson@wcgcc.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by cjohnson@wcgcc.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!