Chandler based Desert Cancer Foundation of Arizona strives to serve uninsured residents with no-cost cancer screening and treatment referrals throughout Arizona

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You have cancer—it's one of the most devastating phrases to hear from your doctor. Devastating on many levels and for anyone without insurance, the financial burden can add an overwhelming amount of unnecessary stress in an already stressful situation. Thankfully, with the support of one Chandler based foundation, cancer screening, biopsies, ultrasounds and doctor referrals for treatment are provided to anyone in need.

The Desert Cancer Foundation of Arizona, a volunteer based organization dedicated to providing cancer awareness education and securing treatment resources for the uninsured in Arizona is working hard to alleviate some of the financial and emotional stress for families dealing with cancer.



The Desert Cancer Foundation of Arizona hosts many cancer screening events throughout the year and across the state in collaboration with Cathedral Health Services that are open to the public for mammogram screening. Cathedral Health Services also provides well woman exams to any woman. Additionally, the foundation works with a network of doctors that provide appointment based screening, diagnosis, biopsies and ultrasounds as needed for men and women. If a patient needs surgery or other cancer treatments, the Desert Cancer Foundation of Arizona will work to refer them to a specialist that can help them.

"It's truly amazing the wide range of services we're able to provide to families in the valley. Serving as a resource for educational resources, referrals for cancer screening and treatments at no cost to the uninsured is vitally important to us at the Desert Cancer Foundation of Arizona," said Patti Bruno, foundation president.

The foundation relies completely on community grants and collaborators, local doctors who donate their time and services, fundraisers, and donations from local businesses. Through the support of doctors like Dr. Edgar Hernandez and businesses like Achen-Gardner Construction, SanTan Brewing Company, Banner Health, Cancer Treatment Services of Arizona, Mobile Onsite Mammography and many others, the Desert Cancer Foundation of Arizona is able to serve the community.

"We have amazing supporters in the local community that donate their time, services and money to support our goals. It is because of their dedication that we're able to help hundreds of families each year," said Bruno.

Uninsured Arizonans in need of cancer screening services and support are encouraged to call 480-763-6897 or email <u>inquiries@desertcanceraz.org</u>.

About the Desert Cancer Foundation of Arizona



Founded in 1998, the Desert Cancer Foundation of Arizona is a volunteer based organization dedicated to providing cancer awareness education and to secure treatment resources for the uninsured in Arizona. The Desert Cancer Foundation of Arizona is structured to provide awareness and information to educate individuals about existing resources, available drugs and cancer treatments. This is accomplished through public informational meetings, workshops, lectures and health fairs. Health fairs, free mammograms and breast self exam instruction are provided to qualified women through community grants received for this purpose. A community awareness luncheon, "Learning, Loving and Living with Cancer" is held each October with a focus on cancer survivors. The Foundation was created as a public service to the communities of Arizona. Visit www.desertcanceraz.org for more information.