# Breast and gyn cancer patients: We need you! BECOME A PATIENT ADVOCATE

## What is a patient advocate?

Researchers need input from cancer patients and survivors like you to help find the causes of and better treatments for breast and gynecologic cancers. Volunteer patient advocates share their valuable insights and perspectives on research projects and grants to assist us in this goal.

## What do patient advocates do?

Patient advocates help researchers in some of these ways:

- Provide viewpoints throughout the research process to ensure studies are patient-centered, innovative, evidence-based, and accessible
- Attend research presentations to help develop grant proposals, write abstracts, and compose letters of recommendation
- Participate in fundraising activities

#### How does this make a difference?

The Patient Advocate Committee strives to make a bigger impact for a larger number of people with breast and gynecologic cancers by learning directly from patients themselves. The Committee provides opportunities for patient advocates to learn about the latest research and hopeful breakthroughs.

#### When and where do we meet?

The Committee meets monthly at Huntsman Cancer Institute or on Zoom.

# How do I join?

Please email or call Dr. Alana Welm, Scientific Advisor: alana.welm@hci.utah.edu or 801-587-4622







# **BGCRA**

BREAST & GYNECOLOGIC CANCERS RESEARCH ADVOCATE COMMITTEE

"What a patient brings is a perspective of urgency."

Dr. Alana Welm

# Become a Huntsman Women's Cancers Research Advocate

#### Who are we inviting to become a Huntsman advocate?

Our Women's Cancers Advocate Committee is seeking patients and survivors to join our committee in order to help Huntsman Women's Cancers researchers. Specifically, we invite patients and survivors who have experienced the following cancers:

- Breast
- Ovarian
- Endometrial
- Cervical

#### Why become an advocate?

Researchers need input from cancer patients and survivors like you to help them find the causes of and treatments for women's cancers. They are looking for advocates to share their valuable insights and perspectives on research projects and grants.

#### What will I be doing?

Advocates help Huntsman Women's Cancers researchers in some of the following ways:

- Provide patient viewpoints throughout the entire research process to ensure research is patient-centered, innovative, evidence-based and accessible;
- Attend research presentations to help develop grant proposals, write abstracts, and compose recommendation letters;
- Develop reports and create communications with a patient's voice that researchers can use to advance their projects;
- Participate in fundraising activities.

#### How do I make a difference for patients?

The Committee strives to make a bigger impact for a large number of women's-cancer patients by having advocates lend their perspectives to Women's Cancers researchers' work when needed and requested.

#### When and where do we meet?

The Committee meets monthly and at the Huntsman Cancer Institute. Parking is free. Healthy and delicious meals are provided at meetings.

#### What additional benefits are available to Huntsman advocates?

Our Committee provides a number of educational opportunities to help advocates continue learning about the science of women's cancer. Advocates are welcome to attend monthly research meetings held at the Huntsman hospital to hear presentations from top Huntsman researchers who are striving to make breakthroughs in breast cancer and other women's diseases. Travel funds are available to send advocates to Project LEAD, an intensive certificate program that trains breast-cancer science advocates. Limited funding is also available to support travel to conferences to assist advocates in their ongoing science of women's-cancer education.

#### Who do I contact for more information about joining the committee?

Please email or call Dr. Alana Welm, Scientific Advisor to the Women's Cancers Advocate Committee, at <a href="mailto:alana.welm@hci.utah.edu">alana.welm@hci.utah.edu</a> or 801-587-4622 for more information.