

CANCER LEGAL LINE

educate. inform. empower.

Published by Cancer Legal Line

Spring 2008

Providing cancer related legal information, resources and referrals to the Minnesota cancer community.

From the Executive Director,

Dear Friends and Supporters of Cancer Legal Line,



What an exciting time it has been at Cancer Legal Line! Since “opening our doors” on October 1, 2007 we have had the privilege of serving almost 5,000 members of the Minnesota cancer community via our website, www.CancerLegalLine.org, telephone call in program, attorney referral service and group speaking presentations. The

stories we hear from our clients are daily reminders of the critical need for the services we are providing. Cancer Legal Line is honored to be the trusted source so many are turning to for assistance.

Many of those needing our help are caught between a rock and a hard place-- earning too much to qualify for traditional legal aid services, but not enough to pay for an attorney. When faced with mounting medical bills and job loss or unpaid leave, it does not take long for those who are just getting by to slip quickly into a devastating downward spiral. With the generous support of our donors, we are able to provide the help they need, free of charge. Please consider making a donation to help us continue and expand our efforts.

On behalf of our hard working board of directors-- Michele Duncan, Lindsay Flint, Linda Hirsh, Laurie Overstad and myself, I thank you for support and well-wishes.

Best regards-

Lindy Yokanovich

HIGHLIGHTS

In just our first six months, we are proud of all we have accomplished:

- 4,713 visits to our website www.CancerLegalLine.org
- Telephone support provided to cancer survivors, their loved ones, and oncology social workers, providing attorney and agency referrals
- Presented “Legal Issues after Cancer” at the University of Minnesota’s Cancer Survivorship Conference March 15, 2008
- Featured articles appeared in the St. Paul Pioneer Press, Minnesota Law & Politics, the CDC’s INSIGHT, the St. Croix Valley Press, and Minnesota Health Care News.
- Recipient of a generous grant from the Minnesota State Bar Foundation

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cancer Legal Line will be participating in or hosting the upcoming following events:

- [Minnesota Cancer Summit](#), April 22, 2008, Earl Browne Heritage Center, Brooklyn Park, MN
- [LIVESTRONG Day](#), May 13, 2008. In honor of LIVESTRONG Day Cancer Legal Line's board, staff and volunteers will be meeting with elected officials to raise awareness about cancer in Minnesota. To join us, please call 651-472-5599
- [Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Survivor Networking Night](#), May 14, 2008 Golden Valley, MN
- [Estate Planning Seminar](#) with attorney Laura Domagala, June 16, 23 & 30 @ Survivors' Training in White Bear Lake
- To have Cancer Legal Line participate in your event, please contact us at inquiry@cancerlegalline.org

CANCER LEGAL LINE

P.O. BOX 93

BAYPORT, MN 55003

651-472-4499

www.CancerLegalLine.org

Donate to Cancer Legal Line

Your donation is tax deductible and will help us provide critical services, free of charge, to those in need.

Register for Cancer Legal Line's Upcoming Estate Planning Series

We are proud to announce our partnership with Survivor's Training (<http://studio.survivorstraining.org>) in presenting a three part Estate Planning seminar specifically for cancer survivors. Estate Planning attorney and Cancer Legal Line volunteer, Laura Domagala, of Domagala Law in Stillwater, Minnesota, will be speaking on the subjects that so many survivors want to know about: health care directives, powers of attorney, wills and trusts, and ethical wills.

The information will be presented over the course of three Monday evenings, June 16, 23 & 30 @ 7:00 at the Survivors' Studio 3596 Linden Ave #B-5, White Bear Lake, MN 55110.

There is no cost for this seminar, but donations in any amount are always welcomed. Advance reservations are required--don't delay, secure your spot today. Contact us at

lindy@cancerlegalline.org or 651-472-5599 to reserve your spot.

We look forward to seeing you!

PENDING LEGISLATION**Federal legislation:**

The Genetic Nondiscrimination Act (GINA), (H.R. 493/ S. 358) which has been languishing in Congress for the last 13 years, may very well be on its way to passing in both houses in April. The bill has broad bi-partisan support but has never passed both houses of Congress during the same session. The bill would make it illegal to deny insurance or employment to someone based on their genetic information.

Minnesota legislation:

The Colorectal Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Act (HF 2890) was heard in the House Health and Human Services Committee on April 15, 2008. The legislation seeks to provide screening services to those who otherwise could not afford early detection services.