

# BUILDING EQUAL ACCESS TOGETHER IN CANCER (BEAT-C) NEWSLETTER



October 2024

## STUDY HIGHLIGHTS

A total of **273** patients have enrolled in the study so far.

The table to the right shows the enrolled patients by cancer type.

Cancer Type	
Breast	139
Prostate	85
Endometrial	19
Gastrointestinal	12
Ovarian	7
Lung	4
Other	7

## Breast Cancer Awareness Month Events

### Community events:

- **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Line Dance N-Pink:** 10/12 12pm-4pm at Lake Arbor Community Center, 10100 Lake Arbor Way, Mitchellville, MD 20721
- **Cancer Awareness Wellness Fair with 2for2Boobs:** 10/12 | 1pm-3:30pm at 8600 Glenarden Pkwy, Glenarden, MD 20706
- **DC Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk:** 10/26 | 9am at The Tidal Basin, 300 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW, Washington, DC 20024

## Featured Cancer Survivor Story: Vicki Russell Walton

Vicki Russell Walton is a two-time breast cancer survivor, advocate, and founder of It's in the Genes LLC, a health advocacy organization dedicated to advancing awareness and research of diseases like breast cancer.

### Q: What was your experience with cancer diagnosis and treatment?

A: My first experience was fraught with frustration, as I was misdiagnosed three times. I often felt unheard and unsupported.

My second battle with cancer was a much different experience. I had become more knowledgeable and had a better doctor. I approached this fight with clearer expectations and felt more prepared.

### Q: Where have you found support, motivation, and empowerment in your journey?

A: My greatest source of support has been my family and close friends. The community's encouragement has inspired me and given me strength. My spiritual beliefs have been a cornerstone of my journey – my faith provides me with a strong foundation to lean on.



### Q: What have you found most helpful in your survivorship journey?

A: Maintaining a positive attitude is crucial. Staying positive and connected with my spirituality has helped me express my feelings and needs. My family, particularly my husband and sisters, have been my rock, and I cannot imagine navigating this journey without their support.

### Q: What message would you like to share with fellow cancer survivors?

A: Getting your mind right is essential; it sets the stage for your body to fight alongside you. Prioritize your physical health. Most importantly, find your happy place. Life is precious, and while we may face difficult diagnoses, it's vital to focus on how we live and treat others.