Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Purpose of this Focus Group:
According to the American Cancer Society’s 2016-2017 Cancer Treatment and Survivorship Facts & Figures, as of January 1, 2016 there were an estimated 120,200 cancer survivors living in Nevada. Cancer diagnosis and treatment has a number of impacts on an individual, including diverse physical, emotional, social, spiritual, financial, and legal implications. The experiences of cancer survivors in Nevada are in many ways different than those in other states due to the state’s geography which limits access to treatment and resources, known healthcare provider shortages, a high rate of uninsured residents, and numerous other factors. It is important to us to better understand the experiences and needs of Nevada cancer survivors so as the number of survivors continues to grow we can develop resources and programs to meet their needs. The best way for us to understand the experiences and needs of cancer survivors is to talk directly with you.

What are the goals of this focus groups? / What do you hope to learn?
We are working to identify the needs of cancer survivors in Nevada to develop a better understanding of how to meet survivor needs and provide useful resources. We want to learn more about cancer survivors’ experiences with: treatment; information availability and decision making; emotional, social, and spiritual needs; physical impacts; activities and logistics of daily life; general health and wellness; economic and legal issues; and navigating the health care system. We also want to learn if cancer survivors feel their needs are being met, and if their needs vary based on where they live, what type of cancer they have, or some other variable.

Who is conducting this focus group? Who is funding this focus group?
Nevada Cancer Coalition is partnering with the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health to conduct the focus groups.

Nevada Cancer Coalition (NCC) is a statewide nonprofit organization whose mission is to reduce the burden of cancer in Nevada through prevention, education, and advocacy. NCC works to improve cancer survivorship and quality of life for Nevadans by uniting organizations and empowering people with information and resources.

The Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, also known as Nevada Wellness, is a partner in these focus groups, providing funding support through CDC Grant NU58DP003929-05.

Who can participate?
Any cancer survivor can participate, based on the definition that survivorship begins at cancer diagnosis and continues through the remaining years of life. We are looking for a diverse group of participants including those: diagnosed at different stages of cancer; of different ages; with different types of cancers; who have had recurrence or secondary cancers; and, at any phase of treatment or time since last treatment. All participants must be 18 years of age or older.

We have room for up to 14 participants at each focus group, and a minimum of four participants will be required in order to proceed with each individual focus group. We anticipate in some communities more than 14 individuals will enroll to participate. In that case, the following will be applied:

Nevada Cancer Coalition’s vision is to improve cancer survivorship and quality of life in Nevada by uniting organizations and empowering people with information and resources. This project is supported by Nevada State Health Division Grant NU58DP003929-05.
Nevada Cancer Survivor Focus Group

- Those with pediatric-type cancers will be excluded, as the needs of pediatric cancer survivors are different from those of adult cancer survivors. Our current research prioritizes survivors of non-pediatric cancers.
- No more than 50% of participants in a focus group will be survivors of the same general type of cancer. Having several different types of cancer represented will better inform us as to the needs of cancer survivors in Nevada in general.
- We would like to have at least 20% male participants within each focus group. It is important to understand the experiences of male survivors to identify if they are different than those of female survivors, and in order to best meet the needs of all Nevada survivors.

How can I enroll?
There is an online enrollment form at www.NevadaCancerCoalition.org/focusgroup you can complete. If you do not have computer access or prefer to use a paper enrollment form, a form can be mailed to you for you to complete and mail back to the evaluation team. Call 775-737-4056 for a paper enrollment form.

Paper enrollment forms should be mailed to:

Nevada Cancer Coalition
Attn: Survivorship Focus Groups
5250 Neil Rd., Ste. 203
Reno, NV 89502

Is there compensation?
Yes. Participants who attend the focus group will receive a $20.00 Visa gift card in appreciation for their time. Drinks and light refreshments will also be provided.

What if I am selected and change my mind?
Participation in the focus group is voluntary. Participants may choose not to answer specific questions, or may change their mind and end their participation at any time.

Who will see/hear my responses? Will my participation remain private/confidential?
Focus group sessions will use audio recording to ensure accurate and complete data collection. A notetaker will also be present to capture data as a backup, in case of recording failure. The moderator will limit participant identification in the focus group discussion by requesting participants only provide their first name or a name they prefer to be called.

Recordings of each focus group will remain in the possession of the focus group team in a locked box within a locked office. All recordings will be destroyed once the focus groups are complete.

There is a minimal risk of breach of confidentiality or loss of privacy. Participants’ personal information gathered during the enrollment process will be used/accessed only by the focus group team during the enrollment and participant notification process. Participants will be reminded at the start of the focus group that information discussed in the focus group is confidential and they are not to share the information outside of the group.