



For Immediate Release

Laura Crandall Brown Foundation to Sponsor Statewide Advocacy Day

Volunteers and Survivors travel to Alabama Statehouse to advocate for gynecologic (GYN) cancer awareness and to encourage support for legislation

Birmingham, Ala., March 14, 2016 – The Laura Crandall Brown Foundation (LCBF) will sponsor a statewide advocacy day on Thursday, March 17 in Montgomery, Alabama. GYN cancer support groups across the state will come together at the Alabama Statehouse to visit with legislators from the House and Senate in an effort to educate them to the importance of raising awareness, both in their districts and at the state level, to the symptoms of GYN cancers. In addition, participants will share their experiences as survivors and family members of those who have been touched by these diseases. One such volunteer is Kelly Rice, the Foundation’s Awareness Chair, and herself a 14-year ovarian cancer survivor. Kelly has spent countless hours to coordinate this day and is excited about increasing awareness at the legislative level. “We are grateful for the opportunity to share our mission of awareness with our State Representatives and are pleased to be recognized from the floor during Thursday’s session.”

During the visit to the Statehouse, advocates will be asking for support of their statewide GYN cancer awareness campaign, appropriately named A State of Teal, as well as support for HB86 and SB309, oral chemotherapy parity bills currently being considered by the legislature. Alabama is one of only 10 states that have not passed oral chemotherapy parity legislation. This legislation addresses a gap in insurance benefit design which can result in exorbitant out-of pocket expenses for patients being treated with oral chemotherapy agents rather than traditional intravenous agents

About LCBF: Every day, 247 women in the U.S. are diagnosed with a gynecologic cancer. 80% of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer are diagnosed late and will not live more than five years. Our mission is offering hope through research for early detection of ovarian cancer, empowering communities through gynecologic cancer awareness, and enriching lives through patient support. In 2015 the foundation educated thousands and assisted over 800 patients, providing both financial and emotional support. To date, the foundation has granted over \$250,000 for early detection research of ovarian cancer. www.thinkoflaura.org.

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