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Bite Me Cancer Foundation Promotes Patient Needs during 2015 Virginia Teen Cancer Awareness Week

RICHMOND, Va. – January 4, 2015 – [The Bite Me Cancer Foundation](#) is proud to announce the commencement of Virginia’s first Teen Cancer Awareness Week on Jan. 18-24, 2015. This week is dedicated to raising public awareness of the prevalence of teen cancer and how it requires specific support in comparison to cases in young children or young adults.

Originally a product of collaboration across Bite Me Cancer and the House of Delegates, Teen Cancer Awareness Week will be a positive force for Virginia teen cancer patients. Across the Commonwealth during Teen Cancer Awareness Week, Bite Me Cancer hopes to hold some events at hospitals, schools and with elected officials to shed light on teen cancer and establish a common understanding of the needs of teens courageously fighting this terrible disease.

“We are extremely grateful to the governor’s proclamation, the resolution’s patrons: delegates Tom Rust (R-86), Ken Plum (D-36), Barbara Comstock (R-34), Jim LeMunyon (R-67), Margaret Ransone (R-99) and to the General Assembly as a whole for establishing Teen Cancer Awareness Week in support of teenagers with cancer across the Commonwealth of Virginia,” said [Nikki Ferraro](#), founder of Bite Me Cancer.

Both the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors will be presenting a proclamation about Teen Cancer Awareness Week to Nikki and Bite Me Cancer in early January.

According to Ferraro, an unmet need for teen patients is age-appropriate [support bags](#). “When I was diagnosed at 17 years old, I received a few support bags intended for young children, and I couldn’t find anyone who could relate to what I was going through,” she said. During Teen Cancer Awareness Week, Bite Me Cancer will help fill this gap by distributing teen support bags filled with items designed to provide support and inspiration. Items include a stress ball, writing/drawing journal, baseball cap, water bottle, iTunes gift card, USB flash drive, game book, and a Bite Me Cancer car magnet, among many others.

“Teen Cancer Awareness Week is a critical step forward in publicly recognizing the unique needs of teenagers with cancer,” Ferraro continued. “They deserve customized support, different than what young children and adults receive.”

We ask Virginians to consider donating to Bite Me Cancer to help us continue our mission of helping inspire teens afflicted with cancer. There are several options, and you can donate any amount. Please visit bit.ly/DonateToBMC to donate.

Bite Me Cancer is committed to supporting teens being treated for cancer with teen support bags, events, and public advocacy. Bite Me Cancer also raises funds for thyroid cancer research, increasing the investment to fight this fast growing form of cancer. To learn more about Bite Me Cancer, please visit www.bitemecancer.org and find us on Facebook at bit.ly/BiteMeCancer.

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