



# The Beacon

E-NEWSLETTER OF THE BLADDER CANCER ADVOCACY NETWORK • BCAN.ORG

June 1, 2026

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## One Mile at a Time: Vincent's Journey



Vincent Rossi was no stranger to marathon running. He was accustomed to the mental and physical preparation that goes into training. However, a marathon Vincent could never have prepared for was one known as bladder cancer.

Through strength and perseverance, Vincent faced this journey by keeping one thing in mind: Moving forward even when you feel like giving up. Keep running the mile you're in and having faith that the finish line will appear.

[Read Vincent's Story](#)

As [Bladder Cancer Awareness Month](#) comes to a close, we're grateful for the incredible support, engagement, and advocacy shown by our community.

This year, our community cast **1,255 votes** for the [Beacon of Hope Award](#), submitted **21 entries** to our [Art as Therapy](#) program, and shared **114 powerful responses** to the [One Thing](#). Across the country, **3,624 participants** came together through BCAN's [Walk to End Bladder Cancer](#), helping amplify awareness and support for everyone impacted by this disease.

### Bladder Cancer Awareness Month 2026

1,255

BEACON OF HOPE VOTES

21

ART AS THERAPY ENTRIES

114

THE ONE THING ENTRIES

3,624

WALK TO END BLADDER CANCER PARTICIPANTS

Thank you for making Bladder Cancer Awareness Month a meaningful and impactful success. Every story shared, vote cast, artwork created, and step taken helps move our mission forward.



If you haven't already explored it, take a moment to view our special Bladder Cancer Awareness Month 2026 digital flipbook. We asked the BCAN community one important question: *What do you want people to know about bladder cancer?*

Inside, patients, survivors, caregivers and supporters share heartfelt reflections, personal experiences and messages of hope to help raise awareness and inspire others. We're honored to amplify the voices of the bladder cancer community.

[Download now!](#)

## June's Partner in Progress: CG Oncology

BCAN is proud to feature CG Oncology as [June's Partner in Progress](#). We share a mission to create better todays and more tomorrows for bladder cancer patients and families.



At CG Oncology, they see a world where bladder cancer patients can benefit from innovative immunotherapies to live with dignity and have an enhanced quality of life. They are a late-stage clinical biopharmaceutical company focused on developing and commercializing a potential backbone bladder-sparing therapeutic for patients afflicted with bladder cancer.

[Click here to learn more about CG Oncology.](#)

## Upcoming Bladder Cancer Webinars

### **Webinar: Understanding Your Options Before Bladder Removal: A Guide to Urinary Diversion and Decision-Making**

**When:** Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 4:00 PM ET

**What:** Choosing a urinary diversion after bladder removal surgery can feel overwhelming for many bladder cancer patients. In this webinar, Dr. Divya Ajay of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center will discuss how shared decision-making can help patients better understand their options and feel more confident in their choices.

[Register for the free webinar here](#)

### **Webinar: Managing Stress and Uncertainty: Tools for Coping with Bladder Cancer**

**When:** Wednesday, October 7, 2026, at 4:00 PM ET

**What:** A bladder cancer diagnosis can bring ongoing emotional challenges for both patients and caregivers. In this session, Jenna Sangastiano from Inova Peterson Life with Cancer will share practical coping strategies and resilience-building techniques to help individuals better manage stress, anxiety, and uncertainty throughout the cancer journey.

[Register for the free webinar here](#)

**Connect, Learn & Be Inspired in San Diego This Fall!**


Join BCAN's free **Bladder Cancer Summit for Patients and their Families** in San Diego on August 28 & 29, to connect with patients and caregivers in a supportive and empowering environment. Whether you're newly diagnosed, in treatment, or navigating survivorship, the Summit offers valuable information, practical tools, and inspiring patient stories to help you better understand bladder cancer and feel more confident on your journey.



You'll also hear directly from medical experts about the latest advancements in bladder cancer care.

Join us!


[Join us in San Diego](#)



THE ONLINE SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN  
IMPACTED BY BLADDER CANCER

## FEMALE FOCUS SUPPORT GROUP

*Free Zoom support sessions are held on the first Tuesday of each month from 7:00 to 8:30 PM ET, with registration required for each session.*

An illustration of three women standing and talking. The woman on the left has brown hair and is wearing an orange top. The woman in the middle is wearing a blue hijab and a blue top. The woman on the right has black hair and is wearing a light-colored top. They are all smiling and appear to be in conversation.

Join our monthly support group for women impacted by bladder cancer; a warm, supportive space to connect with others who understand your journey. Each session starts with a brief presentation, followed by small, guided discussions led by BCAN staff, nurse and patient advocate Karen Sachse, RN, MSN, and social worker Miriam Pomerantz Kadosh, MSW, LCSW.

[Register here](#)

## Together, We Stepped Forward!



As another inspiring BCAN Walk season comes to a close, we're reflecting on the incredible impact our community has made. **Together, we hit our \$1.75 million fundraising goal!** These critical funds will enable us to help even more bladder cancer patients and families during the most trying times of their lives.

Every person who registered, fundraised, walked, volunteered or cheered from the sidelines played a role in moving the bladder cancer community forward. Together, we took meaningful steps toward greater awareness, stronger support, and a future without bladder cancer.

Thank you, BCAN family!

[View your impact!](#)

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## Become A Community Patient Advocate



Become a BCAN Community Patient Advocate and make a real difference in your community! Volunteers help raise awareness about bladder cancer and connect healthcare providers to BCAN's



free educational and support resources. You'll receive training and ongoing support to share materials, build connections, and have a meaningful impact. Patients, survivors, and caregivers are all welcome — no experience required.

[Fill out the form today](#)

## FREE RESOURCES FOR OUR COMMUNITY



### Newly Diagnosed With Bladder Cancer?

A new bladder cancer diagnosis can bring many emotions, but you're not alone. We're here to support you.

[Learn more »](#)



### Bladder Cancer Research Impact

BCAN-funded research is driving progress in bladder cancer care. Read more to see the impact.

[Visit now »](#)



### Bladder Cancer App

BCAN offers a free iPhone and Android app to help manage your bladder cancer journey in one convenient place.

[Download today »](#)

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