

Our Journey of Hope Facts

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Everyone has a story about how cancer has impacted their world, and every church has a story of how cancer has affected those within its congregation.

Statistics show that in a church with an average attendance of 200:

- Approximately eight congregants have or have had cancer
- An average of one congregant will be newly diagnosed each year with the disease
- For larger congregations, the number of individuals affected by cancer is multiplied

Our Journey of Hope® (OJOH) (www.ourjourneyofhope.com)

- Is a biblically-based, comprehensive cancer care ministry training program
- Designed to equip pastors and church leaders with the tools to effectively minister to those impacted by cancer
- Provides comprehensive small group curriculum to help pastors build cancer care ministries in their individual churches
- Educational outreach sponsored by the Pastoral Care Department at [Cancer Treatment Centers of America®](#) (CTCA)

About OJOH Training

The first OJOH leadership training occurred in Nov. 2013 at the CTCA Southwestern Regional Medical Center in Tulsa, Okla. Additional trainings have since occurred at all five CTCA hospitals in Atlanta, Philadelphia, Chicago, Phoenix and Tulsa.

These trainings bring together groups of pastors and church leaders from around the country for an immersion into the spiritual and practical methods of bringing hope, care and comfort through cancer care ministry. Participants receive insights to address the specific spiritual needs of those battling cancer. Training sessions are scheduled throughout the year at all five CTCA hospitals.

Quotes

“Cancer is a unique disease that has a profound spiritual and emotional impact on the lives of patients and their loved ones,” said Rev. Michael Langham, Pastoral Care Director at CTCA in Tulsa. “Every leader who attended this Cancer Care Leadership Training represents the potential to minister to thousands who have been impacted by cancer.”

“The Pastoral Care Team recognizes the importance of spiritual care and wants to provide resources to the Christian community to impact those affected by cancer,” said Rev. Chip Gordon, Director of Pastoral Care at CTCA in Atlanta. “Many ministries have not received training on how to provide hope and care to those battling this disease.”

Interview Opportunities

Members of the Pastoral Care staff at CTCA are happy to speak with you about the program and the importance of spiritual care for cancer patients and their families, as well as share their individual stories of hope and healing with you and your audience.

Biographies of our staff members are available at ourjourneyofhope.com/pastors

The statistics above were determined deductively by referencing the following statistics:

- Estimated new cases per year: [1.6 Million](#)¹
- Estimated total number of people who have or have had cancer: [13 Million](#)²
- Estimated total US population: [316 Million](#)³

Footnotes

¹ Statistic taken from the National Cancer Institute

http://seer.cancer.gov/csr/1975_2010/browse_csr.php?sectionSEL=1&pageSEL=sect_01_table.01.html

² Statistic taken from the National Cancer Society

<http://www.cancer.org/cancer/cancerbasics/cancer-prevalence>

³ Statistic taken from the United States Census Bureau <http://www.census.gov/popclock/>