

## Rivkin Center & CanCan Merger Q &A

1. Why is the Rivkin Center adding an education component to its work?

It's time to expand the conversation about ovarian cancer so that more women are aware of this disease. Knowledge is power. We know that when caught early, the five-year survival rate for ovarian cancer is greater than 90%. Our educational programming will empower women with information about ovarian cancer signs and symptoms, the factors that may put them at greater risk, and what early detection screening options are available today for high risk women. We don't have an accurate early detection test for the general population yet, but we are optimistic about advances in this area in the next 5 years, as well as the new genetic links to ovarian cancer that are being uncovered (beyond BRCA1 and BRCA2). In the years ahead, a strong education program will serve as an important platform for disseminating timely new knowledge in these areas from the scientific community to the women who will be impacted.

2. Why merge with CanCan to deliver that component?

Founded in Seattle in 2005, CanCan, a Seattle-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit, is focused on empowering women to be proactive about their health by giving them the tools for early detection, prevention and self-advocacy. The organization has educated more than 30,000 women through a solid model that has primarily focused on the topic of breast cancer. Merging with an already up-and-running women's cancers education program means that the Rivkin Center can start delivering life-saving education much more quickly, and likely more effectively than if we were to start from scratch building a new model ourselves. This merger will also allow the CanCan educational model to give a much larger audience of women the tools to be proactive about their health through its fun and fear free curriculum. CanCan will be able to operate more efficiently by tapping into a larger infrastructure for programming and operations. Ultimately, we believe that this merger will strengthen the fight against women's cancers.

3. Why educate on ovarian and breast cancer together?

Ovarian and breast cancer are two of the most serious diseases facing women today. Breast cancer is the leading cancer diagnosis in women in the United States - 1 in 8 women will develop breast cancer in their lifetime. Significant medical advances have been made in the last 30 years to allow many breast cancers to be diagnosed early, when the five-year survival rate is greater than 90%. Ovarian cancer is less common (1 in 67 U.S. women will develop the disease in their lifetime), but it is one of the most deadly cancers facing women— 2 out of 3 women diagnosed will die from the disease.

Ovarian and breast cancer can also have a hereditary link. About 10-15% of ovarian cancers and 5-10% of breast cancers are known to be caused by inherited changes in genes such as BRCA1 and BRCA2, so addressing these cancers together will also create an opportunity to talk about the genetic link and the role of family history. The field of genomic health is rapidly discovering more information about the genetic components

of these two cancers. The combined education program will also create a unique platform for providing important findings in cutting edge cancer research to the general population.

4. Is the Rivkin Center changing its mission?

The Rivkin Center mission to save women's lives and reduce their suffering through improved treatment, early detection, and prevention of ovarian cancer will remain the same. We believe that if we are to meet our mission and our vision that women no longer die of ovarian cancer, it will be critical to educate more women about this disease and what they can do to protect themselves.

5. What does this merger mean for CanCan? What will happen to CanCan staff and leadership?

CanCan will cease to operate as an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit as of March 7, 2016. CanCan will become the educational program for the Rivkin Center and continue to educate women through community and campus programs incorporating ovarian cancer education to the existing breast cancer education. CanCan will remain the name of the joint breast and ovarian cancer education program. CanCan staff, including Founder and Executive Director Heike Malakoff and Program Manager Kayla Driscoll become full-time employees of the Rivkin Center. Heike will continue her role as the Director of Education and Marketing for the joint program, and Kayla Driscoll will continue her role as Program Manager. The CanCan instructors and facilitators in Washington and California will continue their roles in the same capacity as contractors but payroll will come through the Rivkin Center. Two of CanCan's board members, Jamie Shanks and Katherine Stueland, have joined the board of the Rivkin Center.

6. Will the Rivkin Center be funding breast cancer research?

No, the Rivkin Center has become one of the oldest and largest nonprofit funders of ovarian cancer research in the United States and funding ovarian cancer research and screening will remain the core component of what we do. Adding ovarian and breast cancer education to our work will help us educate more women about this disease and what they can do to protect themselves. As in the past, our revenue will continue to come from philanthropy, and most of that philanthropy will be directed to ovarian cancer research and screening. In 2016, for example, 95% of our program expenses raised through donor contributions will be directed toward ovarian cancer research and screening and 5% will go toward ovarian and breast cancer education.

7. What will happen to the CanCan Fundraiser in 2016?

Mark your calendars! Saturday, September 17, 2016 at Fremont Studios. It's still happening. We will continue to have fun and raise money specifically for the CanCan education program at this event.

8. How do I schedule a CanCan workshop?

We will be working hard in the next three months to create a joint ovarian and breast cancer education curriculum to be rolled out ASAP. We will communicate with you about how to schedule a CanCan workshop to learn about ovarian and breast cancer and empowering yourself to be your own best health advocate. In the meantime, all CanCan workshops will continue as scheduled.

9. Who can I call with questions or concerns?

Please contact Joe White at (206) 215-6063 or Heike Malakoff at (206) 963-6556 any time if you have any questions or concerns.