



# ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc.<sup>SM</sup>

A national nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization of thyroid cancer survivors, families,  
and health care professionals • [www.thyca.org](http://www.thyca.org)

## Fact Sheet—2012

### **Purpose**

Education, communication, support, awareness for early detection, and thyroid cancer research fundraising and research grants.

### **Services**

- **Award-Winning Web Site—[www.thyca.org](http://www.thyca.org)**  
More than 700 pages of information about thyroid cancer, support services, and more. Includes materials in Spanish and French.
  - **Online Support Groups**  
Linked through our Web site.
    - Thyca—Thyroid Cancer Support Group (mainly Papillary, Follicular, and their variants)
    - Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer Support Group
    - Medullary Thyroid Cancer Support Group
    - Pediatric Thyroid Cancer Support Group
    - Advanced Thyroid Cancer Support Group
    - Long-Term Survivors Support Group
    - Love, Loss, & Legacy Support Group
    - ThyCa Mental Challenges Support Group
    - Childbearing and Thyroid Cancer Support Group
    - ThyCa Young Adults Support Group
    - Caregivers Support Group
    - Inspire Online Community
  - **Local Support Groups**  
More than 90 in-person support groups.
  - **Person-to-Person Network**  
One-to-one support, matched by diagnosis
  - **Facebook and Twitter**
  - **Toll-Free Survivors' Telephone Number**
  - **Free Regional Workshops**
  - **Free Thyroid Cancer Basics booklet, Patient Information Packets, & Pediatric Backpacks**
  - **Free Low-Iodine Cookbook**  
Download from our Web site. Over 340 recipes contributed by more than 150 thyroid cancer survivors. Also in Spanish and French.
  - **Guestbook**—Sign up for free news by e-mail.
  - **Newsletters**  
Free online *ThyCa News Notes*, every month, plus *Membership Messenger* newsletter for members.
  - **Research Funds and Grant Funding**
  - **Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month**  
Every September. Free awareness brochures and more.
- ## 15th International Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Conference
- October 19 - 21, 2012**  
**Chicago, Illinois**  
Eaglewood Resort & Spa, Itasca, Illinois  
Visit [www.thyca.org](http://www.thyca.org) for details.

### **History**

- 1995** -Organized first Online Support Group.
- 1996** -Organized first Local Support Group.
- 1997** -Started first E-Mail Support Group.
- 1998** -Sponsored first annual Survivors' Conference.
- 1999** -Established Web site at [www.thyca.org](http://www.thyca.org).
  - Became nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization.
  - Established Survivors' Toll-Free Telephone Number.
  - Received StudyWeb Academic Excellence Award.
  - Started e-mail groups for medullary and anaplastic.
- 2000** -Started e-mail group for pediatric thyroid cancer.
  - Established Medical Advisory Council.
  - Organized Person-to-Person Network.
  - Established Thyroid Cancer Awareness Week.
  - Initiated *Member Messenger* newsletter.
  - Published 1st *Low-Iodine Cookbook*.
- 2001** -Started e-mail group for advanced thyroid cancer.
  - Initiated Thyroid Cancer Research Fund.
  - Initiated free online newsletter, *ThyCa Journeys*.
- 2002** -Started e-mail groups for caregivers and long-term survivors.
- 2003** -Funded ThyCa's first thyroid cancer research grant, the first ever funded by patients, families, & friends.
  - Initiated Medullary Thyroid Cancer Research Fund.
- 2004** -Introduced Thyroid Cancer Awareness Ribbon Pin.
  - Started e-mail groups for coping with mental challenges and love, loss, and legacy.
  - Expanded Awareness Week to Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month, starting in September 2005.
- 2005** -Introduced Awareness Wristbands and Magnets.
  - Developed Anaplastic Thyroid Cancer Web site.
- 2006** -Developed Pediatric Thyroid Cancer Web site.
- 2007** -Launched Medullary Thyroid Cancer Web site.
- 2008** -Started e-mail group for childbearing/thyroid cancer.
- 2009** -Started young adults' e-mail group.
- 2010** -Launched Facebook Page — Group: THYCA
  - Launched Inspire Online Community
- 2011** -Launched Twitter presence
  - Sponsored 6 free webinars with thyroid cancer experts
  - Published 50-page *Thyroid Cancer Basics* booklet

### **Funding**

Funding comes from membership dues, donations from individuals and organizations, and unrestricted educational grants. Nonprofit 501(c)(3) Tax ID #52-2169434

### **Members and Volunteers**

We welcome new members and volunteers at any time. The Membership page on our web site has the form for joining ThyCa as a one-year member, two-year member, or lifetime member.

### *How To Contact Us*

Web site: [www.thyca.org](http://www.thyca.org)

E-mail: [thyca@thyca.org](mailto:thyca@thyca.org)

Call Toll-Free: 1-877-588-7904 Fax: 1-630-604-6078

Write: ThyCa: Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc.<sup>SM</sup>

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