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JFK Holds Event to Address Life Beyond Cancer Diagnosis ***Reclaiming Your Life: A Cancer Survivor Symposium***

April 30, 2009 (Edison, NJ) -- Cancer is an unexpected, stressful event that affects the lives of many people. This includes the person who receives a cancer diagnosis, as well as family members, friends, and caregivers. Cancer survivorship is an ongoing process that begins with diagnosis, and continues through a lifetime. Survivors face many challenges after acute cancer care and may become "lost in transition" as they seek to move on to a healthy, normal life.

On Saturday, May 16, 2009, JFK Medical Center will host a special day for cancer survivors and their loved ones to relax, learn and share their experiences. "Cancer is a life altering experience and it is important that patients have a sense of courage, power, and control in understanding what is happening to them as they travel with, through, and beyond cancer." says Melissa Scholz, RN, BHN, Nurse Navigator for JFK Breast Center. During the half-day, free event, ***Reclaiming Your Life: A Cancer Survivor Symposium***, a team of healthcare professionals will address the important issues that are specific to life beyond the cancer diagnosis. Specifically, these medical professionals will be on hand to highlight key topics and address the unique physical, psychosocial, and nutritional aspects among others associated with cancer survivorship. The program sessions include Coping with the Late Effects of Treatment; Diet, Nutrition and Survivorship; the Importance of Exercise and Lymphedema Prevention Strategies; Spiritual and Cultural Aspects of Survivorship; and the Psychosocial Aspects of Cancer Impact on Relationships, Sexuality, and Intimacy.

Whether it has been days, weeks, or years, it's time to reclaim your life through empowerment and education to promote wellness and recovery. All are invited to attend this free, half-day event on ***Saturday, May 16, 2009 at the JFK Conference Center*** (across the street from the JFK Hospital), ***70 James Street, Edison***. Registration begins at 8:30a.m. and the program commences at 9:00a.m.

JFK Medical Center is a nonprofit organization that is committed to providing excellent and compassionate care to patients and their families.

To register in advance or to learn more about cancer survivorship services and programs offered through JFK Medical Center, please call Melissa Scholz, RN, BHN at 732.321.7000, ext. 65662 or ext. 68404.

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JFK Medical Center, an affiliate of Solaris Health System, is a 535-bed full-service, acute care hospital, consisting of The Anthony M. Yelencics Community Hospital and the adjacent JFK Johnson Rehabilitative Institute. Located in the heart of Edison, NJ, it has remained at the forefront of quality care in the region since its inception in 1967. Today, JFK accommodates more than 20,000 admissions, 3,000 births and 50,000 Emergency Room visits on a yearly basis. The Medical Center features a complete array of services, including general surgery, emergency medicine, mental health, orthopedics, maternity and pediatric care. It is home to the New Jersey Neuroscience Institute, Regional Cancer Center, Haven Hospice, JFK Imaging Center and the JFK Family Practice Center. Affiliated with UMDNJ -Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and Seton Hall University School of Graduate Medical Education, JFK offers residency programs in physical and rehabilitation medicine, family practice and dentistry.