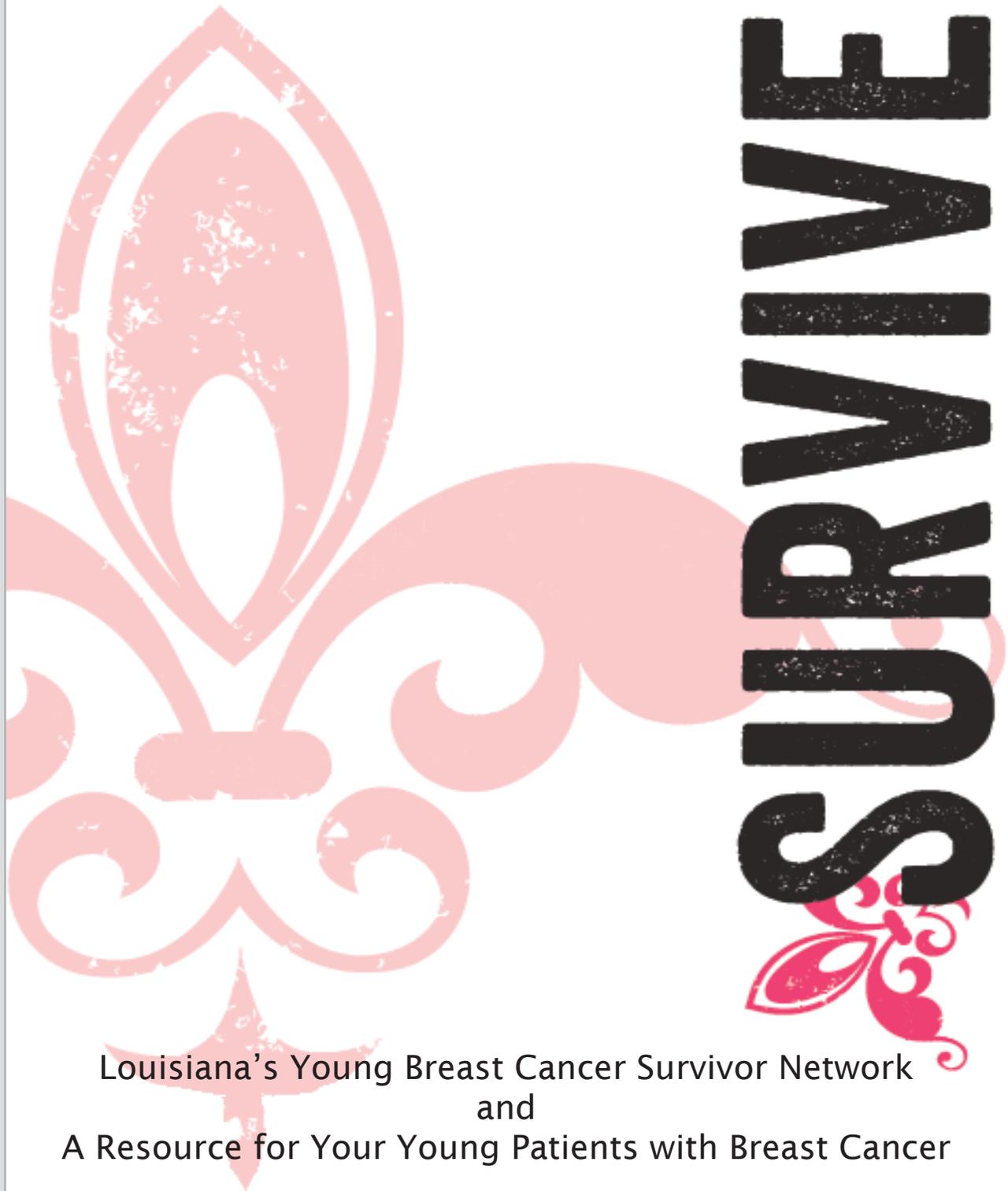


Louisiana Professional Guide

A Guide to Help Providers/Patients Navigate
SurviveDat Website Content

SURVIVE
DAT



Louisiana's Young Breast Cancer Survivor Network
and
A Resource for Your Young Patients with Breast Cancer

Louisiana (LA) represents a state in need of cancer services, particularly for women under 45 and African American (AA) women. In the period 2003- 2007, LA ranked 2nd in the U.S. for deaths from breast cancer at 27.7 per 100,000 females (U.S. average of 24.0). LA also ranked 2nd for deaths from breast cancer for women under 50. For AA women, LA ranked 2nd for deaths from breast cancer, and for death rates in AA women less than 50, LA ranked 1st. In the 35 south LA parishes (counties) in the period from 2006 - 2009 there were 2,238 women under the age of 45 diagnosed with breast cancer. 755 of these women were AA. 714 women were diagnosed in the LSU Health Services public hospital system.

Young breast cancer survivors (YBCS) have unique needs compared to older women with breast cancer, and it's the goal of SurviveDAT to assist women in meeting those needs. A survey of YBCS conducted by our program revealed the following priority needs:

- Genetic testing related needs;
- Worry, psychological distress, cognitive problems;
- Economic problems or work;
- Body image, sexual intimacy, dating;
- Fertility and premature menopause.

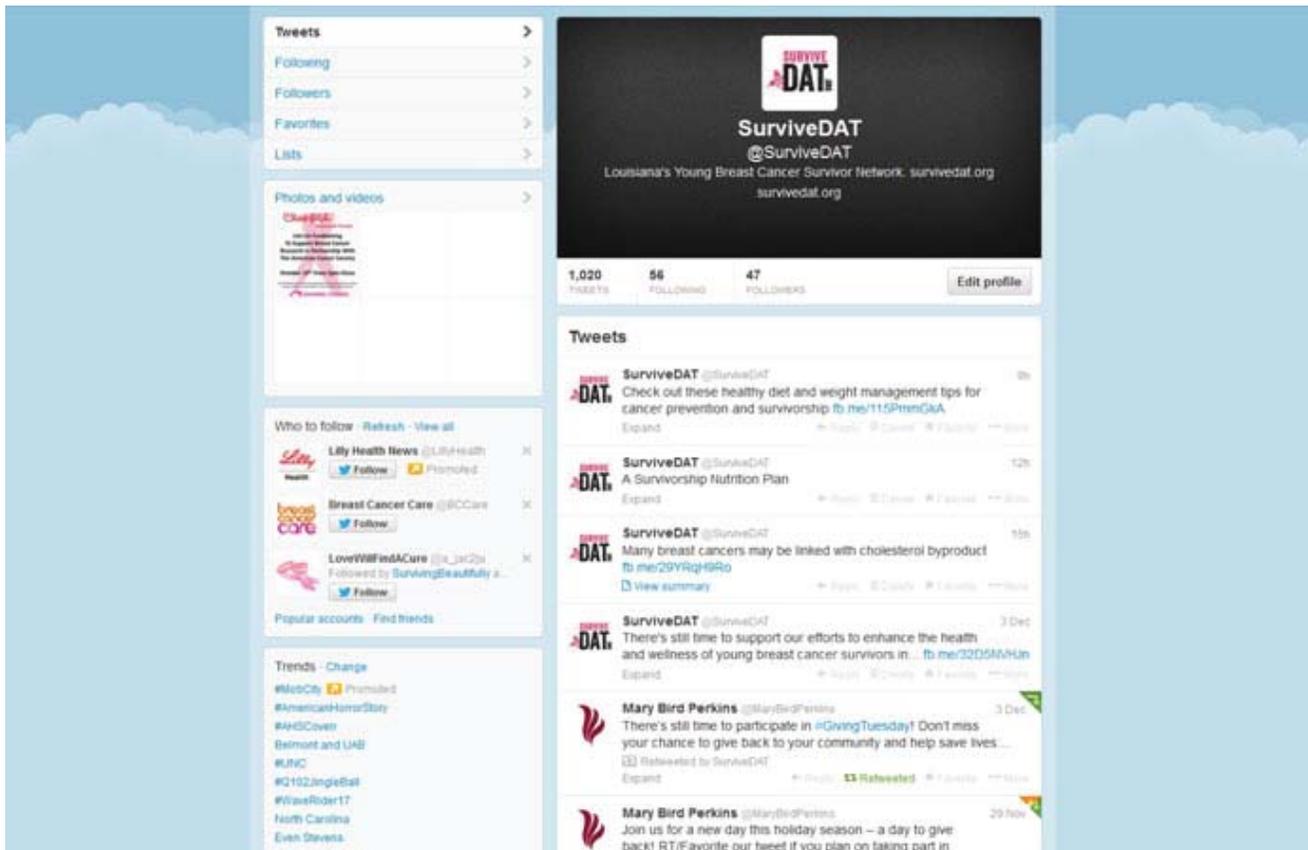
The earlier a young woman is given information regarding these issues, the better decisions she will be able to make. She will have a clearer idea of what to expect over the next few weeks, months, and years. Ideally, the best time for her to receive this would be at the time of diagnosis, before initial treatment begins.



SurviveDAT.org is a comprehensive resource website designed specifically for YBCS in south Louisiana. Its intuitive design makes it easy to locate information on specific services. Resources that address a specific needs area, such as financial services, are easily accessed by simply clicking on the “For Survivors” resources tab and selecting the topic area of choice. Once selected, users will be directed to the page that lists the corresponding national and local resources. Those resources can be further refined by selecting a subtopic or location specific tab. In addition, the SurviveDAT website lists upcoming events, audio clips and videos from previous events, and contact information should visitors have any questions or want additional information.

SurviveDAT on Twitter

www.twitter.com/survivedat



Want the latest tweet? Follow us on Twitter to keep up with the latest news on breast cancer and issues of interest to young breast cancer survivors.

SurviveDAT on Facebook

www.facebook.com/survivedat



Need the breaking news on breast cancer? Want to know about upcoming events? We sort through the latest cancer news for you and post what is most pertinent for young breast cancer survivors and interested parties. Like us on Facebook to keep up with the latest information and programs or use it to communicate with others who are interested in the needs and issues faced by young breast cancer survivors. We're one click away.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

QHow can I use this to help my patients?

AFamiliarize yourself with SurviveDAT’s website content. Hand the patient a card or flyer with the website information so they can look at it later, when they have processed what you have said..... Or a card or flyer could be included in a packet they receive from your office at time of diagnosis. Please let us know if you need more cards or flyers and we will have them delivered to your office.

QAt what point should my patients be given this information?

AShe should be given the website information as soon after her diagnosis as possible. She should have the information before she begins treatment, especially for fertility preservation. Because our website is an online resource list, she can begin using it immediately.

QHow often is the website updated?

AWhenever we receive new and relevant resources or information, it is added to the website, Facebook page, and/or Twitter if deemed appropriate.

QI usually refer my patients to a certain agency for help, but I do not see them listed. Why?

ACould be several reasons—most likely, we do not know about it yet. Our website has a “Suggest a Resource” tab which allows visitors to notify us of resources we may not have listed on our website. Every resource listed is personally screened by someone in our office, so we would research the suggested resource and then add it to our list, if deemed appropriate.

QI have some ideas regarding the needs of YBCS. Can SurviveDAT help?

AContact us via the “Contact Us” tab on the website and let us know what you think. We’ll do what we can to address any issues.



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