

March is Colon Cancer Awareness Month

Save Lives, Promote Colon Cancer Awareness and Dress in Blue March 2, 2012

The Kentucky Cancer Program District Cancer Council is launching the fourth annual public awareness campaign to increase colon cancer screening with Dress in Blue Day on March 2nd. New this year, Madeline Abramson, the Lieutenant Governor's wife, will serve as the Dress in Blue Day Honorary Chair for Kentucky. She will join Council partners and numerous other organizations, businesses, schools and churches throughout the community to encourage everyone to wear blue. Activities will continue throughout the year to provide education and to organize special programs.

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, time to call your doctor and ask about a screening test that's right for you. Routine screening is highly effective.

Early colon cancer usually has no symptoms, so it's important to be screened. Age is the most common risk factor. It is recommended that everyone age 50 and older be screened. If you have a personal or family history of cancer, or certain risk factors such as polyps (growths) or inflammatory bowel disease, you should check with your doctor about getting screened at an earlier age.

Dress in Blue - tell your friends why and call your doctor today to make an appointment. Don't let fear, embarrassment or any other reason keep you from taking the next step.

Special Dress in Blue announcements and free colon cancer screening posters and materials are available from the Kentucky Cancer Program while supplies last. Visit www.kycancerprogram.org/special-events "What's New" for additional information and resources or contact (organization name and phone number).