

The meeting on Wednesday, November 10th was filled with some great brainstorming and information to help shape the mission committee going into 2011. We welcomed Bethany Gladkowski who is considering joining the mission committee. She was brought in by Adrienne Colatuoni who attended as well.

What is in the plans currently according to the meeting as we go into 2011:

Support - Creation of a new patient packet and work with GI offices to gain our needed foothold to reach new patients for support and advocacy reasons. Buffalo Gastro Assoc. LLP in West Seneca will be the first office we attempt.

Further development into a southtowns support group. The individual interested in getting the process going dropped off the radar. The search continues.

Further work to find contacts in the Jamestown/Bemus Point area to develop support and a new event in the Southern Tier.

Expand the Power of Two into the actual program as it was designed to be.

Advocacy - Dick could not attend so I highlighted that the IBD Bill (S. 2562) will die in congress as it never came to the table for consideration. The process must start again draw up and put forward all over again as a result so the hope is that Sen. Reid (D-NV), who won re-election earlier this month, and Sen. Cochran (R-MS) will reintroduce. Back to the drawing board for doing our part to get our senators interested.

We also discussed the Restroom Access Act (A. 00807) in the NY State Assembly. The last known action was it was referred to the division of health in January 2010. Bills in the assembly carry over from year to year as long as they have support. There is strong down state support for this bill so we will likely go back to representatives DelMonte, Schimminger, Hayes, Hoyt, Gabryszak, and Peoples among others to start the ball rolling again for 2011. None of them even co-sponsor the act.

Education - We discussed a rainbow of items here but it was largely focused on 2011 Educational Event possibilities. It takes about 6 months to secure pharma funding so while one large even for fall 2011 is possible it is better for a chance at better attendance to focus on several smaller events.

We are also looking at advertising education events within community activities catalogs throughout WNY.

Medical Advisory - One goal! A body that is a professional in the health care community (doctor, nurse, PA, NP, etc) to work with us through out growth and progress.

Volunteer - We are looking to bring Christina (the volunteer leader from the walk in 2010) into the fold to lead the volunteer efforts. We will be contacting her.

In the open forum Jeanenne told us about the Thank You Celebration at the Screening Room in Amherst on December 9th from 6-8pm. Free to those invited guests. We are looking for a caterer for the event.

Next meeting has not been scheduled at this time. The Erie County libraries are in the process of a possible downsizing which will be known by the end of November. They asked for us to call back in December to see if they are scheduling for January yet. Proposed meeting date is January 19th.

Let me know if you have any feedback.

Jason