LUNG CANCER IS THE LEADING CAUSE OF CANCER DEATHS AMONG AFRICAN AMERICANS

African American men have a 33% higher incidence rate and a 28% higher mortality rate of lung cancer than white men.

Survival rates for the three next biggest cancers have increased significantly; the rate for lung cancer has not.

Because so few cases are diagnosed at early stage when cancer is most curable.

Incidence and mortality rates 2005-2009 per 100,000 of population.

Five year relative survival rates 2002-2008.

Localized: Cancer confined to the primary site
Regional: Cancer has spread to regional lymph nodes
Distant: Cancer has metastasized to other sites.
WHY IS LUNG CANCER RESEARCH UNDERFUNDED WHEN SO MANY PEOPLE ARE DYING AND SO MANY QUESTIONS NEED TO BE ANSWERED?

- Why does lung cancer have such a profoundly higher impact on African American men?
- Is there an increased sensitivity to tobacco smoke?
- What other environmental triggers in inner cities or on the job are involved?
- How is risk related to military service and exposure to asbestos, Agent Orange, depleted uranium, battlefield toxins and other carcinogens?
- How do barriers to early detection and care exacerbate the situation?
- What about socio-economic factors, diet and medical histories?

RESOLUTION:
AS THE PAST FORTY YEARS OF SO LITTLE PROGRESS HAVE SHOWN, LUNG CANCER MORTALITY WILL NOT BE SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED UNTIL:

- The public is made aware of the statistics
- Lung cancer is viewed with greater compassion and support
- Lung cancer mortality reduction is made a public health priority
- A comprehensive, multi-agency plan of action is developed
- Lung cancer prevention, early detection and treatment are coordinated.
- Congress provides adequate funding and holds the agencies responsible

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LUNG CANCER ALLIANCE'S PROGRAMS ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM PEOPLE LIKE YOU. PLEASE CONSIDER GIVING BACK SO THAT OTHERS MAY CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THESE FREE SERVICES.

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Sources: