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**For Grace to Host 10th Annual Women In Pain Conference via Live Webcast:
“The Pain-Cancer Connection”**

The September 24th virtual conference will explore the underappreciated connection between cancer and pain – and what one can do thrive despite these formidable health challenges

LOS ANGELES (September 1, 2021) – For Grace will host its **10th Annual Women In Pain Conference: “The Pain-Cancer Connection”** on September 24th via worldwide live webcast on their YouTube Channel and Facebook Page. The conference will virtually bring together thousands of women in pain and their caregivers with experts in cancer and pain management, as well as wellness advocates, to bring awareness and insight to the fact that pain and cancer often intermingle in ways that are commonly overlooked or deemed unimportant, much to the detriment of those impacted.

For agenda, registration and additional conference information, please visit forgrace.org.

The commonly understood intersection between pain and cancer is the late stage of malignancy, where cancer cells invade bone and soft tissue organs. As this conference will point out, there are other areas of intersectionality that include how long-term inflammation (the main driver of chronic pain) puts people at higher risk of developing cancer and how various cancer treatments can lead to persistent neuropathic (and other types) of pain.

The September 24th conference kicks off at 9am PT and will feature presentations by distinguished clinical, advocacy and wellness experts who will focus on what puts people at higher risk of pain and cancer, how to be your own best care advocate, building optimal “terrain” to fight cancer and lifestyle choices that can ward off malignancy and pain. Also, throughout the day, the sharing of real-life experiences with pain and cancer will provide a springboard for tips and wisdom to successfully take on these daunting challenges.

"An aggressive cancer diagnosis isn't an automatic death sentence, even if you've experienced long-time, high-impact pain", says For Grace Founder Cynthia Toussaint. It was Toussaint's bout with advanced triple-negative breast cancer in 2020 that inspired the conference's theme and focus.

“My cancer sprung in part from the inflammation of 37 years of persistent pain. Because I was my own, powerful advocate and made unconventional care choices, I survived with a minimal amount of increased pain, mostly by doing everything integratively. I'm convinced that self-care was the biggest part of my healing.”

According to a groundbreaking 2011 report by the Institute of Medicine, more than 100 million people in the United States suffer from chronic pain. Continuing research shows that women are more likely to suffer from chronic pain, and the pain can come more frequently and hit with greater intensity. Further, the American Cancer Society estimates that there will be 1.9 million new cases diagnosed in 2021. These statistics firmly establish pain and cancer as two of the leading health concerns in the US.

Speakers and panelists include:

Michael Eselun, Chaplain, Simms/Mann UCLA Center for Integrative Oncology
Dr. Wayne Jonas, Executive Director, the Samueli Integrative Health Program
Christin Veasley, Co-Founder, the Chronic Pain Research Alliance
Dr. Keith Block, Director, The Block Center for Integrative Cancer Treatment
Dr. Susan Nyanzi, Public Health Expert, City of Hope
Dr. Melissa Cady, Board-Certified Anesthesiologist and Pain Medicine Doctor
Rhonda M. Smith, Cancer Survivor and Executive Director, California Black Health Network
Donna Pinto, Cancer Survivor and Founder, DCIS 411
Karen Smith, Pain-Cancer Survivor and former Public Relations Professional
Henry Contreras, Pain-Cancer Survivor and former Policy Director, CA Center for Independent Living
Tom Norris, Pain-Cancer Survivor and Support Group Leader, American Chronic Pain Association
Pat Wetzel, Cancer Survivor and Founder/Podcaster, Bump In The Road
Cynthia Toussaint, Pain-Cancer Survivor and Founder/Spokesperson, For Grace: Women In Pain

Also featured during the day will be award-winning art by woman in pain **Radene Marie Cook** which depicts the chronic pain experience, as well as mirth-inspiring vignettes by comedian **Anna Polack**.

For Grace is once again proud to partner with **Rich Tamayo of TVPLive.com** to bring their annual conference to women in pain, their caregivers and healthcare practitioners worldwide.

About For Grace

Founded in 2002, For Grace is a worldwide recognized nonprofit organization that promotes care and wellness for women in pain. For Grace has educated, supported and empowered millions of women in pain through the use of public advocacy, legislative outreach, and mass media. For more information, please visit www.forgrace.org.

Reporters seeking to attend and/or cover the 10th Annual Women In Pain conference are advised to contact For Grace Director John Garrett at 818.760.7635 or jgarrett@forgrace.org.

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