

February, 15, 2015 1st Graduating Class, New Mexico Community Cancer Support Advocates/Navigators Four Organizations Represented: Cancer Support Now, statewide, Cancer Support of Deming and Luna County, C.A.R.E of Las Cruces, and Prostate Cancer Support Association of New MexicoAll will be working very closely with each other.

Front Row Left to Right: Marie Brown-Wagner ABQ Cancer Support Now, Joanna Costilla Cancer Support of Deming and Luna County, Sarah Rivera – Contreras ABQ Cancer Support Now, Eleanor Schick, ABQ Cancer Support Now, Deborah Openden, Openden Associates, Trainer Back Row Left to Right: Jerry Cross ABQ Cancer Support Now and Prostate Cancer Support Association of New Mexico, Margaret Goga ABQ Cancer Support Now, Yoli Diaz Las Cruces CARE, Denis Uzeda Rio Rancho Cancer Support Now. Not in photo: Betty Rein ABQ Cancer Support Now & Patricia Torn ABQ Cancer Support Now

Graduate Jerry Cross says: We spent 10 hours over the last 2 days taking a great workshop on becoming a Patient Navigator/Advocate, to assist cancer patients in how to find resources and support in their struggle to manage daily life, in addition to their medical issues.

By April 1, 2015 Cancer Support Now will provide free community-based Cancer Support Advocacy and Navigator Services for all those experiencing cancer either as survivors or caregivers all the way from diagnoses thru post-treatment. Our newly trained volunteers are themselves either cancer survivors, caregivers or both and will provide the peer support services. Other peer support trained Cancer Support Now volunteers will also be part of the Advocacy and Support services.

Two of the newly trained New Mexico community cancer support advocates/navigators include our help line coordinator, **Eleanor Schick** who will provide telephone support. While our patient navigator and social worker, **Sarah Rivera – Contreras**, will provide face-to-face support.