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Governor Bill Haslam Declares March “Myeloma Action Month”

Nashville, TN, Feb. 28, 2018 — Governor Bill Haslam has proclaimed March 2018 “Myeloma Action Month”. According to the International Myeloma Foundation (IMF), Myeloma, also referred to as multiple myeloma, is an incurable cancer of cells in the bone marrow. Myeloma currently affects more than 100,000 people in the United States, with an estimated 30,330 new cases diagnosed in 2016. Myeloma is increasing in numbers and is becoming more common in younger patients, with possible links to environmental toxins.

“We appreciate Governor Haslam’s continued support in helping to raising awareness of myeloma,” said Mark McCalman, co-leader of the Northeast Tennessee Multiple Myeloma Support Group. “This recognition is important to me because increased awareness can lead to earlier diagnosis for others which can help them avoid some of the side effects that many people experience prior to their myeloma diagnosis.” Mark McCalman, who lives in Johnson City, TN, was a caregiver to his father, Pete McCalman, for many years before his father’s death in 2016.

“Our support group is a place where people with myeloma and their families can learn about the newest treatments available and gain support and education from those who have been living with the disease.” The Northeast Tennessee Multiple Myeloma Support Group meets the 3rd Saturday of each month from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Health Resources Annex Classroom at The Mall at Johnson City.

Myeloma Action Month is sponsored by the International Myeloma Foundation, the leader in global collaborative myeloma research. The IMF brings together the



<http://mam.myeloma.org>

world's leading myeloma experts through the International Myeloma Working Group (IMWG) and is charting a path to a cure through the foundation's signature project, the Black Swan Research Initiative.®

For more information about the Northeast Tennessee Multiple Myeloma Support Group, contact Mark McCalman at 423-928-5333 or Darlene Jessee at 423-538-6923 or go to <http://netn.support.myeloma.org/> for more information.

ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL MYELOMA FOUNDATION

The International Myeloma Foundation reaches more than 240,000 members in 120 countries worldwide. A 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of myeloma patients and their families, the IMF focuses on four key areas: research, education, support, and advocacy. To date, the IMF has conducted more than 250 educational seminars worldwide, maintains a world-renowned hotline, and established the International Myeloma Working Group (IMWG), a collaborative research initiative focused on improving myeloma treatment options for patients. The IMF can be reached at (800) 452-CURE (2873). The global website is www.myeloma.org. Follow the IMF on Twitter at @IMFmyeloma.



<https://myeloma.org>

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