

FEATURED COMMUNITY GROUP: LOVE A MICHIGAN VET PROJECT

Love a Michigan Vet Project is a non-profit organization with a goal of supporting Michigan Veterans and their families. Founded in Dearborn Heights by Director, Nadine Jones in February of 2013 after volunteering for two terms with AmeriCorps, Jones actively helps veterans in need by providing counseling, housing assistance, toiletries, food, and clothing to veterans in need including four local shelters, reaching 175 veterans. Coming from a large military family, Jones who is also a Flight Attendant, and full time student at the University of Michigan, says she “truly loves helping Veterans” and has plans to open her own shelter. In the meantime, the need for Veteran assistance is so great, especially around the holidays.

From now until December 8, Jones is accepting donations for homeless veterans in need. The organization is looking for:

- Socks
- Underwear
- T-shirts
- Backpacks
- Coats
- Towels
- Boots
- Toiletries
- Hats
- Scarves
- Gloves
- Blankets
- Food including Turkeys and Hams
- Monetary Gifts and gift cards

The drop off location for these items is:
Texas Roadhouse
14660 Pardee Rd.
Taylor, MI 48180
Attention: Maranda



LOVE A MICHIGAN VET PROJECT
To Ensure That No Veteran Goes Without!
Nadine Jones
Director

313-693-6556
www.LoveAMIVet.com
loveamichiganvet@yahoo.com

1515 Fort St
 Unit 255
 Lincoln Park, MI 48146

[@LoveAMichiganVetProject](https://www.facebook.com/LoveAMichiganVetProject/)

In addition, the Love A Michigan Vet Project adopts Veteran families for Christmas. In 2015, they adopted 30 families and are hoping to adopt more this year. They are actively shipping care packages to those deployed as well.

If you are interested in getting involved, or know of a school, church, or girl/boy scout troop that would like to help the Love a Michigan Vet Program further their mission of “ensuring that no Veteran goes without, please contact: Nadine Jones by phone at (313) 693-6556, e-mail at loveamichiganvet@yahoo.com or Facebook at www.facebook.com/LoveAMichiganVetProject/

STUFF - A - TRUCK

Love A Michigan Vet Project December 8th
is hosting a Stuff-A-Truck 3:45-10pm
to collect the items needed Texas Roadhouse
to provide Christmas gifts 14660 Pardee Rd.
for 175 Homeless Veterans! Taylor, MI 48180

ADVISOR SPOTLIGHT – AN INTERVIEW WITH SAM GACHUPIN



Why did you decide to be a patient advisor?

Initially, it was curiosity on what this truly meant - to be an advisor.

Soon after, I saw that my experiences could possibly make a difference to future and current patients.

Recovering from the barrage of medical surgeries, treatments, setbacks, and then transforming into a fully functional human being again -- being a patient advisor allowed me to step onto a platform and voice my views of the pro and cons of today's medical system.

How is your experience relevant to your role as a patient advisor?

Expressing the good and bad parts of what I went through in order to be at the current physical, emotional, and mental health state has influenced change in the various Patient-Engaged Research Center (PERC) projects.

The open forum is a great team climate setting and working alongside others with like patient experiences sparks greater interest in supporting project goals. I enjoy taking part.

What have you learned?

Giving of yourself to better another is very rewarding (reaffirms ones value of community).

The ideas coming from our team have fostered a great deal of creativity and led to project implementation. More so, everyone has a voice at the table. We mutual respect each other and know our purpose. The breath of subject matter expertise helps drive my motivation to assist, every month.

How do you see sharing your story/being a patient advisor impacting the community? What do you hope to achieve?

I stand on the knowledge that we are not guaranteed anything and tomorrow's change happens today. My story doesn't have an ending. Sharing who I am verses why I am the way I am is more important. Encountering current head & neck cancer patients, their families, or support members teaches me every day that my story is but a glimpse of thousands like me. And for those who have lost loved ones it's heavy on the heart. So I see to offer a genuine light of hope that everyone's struggle is conquerable.

The greatest achievement is knowing that my hand in this was helpful.

Any advice for someone who would like to get involved?

When you wonder or ask yourself what next? Crossover the line and join something that gives back 10x over.

Being yourself, not afraid to open the guarded heart and mind, and contributing to this effort will pay back in ways unimaginable.

You're cordially invited to attend

The Patient Engaged Research Center's

1st Annual

Patient Advisor Retreat

January 17, 2017

7:30am-1:30pm

1 Ford Place, Gilmour Room (1st floor)

RSVP: <https://percpatientadvisorretreat.eventbrite.com>

Over the past year and a half, the Patient Engaged Research Center's Patient Advisor Program has been growing with the number of Patient Advisors, reaching 295 Advisors to date. On **January 17th**, we will be holding a Patient Advisor Retreat to **celebrate YOU the Advisors** that have been gracious and passionate enough to dedicate your time, share your thoughts, and help make so many positive changes in Research and Healthcare improvements across HFHS. In addition to thanking all of you, we are going to use this time to share what we've all learned so far, both successes and challenges, provide **opportunities to network** with other Patient Advisors, researchers, administrators and providers. We will have some **skill building and learning sessions throughout the day, great keynote speakers, raffles and giveaways, etc.** Please mark your calendars as this will be a fantastic event and we're looking forward to seeing you!

If you have any questions, please contact percptadvisors@hfhs.org.

THE PCORI AMBASSADOR PROGRAM



The PCORI Ambassador Program unites individual and organizational Ambassadors around the

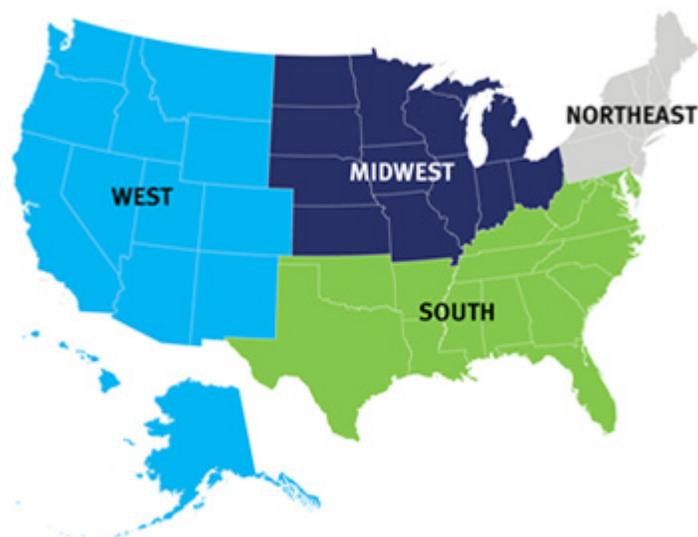
promise of patient-centered outcomes research (PCOR). PCOR helps people and their caregivers communicate and make informed healthcare decisions, allowing their voices to be heard in assessing the value of healthcare options.

PCORI, an independent nonprofit, nongovernment organization located in Washington D.C. was authorized by Congress in 2010 with the commitment to improve the quality and relevance of evidence available to help patients, caregivers, clinicians, employers, insurers, and policy makers make informed health decisions.

PCORI's Mission is to help people make informed healthcare decisions, and improves healthcare delivery and outcomes, by producing and promoting high-integrity, evidence-based information that comes from research guided by patients, caregivers, and the broader healthcare community.

PCORI's Vision is that patients and the public have information they can use to make decisions that reflect their desired health outcomes.

The PCORI Ambassador Program aims to achieve these goals through their Ambassador Program which provides tools to:



Share the PCORI story

- Connect with other Ambassadors who share common interests to facilitate the formation of research affinity groups
- Help position Ambassadors as potential partners in PCORI-funded projects
- Advance opportunities to participate with PCORI in a variety of engagement opportunities, including dissemination and implementation of research findings

The long-term goal of this program is to have Ambassadors in every state, extending the reach of our engagement efforts and expanding knowledge about and participation in PCOR across the country with the ultimate goal of helping patients and those who care for them to make more informed health decisions.

Participants in the Ambassador Program come from across the nation (please regional see map), US Territories, and Canada. Ambassador can either be Individuals or Organizations, and will initially be recruited from the community of consumers, patients, caregivers, clinicians, other healthcare professionals, researchers, and organizations that:

- Have participated in a PCORI workshop, roundtable, meeting, or working group;
- Have served as members of our advisory panels;
- Have served as merit reviewers or reviewer mentors;
- Are currently serving as a patient or stakeholder partner or researcher in PCORI-funded projects; or
- Have hosted a PCORI presentation, panel, breakout session, or collaborative initiative.

If you have participated in a PCORI event or initiative or are interested in learning more about patient-centered outcomes research and how to inform your community about making better health decisions or are interested in partnering with PCORI to disseminate and implement PCOR research findings, reach out by visiting us at: www.pcori.org/get-involved/become-pcori-ambassador



- *Would you like to share your ideas on healthcare change?*
- *Would you like to have a voice in patient-centered healthcare programs?*
- *Do you want the opportunity to improve healthcare for the next patient?*

If you answered YES, to 1 or more of these questions, we invite you to become a
HENRY FORD PATIENT/FAMILY ADVISOR!

At Henry Ford's Patient-Engaged Research Center (PERC) patients can volunteer to serve as advisors on new programs and enhance how we deliver care. Based on your areas of interest, we have the right role for you!

OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDE:

- **Henry Ford Health System Advisor** – Serve as a representative on a hospital council or committee. You will attend meetings focused on designing or improving a new or current program, service, policy or process. *(Meeting times vary from once every 3 months to once a month)*
- **Research Advisor** – Share ideas and give feedback on projects, including patient reading materials and strategies to enroll people into studies. *(Meeting once a month to once every two months)*
- **E-Advisors through Henry Ford Insights** – Share feedback in short online surveys. Topics may include patient care experiences, communications, new services and improvement ideas, and better ways to partner with patients. *(Time commitment: about 1-2 surveys per month)*
- **Focus Group Patient Advisor** – Participate in a focus group and provide feedback on your own personal health care experience. *(One-time commitment of 1.5-2 hours per focus group)*

To learn about Henry Ford's efforts to EMPOWER their patients and how to become a patient/family advisor visit www.HenryFord.com/PatientAdvisor



WHAT IS IT LIKE TO BE AN ADVISOR?

HFHS ADVISOR

As an HFHS Advisor, your voice and experience as a patient will influence the changes that are made across Henry Ford Health System to benefit other patients. As an active partner on these councils, you represent the patient voice and experience and will attend meetings with other members of the team. Telling your patient story and providing feedback on hot topics around the system are just two of the many duties of HFHS Advisors. For example, you may be placed on a Service Excellence Patient Advisory Council, focused on customer service, or serve as an Advisor to help create an After Visit Summary that is easier for the patient and their caregivers to navigate.

RESEARCH ADVISOR

As a Research Advisor, you will be asked to share your experience as a patient and share feedback on how things could be improved for the next patient. Depending on the project, you will help create surveys used in research projects or review those already created to evaluate if they make sense, are too long, or need rewording. You also may be asked to review letters sent to participants as well as give your feedback on how we can recruit more participants. The study team may ask you, how much do you think is an appropriate amount to pay someone to fill out a survey, or you may be asked to complete the survey to see how long it takes. These are just a few of the many key types of input you as a Research Advisor may be asked to provide.

E-ADVISOR (INSIGHTS COMMUNITY)

As an E-Advisor, you will be sent surveys anywhere from once a month to once every three months. At the beginning of each survey, there are pre-qualifying questions to make sure you are eligible to continue. With each eligibility survey you take, you will be entered into a sweepstakes drawing. The surveys can vary widely in content and will vary in length. For example, a survey was sent to the members of Insights Community that focused on teens and their parents and how they work together to achieve a healthy lifestyle. Teens and parents, meeting certain eligibility requirements, were asked to take 20-30 minutes to answer questions about how often they exercise together, eat dinner together and the types of lunches the teens take to school every day.

FOCUS GROUP ADVISOR

As a Focus Group Advisor, you will be a part of a group of Advisors with many different experiences and backgrounds. Whenever there is a focus group request, we will reach out to the pool to see if you are eligible to participate. For example, we just finished focus groups on how Henry Ford Hospital might be able to improve customer service, if needed, and making sure the healthcare you receive is the best it can be. Being a Focus Group Advisor is a one-time commitment although you may qualify and can participate in more than one group.

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