



For Immediate Release

## **MetaCancer Launches Mosaic Online Support Experience**

**October 15, 2013 – [Mission Hills, KS]** – The MetaCancer Foundation today announced the launch of Mosaic, a new support resource for the metastatic cancer patient and caregiver community. Mosaic is an online “oasis,” a social networking platform where members can post an image, inspirational quote or message of hope. Members can also respond to posts with words of support or encouragement.

Mosaic is a simple, safe and supportive place to capture moods, thoughts and feelings that can be shared with the world, shared with friends, or kept private. Members can log in and post a color that reflects their current mood along a timeline that can change from day to day. The site is a free service of the MetaCancer Foundation.

Mosaic was developed with the understanding that psychosocial needs of people facing metastatic or advanced stage cancer are vastly different than those whose cancer is localized.

“Mosaic fills a unique and unmet need in the metastatic cancer community. You can come to an artistic place that welcomes all emotions related to a metastatic cancer diagnosis,” said Oncology Social Worker Stephanie Stern, MSW, LCSW-C, who will be moderating the site. “It provides a way for people to take a brief mental escape whenever they need it and acknowledge where they are in one moment in time.”

Engagement is simple:

1. Members choose a color that reflects their current mood and it will be placed on Mosaic’s community canvas. Every piece is a person, every person a story. Each color becomes part of the ever-changing whole. No matter how much or how little members decide to share, seeing a Mosaic of each person’s color reminds visitors that they are not alone.
2. Personal timelines allow members to see how their colors have changed over time. They can also look back on what they’ve posted along the way.
3. Members post pictures, thoughts or art – whatever is on their mind at the moment.
4. Community is encouraged and fostered by responding to and commenting on others’ posts.

Members can opt to let others know what’s happening in their lives – or not. While members are part of a community, each journey is personal and privacy is respected. Members have the power to choose specifically what they want to share and with whom, whether they’re patients, caregivers, family members, friends, or the world.

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Beyond being a part of the Mosaic community, members can draw strength from others facing similar issues, or offer their support. They can also allow certain users to interact with individual journeys and posts, and respond to others who have decided to share. Each contribution, no matter how seemingly insignificant, has the potential to inspire others, to encourage the need to vent, or to help others to find more ways of feeling in control.

To become a member, visit <http://metacancermosaic.org/> today!

### **About the MetaCancer Foundation**

The MetaCancer Foundation provides resources and support for metastatic cancer survivors and their caregivers. MetaCancer encourages dialogue among those with very different types of metastatic cancer (breast, prostate, colorectal, ovarian, bladder/urinary, skin, lung, testicular, among others), even though respective treatment protocols and medical issues may seem to have little in common with each other. The common bonds are the psychological and emotional realities faced by anyone living with metastatic cancer. MetaCancer provides resources for everyday living, opportunities for creative reflection, and possibilities for survivors to "go meta:" to live beyond a diagnosis right now with strength, grace, and peace.

The mission of The MetaCancer Foundation is to improve the psychosocial condition of people living with metastatic cancers. We are committed to addressing the emotional and psychological issues that are unique to metastatic cancers. The MetaCancer Foundation was created to honor the life and spirit of Elizabeth Anne Prostic, a phenomenal woman, wife, and mother who passed away on March 31, 2005 from metastatic breast cancer. Funding for metacancer.org is provided by The MetaCancer Foundation, Inc., an exempt charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. For more information, visit [www.metacancer.org](http://www.metacancer.org).

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