

## Press Release

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **FORCE Celebrates 2015 National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week September 27 – October 3 and National Previvor Day on September 30** *Fighting for a World Without Hereditary Cancer*

Tampa, FL (August 25, 2015) – Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered (FORCE), the nation’s only nonprofit organization dedicated to families with hereditary breast and ovarian cancer (HBOC), is celebrating National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer Week and National Previvor Day to create awareness, recognize those affected by a genetic predisposition to these cancers and share the goal of a time when hereditary cancer no longer exists.

In 2010, FORCE made history with the successful passage of a Congressional resolution declaring the first-ever National Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer (HBOC) Week and National Previvor Day. HBOC Week marks the transition between National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month and National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The goal of HBOC Week and Previvor Day is to raise awareness about hereditary cancer. During this week, from September 27 – October 3, FORCE is recognizing and celebrating those who have been affected by hereditary breast and ovarian cancer, including women and men with BRCA mutations, anyone with a family history of cancer, breast and ovarian cancer survivors, and previvors (individuals who are living with a high risk for cancer, but have not developed the disease).

According to Sue Friedman, Executive Director of FORCE, “Through awareness and education, the almost 1 million people in the United States who carry a BRCA gene mutation can be more proactive with their health and take steps to minimize the impact of hereditary cancer. Today, an estimated 90% of those people do not know they carry this gene mutation. National HBOC Week and Previvor Day aim to help change that.”

During National HBOC Week, FORCE also celebrates efforts to ensure a better future for the next generation with continued work improving medical options, accelerating research, making new therapies available to patients, and protecting the rights of families facing hereditary breast and ovarian cancer. [Read the powerful stories](#) of those who are making certain that FORCE can continue the work needed to ensure a future without hereditary cancer.

### **About FORCE**

No one should have to face hereditary breast and ovarian cancer alone. FORCE is the voice of the HBOC community, providing support, education and awareness to help those facing hereditary breast and ovarian cancer know their healthcare options and make informed decisions. The organization is the de facto leader in guiding critical research and policy issues that impact the HBOC community. For more information about FORCE and hereditary breast and ovarian cancer, please visit [www.facingourrisk.org](http://www.facingourrisk.org).

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