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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cottage Hospital Joins Effort to Survive and Thrive
A Cancer Survivor Needs Assessment

Woodsville, NH -- The National Cancer Institute (NCI) defines a cancer survivor as *anyone who has been diagnosed with cancer; or anyone who has cared for someone with cancer*. Over 6000 New Hampshire residents were diagnosed with cancer from 1999-2003. Given that 65% of these people will survive five years beyond diagnosis, thousands of New Hampshire cancer patients, families, and caregivers can benefit from cancer survivor services.

New Hampshire has a Cancer Plan which seeks to improve the lives of cancer survivors by reducing the many challenges they face. Therefore, Cottage Hospital is joining other community hospitals around the state in conducting a web-based Cancer Survivor Needs Assessment Survey, to ask cancer survivors about what supports they need in order to survive and thrive. This exciting project will help make quality cancer survivor care open and within reach to all New Hampshire residents. The four month project will take place in ten cancer clinics across the state, and will be open through both the American Cancer Society and the Coalition for Cancer Survivors websites.

Cancer patients and those who care for them are able to complete the survey if they are:

- 18 years of age or older
- Diagnosed with any kind of cancer type and/or have cared for someone with cancer
- Able to read and write English, or if unable can use an interpreter, who can help do the survey
- Willing to do the survey using the internet either on your own, or with help.

Let your voice be heard and tell us what you need to survive and thrive as a cancer survivor. Please contact Pat Thayer or Connie Jones at 603.747.9156 for more information.

Please visit our website at www.cottagehospital.org for more information about this project and the services that Cottage Hospital can provide for you.

Cottage Hospital, located in Woodsville, New Hampshire is a 25 bed, critical access hospital serving the beautiful Upper Connecticut River Valley.

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