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### ***Bob and Janice McNair make \$1 million donation to Hope Lodge Houston***

HOUSTON (November 15, 2012) – The American Cancer Society (the Society) received a million dollar donation for Hope Lodge Houston last night from campaign chairs Bob and Janice McNair during a reception hosted by the couple at the River Oaks Country Club.

“Houston deserves a Hope Lodge and the Texas Medical Center needs one,” stated McNair in his opening remarks. He called for support from friends and the community for the Hope Lodge Houston campaign, which will provide free lodging and support for those traveling to receive cancer treatment in the Greater Houston area.

“We are very proud to have such distinguished chairs who know what it means to really support something that’s going to change lives,” said Sandy Biggers, campaign director, American Cancer Society. “When we are all gone, this Hope Lodge will remain and it will still be touching lives and that is a legacy worth leaving.”

Hope Lodge Houston will be the country’s largest facility, accommodating 62 patients and their caregivers within its five-story, 76,000 square-foot building. Hope Lodge Houston is the second of its kind in Texas and will be the 32<sup>nd</sup> in the country.

“We don't like to be the 32<sup>nd</sup> of anything, but the Texans franchise was the 32<sup>nd</sup> in the National Football League and that worked out pretty good for us,” said McNair.

Hope Lodge Houston will be open year-round with a unique homelike setting that includes a shared kitchen, dining spaces, a help-yourself pantry, daily access to fresh linens, patient laundry facilities and a library with Internet access as well as free transportation to and from their treatment. Support groups and social activities will also be available for guests.

The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center has provided land for the project in the Texas Medical Center at 7505 Almeda Road between Holcombe Boulevard and the 610 Loop.

The Society must raise 85 percent of the budget for Hope Lodge before the projected groundbreaking, scheduled tentatively for July 2013. Currently, the Society has raised 28 percent of the \$30 million budget they need to construct and operate Hope Lodge Houston.

President George and Mrs. Barbara Bush are honorary chairs of the campaign and send their personal thanks to the McNair's for this generous gift. "Once again, you have stepped up to the plate to lend a hand, this time to Hope Lodge Houston," said President Bush. "You two personify "Point of Light," and we Bushes and all Houstonians thank you from the bottom of our grateful hearts."

Anyone impacted by cancer is encouraged to join in this campaign and help us *Build hope, Touch lives*. For more information on the American Cancer Society Hope Lodge Houston visit [www.cancer.org/hopelodge](http://www.cancer.org/hopelodge).

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**About the American Cancer Society:**

The American Cancer Society combines an unyielding passion with nearly a century of experience to save lives and end suffering from cancer. As a global grassroots force of more than three million volunteers, we fight for every birthday threatened by every cancer in every community. We save lives by helping people stay well by preventing cancer or detecting it early; helping people get well by being there for them during and after a cancer diagnosis; by finding cures through investment in groundbreaking discovery; and by fighting back by rallying lawmakers to pass laws to defeat cancer and by rallying communities worldwide to join the fight. As the nation's largest non-governmental investor in cancer research, contributing more than \$3.5 billion, we turn what we know about cancer into what we do. As a result, more than 11 million people in America who have had cancer and countless more who have avoided it will be celebrating birthdays this year. To learn more about us or to get help, call us any time, day or night, at 1-800-227-2345 or visit [cancer.org](http://cancer.org).