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Austin, Texas

## LIVESTRONG Navigation Center connects the dots for cancer patients

★★★★★  
5.0000/5 rating

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Reported by: Ryan Loyd  
Friday, March 25 2011



The LIVESTRONG Foundation's new Navigation Center opened its doors Friday with a mission to offer free resources for cancer patients, their friends, and family members.

Sarah Gomez, a navigator with the new center, says the center is a way to connect the dots from the patient to people and programs who can serve

them.

"What a navigator does is basically that - we're trying to get people to the resources they need," Gomez said.

Rocio Garza is a former news anchor who is now volunteering her time with the center. She says she was covering a story three years ago encouraging women to get screened for cancer.

"I was doing a story and then I became the story," she said.

She waited five months to get treatment, and in that time she said her tumor only grew. Three years later, she is now cancer free and devoting her time to others going through the same experience.

"That's what LIVESTRONG is about," said Garza. "It's not just about the here and right now. It's the day after tomorrow, it's the year into it, five years into. It's that own personal journey that you go through. But you don't have to go through it alone."

The center came alive because the LIVESTRONG foundation itself was helping thousands of people nationwide help find resources. From treatment concerns to the cost of care and everything in between, the center is for anyone affected by cancer.

"We want to help them overcome any barrier that they have during their journey," Gomez said.

The faces of cancer are even the familiar ones like Garza. "I certainly felt like nothing like this would ever happen to me. But I certainly have the experience," she said. Now she feels that she is able to relate to those who are scared with many questions.

The Navigation Center is a prototype, which will serve as a model for providing services across the country. If you would like to schedule an appointment, call 512-220-7777, send an email to [cancer.navigation@livestrong.org](mailto:cancer.navigation@livestrong.org) or [click here](#) to be directed to the center's web site.

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<b>74.0°</b>			
WIND 4.6 Variable		HUMIDITY 45%	

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Ron Oliveira is an award-winning journalist

and has spent the past 32 years working in the television industry.

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