

ADULT SUPPORT VIRTUAL GROUPS/PROGRAMS
Division of Social Work
May 2023

Due to COVID-19, all adult patient/family groups and programs listed below will be held virtually via Zoom or telephone. Patients/families who receive care at any of our DFCI locations across the network are welcome to reach out about any of our groups and programs. For more information or to connect with a social worker at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, call: 617-632-3301 or visit www.dfci.org/supportgroups.

If you are not a Dana-Farber patient and are interested in attending a Dana-Farber support group, please call 617-632-3301.

Please note: Dates below are only listed through May 2023. Another calendar will be circulated next month. Additional meetings will be held in upcoming months.

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
Bereavement Support Group	6-week group programs and drop-in groups are available for adults whose loved ones were patients of DFCI, or any Dana-Farber affiliated satellite clinics.	Sue Morris Psy.D, Director of Bereavement Services	Call for details.	Please call for details: 617-632-2490
Behavioral Therapy for Cancer-related Pain	A 6-week group that teaches behavioral skills to patients with chronic cancer pain.	Michelle Jacobo, PhD Karen Mott, NP Miryam Yusufov, PhD	Currently accepting referrals.	Contact Michelle Jacobo to register for future groups: mjacobo@partners.org
BIPOC Support Group: Rest and Resilience, A patient support group for those who identify as Black, Indigenous, or as a person of color	A monthly support group for cancer patients and those with non-malignant hematologic disorders who identify as Black, Indigenous, or as a person of color.	Natalie Alas Duran, LICSW Ana Maria De La Rosa, MA	This group is not running in May.	Contact 617-632-3301 for additional information

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
<p>Brain Tumor Support Group</p>	<p>Bringing patients and caregivers together to share experiences, feelings and challenges associated with brain tumors.</p>	<p>Debra LaFrankie, RN, OCN Ben Peirce, LICSW</p>	<p>1:30 pm – 3:00 pm May 22</p>	<p>Contact Ben Peirce to register: 617-632-4236 Benjamin_Peirce@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p>Caregiver Support Group</p>	<p>A drop-in support group for spouses, partners, or family members of cancer patients.</p>	<p>Tricia Hughes, LICSW Allison Dibiaso, LICSW</p>	<p>Day Group 12:00 pm-1:00 pm May 4 Evening Group 6:00 pm -7:00 pm May 16</p>	<p>Contact Tricia Hughes to register: Tricia_Hughes@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p>Circle of Life (Círculo de Vida): Support Group in Spanish for Women with Cancer</p>	<p>Support for Spanish-speaking patients with all cancer diagnoses. Women only.</p>	<p>Rachel Allende, LICSW</p>	<p>10:00 am – 11:30 am May 9 May 23</p>	<p>Contact Rachel Allende to register: 617-582-7339 Rachel_Allende@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p>Finding Our Way: A support group promoting mindful skills for anxious times</p>	<p>An 8-week group that teaches skills addressing the uncertainties of this challenging time. Open to Dana-Farber patients across all cancer diagnoses</p>	<p>Michelle Jacobo, PhD Tricia Hughes, LICSW</p>	<p>Currently accepting referrals for a start date in late spring, pending sufficient enrollment Mondays, 3:30 – 5 PM</p>	<p>Contact Tricia Hughes to register: Tricia_Hughes@dfci.harvard.edu</p>

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
Gynecologic Cancer Support Group	An open support group for patients who have been diagnosed with gynecologic cancer.	Bebe Nixon, LICSW	5:00 pm – 6:30 pm May 8	Contact Bebe Nixon to register: 617-582-7578 Bebe_Nixon@dfci.harvard.edu
Inflammatory Breast Cancer Support Group	The IBC support group has a psychoeducational focus; each session will feature a DFCI clinician who will speak about IBC in a supportive setting with open discussion.	Julie Salinger, LICSW	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm May 18	Contact Mariesa Powell to register: 617-632-2311
Kidney Cancer Support Group	A support group for Kidney cancer patients in active treatment or those who have recently completed treatment.	Larisa Patacchiola, LICSW	11:00 am – 12:00 pm May 11	Contact Larisa Patacchiola to register: 617-582-7576 Larisa_Patacchiola@dfci.harvard.edu
LGBTQ+ Support Group: Prism	A drop-in support group for LGBTQ+ identifying adults (18+) followed for a hematology or oncology at DFCI and/or other area hospitals.	Adam Lang, LCSW Laura Goodman, LICSW	5:30 pm – 7:00 pm May 19	Contact Laura Goodman to register: 617-485-5922 Laura_Goodman@dfci.harvard.edu
Lymphoma/CLL Support Group	A group for patients diagnosed with lymphoma or CLL. This is a chance to meet others, share experiences, comfort and support.	Christina Palis, LICSW	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm May 24	Contact Christina Palis to register: 617-582-7284 Christina_Palis@dfci.harvard.edu

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
Melanoma Support Group	Support group for patients in active treatment for melanoma.	Allison Dibiaso, LICSW	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm May 24	Contact Allison Dibiaso to register: 617-632-5163 AllisonM_Dibiaso@dfci.harvard.edu
Men over 50 Prostate Cancer Support Group	This is a patient-only support group for men over 50 in treatment for prostate cancer.	Bruce MacDonald, LICSW	5:30 pm – 7:00 pm May 9 May 30	Email Bruce MacDonald to register: Bruce_MacDonald@dfci.harvard.edu
Metastatic Gastrointestinal Cancer Support Group	A place to connect with others going through similar experiences, share stories, & support each other in challenging times.	Holly Barron, LICSW Alicia Remy, LICSW	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm May 16	Contact Holly Barron to register: 617-632-4353 Hollye_Barron@Dfci.harvard.edu
Multiple Myeloma Education and Discussion Group	A Multiple Myeloma related presentation followed by separate patient and caregiver discussion groups	Larisa Patacchiola, LICSW Christina Palis, LICSW	5:30 pm - 8:00 pm May 10	Contact Christina Palis to register: 617-582-7284 Christina_Palis@dfci.harvard.edu
Neuroendocrine & Carcinoid Seminar/Support Group Series	2-part session offering an informational session followed by a support group for patients and families.	Jane Bausch, LICSW	12:00 – 2:00 pm May 16	Contact Jane Bausch to register: 617-632-3309 Jane_Bausch@dfci.harvard.edu

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
One Year Post-Bone Marrow Transplant Support Group	A monthly support and education group for DFCI patients who have completed their one-year recovery from bone marrow transplant.	Kristy Katsetos, LICSW	3:30 pm - 5:00 pm May 10	Contact Kristy Katsetos to register: 617-582-8604 KristyA_Katsetos@dfci.harvard.edu
Prostate Cancer Support Group	The Prostate Health Education Network focuses on the needs of Black men diagnosed with prostate cancer.	Thomas Farrington Jacques Carter, MD	This group is not running in May. Call for details about future groups.	Contact Kristin Hughes to register: 617-632-4433 Kristin_Hughes@dfci.harvard.edu
Sarcoma Support Group	This monthly group for Sarcoma patients provides an opportunity for support and connection through sharing feelings, experiences, and challenges with the goal of decreasing isolation and building resiliency.	Bobbi Allison, LICSW	4:30 pm – 6:00 pm May 22	Contact Bobbi Allison to register: 617-632-3682 Roberta_Allison@dfci.harvard.edu
Stage IV Breast Cancer Support Groups	An opportunity for those with stage IV (metastatic) breast cancer to share emotional support.	Leora Lowenthal, LICSW Liz Farrell, LICSW Fremonta Meyer, MD	3:00 pm – 4:30 pm Thursday, May 11 Facilitated by Leora Lowenthal & Fremonta Meyer, MD ~ 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Tuesday, May 16 Tuesday, May 23 Facilitated by Liz Farrell & Fremonta Meyer, MD	Contact Leora Lowenthal to register for Thursday group: 617-485-5958 Leora_Lowenthal@dfci.harvard.edu ~ Contact Liz Farrell to register for Tuesday groups: 617-632-5606 ElizabethE_Farrell@dfci.harvard.edu

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
<p>Thriving Beyond Breast Cancer</p>	<p>The transition from active treatment to maintenance and monitoring can be challenging physically, emotionally, and mentally. Over the course of six, ninety-minute sessions, our group will discuss a different topic relevant to moving forward after breast cancer.</p>	<p>Jess Mosey, LICSW</p>	<p>7:00 pm -8:30 pm May 23</p>	<p>Contact Jess Mosey to register: 857-215-2407 Jessica_Mosey@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p>TOP Talks (Thoracic Oncology Program)</p>	<p>Presentations from professionals in the DFCI community followed by an opportunity for thoracic oncology patients to connect and learn from each other.</p>	<p>Sydney Appelbaum, LICSW</p>	<p>2:15 pm – 3:45 pm May 11</p>	<p>Contact Sydney Appelbaum to register: 617-582-8772 Sydney_Appelbaum@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p>YOCCC (Young Onset Colorectal Cancer Center) Caregiver Support Group</p>	<p>A support group for adult caregivers of patients with young onset colorectal cancer (diagnosed under age 50).</p>	<p>Kalen Fletcher, LICSW</p>	<p>5:00 pm – 6:00 pm May 3</p>	<p>Contact Kalen Fletcher to register: 617-632-5605 Kalen_Fletcher@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p>YOCCC Stage IV Lunch Break Group</p>	<p>Connect with others treated for stage IV colorectal cancer (diagnosed under age 50). This will be an informal space where you can talk with people who get it.</p>	<p>Kalen Fletcher, LICSW</p>	<p>12:00 pm – 1:00 pm May 11</p>	<p>Contact Kalen Fletcher to register: 617-632-5605 Kalen_Fletcher@dfci.harvard.edu</p>

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
<p>YOCCC Survivorship and Early-stage Group</p>	<p>Connect with others treated for early stage (I, II and III) colorectal cancer and those who have recently completed treatment (diagnosed under age 50). This will be an informal space to talk with people who get it.</p>	<p>Laura Goodman, LICSW</p>	<p>12:00 pm – 1:00 pm May 10</p>	<p>Contact Laura Goodman to register: 617-485-5922 Laura_Goodman@DFCI.harvard.edu</p>
<p>Young Adult Breast Cancer Support Group</p>	<p>This group is facilitated in the spring and fall. This 6-week group gives young patients and survivors an opportunity to discuss relevant topics. This group is best suited for those who were diagnosed with early-stage (0-III) breast cancer before age 45 and are within 12 months of the diagnosis</p>	<p>Megan DelSesto, LICSW</p>	<p>Registration is closed for the spring 2023 cohort. Please reach out if you are interested in the fall 2023 cohort.</p>	<p>For more details or to register, please email youngandstrong@partners.org</p>
<p>Young Adult Support Group</p>	<p>This group is open to young adult patients in their 20's and 30's who are in treatment or recently out of treatment. The group meets only when 5 or more people commit to attend. A reminder email is sent prior to the group meeting date.</p>	<p>Kalen Fletcher, LICSW</p>	<p>5:30 pm – 7:00 pm May 17</p>	<p>Email yap@dfci.harvard.edu to register.</p>
<p>Waldenström's Macroglobulinemia Peer Support Forum</p>	<p>Open to all WM patients and families in New England regardless of where treatment is received.</p>	<p>Eileen Sullivan Christopher Patterson</p>	<p>1:00 pm -3:00 pm May 21</p>	<p>Please email Christopher Patterson to register: Christopher_patterson@dfci.harvard.edu</p>



Dana-Farber
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Brigham Cancer Center

At Milford Regional Medical Center

**DF/BWCC at Milford
Regional Medical Center**
20 Prospect Street, Milford, MA
01757

All Programs are FREE

PROGRAM	DATE & TIME	DESCRIPTION
<p>Coping with Cancer Support Group</p>	<p>Second Tuesday of every month 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 9 	<p>A support group for men and women living with cancer. Discuss ways to cope with fear and anxiety and share hope and meaning with others facing similar challenges. Call Mellissa Rearick, LICSW, to register and/or for more information at 508-488-3783. Family members are welcome.</p>
<p>Breast Cancer Support Group</p>	<p>Second Wednesday of every month 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 10 	<p>An opportunity for women who would like to meet with others to explore ways to cope with their diagnosis and its effect on their lives through education and support. Facilitated by Mellissa Rearick, LICSW, and MaryBeth Proulx, RN. Call Mellissa Rearick to register at 508-488-3783.</p>



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Dana-Farber/New Hampshire Oncology-Hematology

**DF/New Hampshire
Oncology-Hematology**
40 Buttrick Rd., Londonderry, NH
All Programs are FREE

PROGRAM	DATE & TIME	DESCRIPTION
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Londonderry will not be holding any support groups during May 2023.



Brigham Cancer Center

In clinical affiliation with South Shore Hospital

DF/BWCC at South Shore Hospital, Weymouth, MA
101 Columbian St., South Weymouth, MA 02190
 All programs are free.
 Free parking available in adjacent garage.

PROGRAM	DATE & TIME	DESCRIPTION
<p>Prostate Support Group</p>	<p>Second Wednesday of every month</p> <p>6:30 pm – 8:00 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 10 	<p>This is an opportunity for men with prostate cancer to share experiences, information, and resources.</p> <p>To register, email Michael Gutierrez, LICSW, 781-624-8328 or Mgutierrez@southshorehealth.org</p> <p>Patients can join via zoom or can attend in person in the 1st floor conference room at 101 Columbian Street, South Weymouth</p>



Dana-Farber
Cancer Institute

at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center

**DFCI at St. Elizabeth's Medical
Center**

736 Cambridge Street/CCP5

Brighton, MA 02135-2907

All programs are free. Call 617-789-2662

PROGRAM	DATE & TIME	DESCRIPTION
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DFCI at St. Elizabeth's will not be holding any support groups during May 2023.



Dana-Farber
Cancer Institute

DFCI - Merrimack Valley
5 Branch Street
Methuen, MA 01844
All programs are free. Call 978-620-2020

PROGRAM	DATE & TIME	DESCRIPTION
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Merrimack Valley will not be holding any support groups during May 2023.

DF/BWCC – Foxborough
22 Patriot Place, 2nd floor
Foxborough, MA
All programs are free.

PROGRAM	DATE & TIME	DESCRIPTION
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Foxborough will not be holding any support groups during May 2023.



[ADDITIONAL ADULT PATIENT/FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS DURING COVID-19](#)

[For More Information about patient and family resources during COVID-19, please visit: <https://www.dana-farber.org/covid-19-facts-and-resources/covid-19-information-for-our-patients>](#)

[Family Connections Program: For Parents with Cancer](#)

Provides supportive resources to adult patients who are parents, addressing their needs as parents and those of their young, school age, and/or teenaged children. Age-appropriate information is available through various materials, including:

- Parent information binder for adult patients/adults in the family (digital version available in English and Spanish)
- Age-based packs for children/teens of patients
- Grief information

For more information, please call 617-632-3301 (Social Work main office).

Visit: www.dfci.org/familyconnections.

[One-to-One: Connecting with Someone Who's Been There](#)

One-to-One is a volunteer support network that offers matches via telephone for current patients, partners, and caregivers who have experienced the complex issues surrounding high-risk cancer, diagnosis and treatment with current patients, partners, and family members. For more information, call 617-632-4020 or visit: www.dfci.org/onetoone.

[SoulMates](#)

For individuals facing a breast cancer diagnosis, connecting to someone with a similar experience can be a great source of comfort. Our SoulMates program matches breast cancer patients at Dana-Farber with volunteers who have been through a similar journey. SoulMates participants can benefit from the insight of a peer mentor who is trained in topics such as listening, problem solving, and confidentiality. These volunteers offer emotional support, practical coping tips, and more. They guide patients to Dana-Farber programs and community resources. Most importantly, they help relieve fears and concerns because they understand what it's like to face cancer. This program is currently open to women of all ages with breast cancer who are receiving their treatment at Dana-Farber. Volunteers must be out of active treatment for at least two years. For more information, call Anna Lunsford at 857-215-5042.