



**ADULT SUPPORT VIRTUAL GROUPS/PROGRAMS**  
**Division of Social Work**  
**September 2022**

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.dfc.org/supportgroups](http://www.dfc.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 September 2022. Another calendar will be circulated next month. Additional meetings will be held in upcoming months.

<b>Support Service</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Facilitation</b>	<b>Time &amp; dates</b>	<b>Contact</b>
<b>Bereavement Support Group</b>	Six-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
<b>Behavioral Therapy for Cancer-related Pain</b>	A 6-week group that teaches behavioral skills to patients with chronic cancer pain.	Michelle Jacobo, PhD  Karen Mott, NP  Miryam Yusuf PhD	Call for details.	Current Session Closed.  Contact Michelle Jacobo to register for future groups:  mjacobop@partners.org
<b>BIPOC Support Group: Rest and Resilience, A patient support group for those who identify as Black, Indigenous, or as a person of color</b>	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	6:00 pm -7:00 pm  September 15	Contact Natalie Alas to register: 857-215-7204  Natalie_AlasDuran@dfci.harvard.edu

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
<p><b>Brain Tumor Support Group</b></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  September 26</p>	<p>Contact Ben Peirce to register: 617-632-4236  Benjamin_Peirce@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>Caregiver Support Group</b></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 September 1  Evening Group 6:00 pm -7:00 pm September 20</p>	<p>Contact Tricia Hughes to register:  Tricia_Hughes@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>Circle of Life (Círculo de Vida): Support Group in Spanish for Women with Cancer</b></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  September 13 September 27</p>	<p>Contact Rachel Allende to register: 617-582-7339  Rachel_Allende@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>EGFR Lung Cancer Support Group</b></p>	<p>In this 4-week course, you are invited to join other people living with EGFR mutant lung cancer to learn evidenced-based coping tools, share resources, and connect with one another.</p>	<p>Suzanne Welsh Lobacki, LICSW  Michelle Jacobo, PhD</p>	<p>3:00 pm - 4:30 pm  September 27 October 4 October 11 October 18</p>	<p>Contact Suzanne Welsh Lobacki to register: 617-632-6849  Suzanne_WelshLobacki@dfci.harvard.edu</p>

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
<p><b>Facing Forward after Breast Cancer Treatment</b></p>	<p>This 6-session series is for patients who have recently completed or are about to complete treatment for breast cancer. A different topic/ speaker will be highlighted at each session.</p>	<p>Cristina Turner, LICSW</p>	<p>Call or email for details about the fall group.</p>	<p>Cristina Turner to register: 617-485-5682  Cristina_Turner@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>Finding Our Way: A support group promoting mindful skills for anxious times</b></p>	<p>A 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>Email for details.</p>	<p>Contact Tricia Hughes to register:  Tricia_Hughes@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>Gynecologic Cancer Support Group</b></p>	<p>An open support group for patients who have been diagnosed with gynecologic cancer.</p>	<p>Bebe Nixon, LICSW</p>	<p>5:00 pm – 6:30 pm  September 12</p>	<p>Contact Bebe Nixon to register: 617-582-7578  Bebe_Nixon@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>Inflammatory Breast Cancer Support Group</b></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Julie Salinger, LICSW</p>	<p>12:30 pm – 1:30 pm  September 15</p>	<p>Contact Julie Salinger to register: 617-582-8081  JulieL_Salinger@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>Kidney cancer Support Group</b></p>	<p>A support group for Kidney cancer patients in active treatment or those who have recently completed treatment.</p>	<p>Larisa Patacchiola, LICSW</p>	<p>11:00 am – 12:00 pm  September 8</p>	<p>Contact Larisa Patacchiola to register: 617-582-7576  Larisa_Patacchiola@dfci.harvard.edu</p>

<b>Support Service</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Facilitation</b>	<b>Time &amp; dates</b>	<b>Contact</b>
<b>Laryngectomy Support Group Meeting</b>	For patients who have had laryngectomies and their caregivers	Irene Goss-Werner, LICSW	5:00 pm – 6:00 pm September 21	Contact Irene Goss-Werner to register: 617-632-5836  Irene_goss-werner@dfci.harvard.edu
<b>LGBTQ+ Support Group: Prism</b>	A drop-in support group for LGBTQ+ identifying individuals followed for a cancer diagnosis at DFCI and/or other area hospitals.	Adam Lang, LCSW  Laura Goodman, LICSW	5:30 pm – 6:30 pm September 21	Contact Laura Goodman to register: 617-485-5922  Laura_Goodman@dfci.harvard.edu
<b>Lymphoma/CLL Support Group</b>	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 September 28	Contact Christina Palis to register: 617-582-7284  Christina_Palis@dfci.harvard.edu
<b>Melanoma Support Group</b>	Support group for patients in active treatment for melanoma.	Allison Dibiaso, LICSW	5:30 pm – 7:00 pm September 28	Contact Allison Dibiaso to register: 617-632-5163  AllisonM_Dibiaso@dfci.harvard.edu
<b>Men over 50 Prostate Cancer Support Group</b>	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 September 6 September 20	Email Bruce MacDonald to register: Bruce_MacDonald@dfci.harvard.edu

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
<p><b>Multiple Myeloma Education and Discussion Group</b></p>	<p>A multiple myeloma related educational presentation followed by separate patient and caregiver discussion groups</p>	<p>Larisa Patacchiola, LICSW  Christina Palis, LICSW</p>	<p>5:30 pm - 8:00 pm  September 14</p>	<p>Contact Christina Palis to register: 617-582-7284  Christina_Palis@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>One Year Post-Bone Marrow Transplant Support Group</b></p>	<p>A monthly support and education group for DFCI patients who have completed their one-year recovery from bone marrow transplant.</p>	<p>Kristy Katsetos, LICSW</p>	<p>5:00 pm - 6:30 pm  September 14</p>	<p>Contact Kristy Katsetos to register: 617-582-8604  KristyA_Katsetos@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>Prostate Cancer Support Group</b></p>	<p>The Prostate Health Education Network focuses on the needs of Black men diagnosed with prostate cancer.</p>	<p>Thomas Farrington  Jacques Carter, MD</p>	<p>This group is not running in September.  Call for details about future groups.</p>	<p>Contact Kristin Hughes to register: 617-632-4433  Kristin_Hughes@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>Sarcoma Support Group</b></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Bobbi Allison, LICSW</p>	<p>12:00 pm - 1:30 pm  September 26</p>	<p>Contact Bobbi Allison to register: 617-632-3682  Roberta_Allison@dfci.harvard.edu</p>

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
<p><b>Stage IV Breast Cancer Support Groups</b></p>	<p>An opportunity for those with stage IV (metastatic) breast cancer to share emotional support.</p>	<p>Leora Lowenthal, LICSW Liz Farrell, LICSW Fremonta Meyer, MD</p>	<p>3:00 pm – 4:30 pm Thursday, September 8 Facilitated by Leora Lowenthal &amp; Fremonta Meyer, MD ~ 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Tuesday, September 20 Tuesday, September 27 Facilitated by Liz Farrell &amp; Fremonta Meyer, MD</p>	<p>Contact Leora Lowenthal to register for Thursday group: 857-215-1792 Leora_Lowenthal@dfci.harvard.edu ~ Contact Liz Farrell to register for Tuesday groups: 617-632-5606 ElizabethE_Farrell@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>Thyroid Cancer Center Education and Support Group</b></p>	<p>A quarterly series devoted to patients and families affected by Thyroid cancer. A 2-part session offering an informational presentation followed by discussion to share and network with others.</p>	<p>Irene Goss-Werner, LICSW Tura Coombs, BSN, RN</p>	<p>This group is not running in September.</p>	<p>Contact Irene Goss-Werner to register: 617-632-5836 Irene_Goss-Werner@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>TOP Talks (Thoracic Oncology Program)</b></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 September 8</p>	<p>Contact Sydney Appelbaum to register: 617-582-8772 Sydney_Appelbaum@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>YOCCC (Young Onset Colorectal Cancer Center) Caregiver Support Group</b></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 September 7</p>	<p>Contact Kalen Fletcher to register: 617-632-5605 Kalen_Fletcher@dfci.harvard.edu</p>

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
<p><b>YOCCC Stage IV Lunch Break Group</b></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  September 8</p>	<p>Contact Kalen Fletcher to register: 617-632-5605  Kalen_Fletcher@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>YOCCC Survivorship and Early-stage Group</b></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>5:15 pm – 6:15 pm  September 14</p>	<p>Contact Laura Goodman to register: 617-485-5922  Laura_Goodman@DFCI.harvard.edu</p>
<p><b>Young Adult Breast Cancer Support Group</b></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 Donovan, LICSW</p>	<p>Please email if you are interested in the fall 2022 cohort.</p>	<p>For more details or to register, please email youngandstrong@partners.org</p>
<p><b>Young Adult Support Group</b></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  September 21</p>	<p>Email yap@dfci.harvard.edu to register.</p>

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<p><b>Waldenström's Macroglobulinemia Peer Support Forum</b></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>Email for details.</p>	<p>Please email Christopher Patterson to register: Christopher_patterson@dfci.harvard.edu</p>



**DF/BWCC at Milford  
Regional Medical Center**  
20 Prospect Street, Milford, MA  
01757  
All Programs are FREE

PROGRAM	DATE & TIME	DESCRIPTION
<b>Coping with Cancer Support Group</b>	Second Tuesday of every month 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• September 13</li> </ul>	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.
<b>Breast Cancer Support Group</b>	Second Wednesday of every month 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• September 14</li> </ul>	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.



**Dana-Farber**  
Cancer Institute



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

Dana-Farber/New Hampshire Oncology-Hematology

PROGRAM	DATE & TIME	DESCRIPTION
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**Londonderry will not be holding any support groups during September 2022.**

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
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**DF/BWCC at South Shore Hospital will not be holding any support groups during  
September 2022.**



**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 September 2022.**



**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 September 2022.**

**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 September 2022.**



## [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](http://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](http://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 Katie Infantine at 617-237-0498.