



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

Many of our adult patient/family groups and programs listed below are currently being 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.

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 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	This group is accepting referrals	Contact Michelle Jacobo to register for future groups: mjacobo@partners.org
Brain Tumor Support Group	Bringing patients and caregivers together to share experiences, feelings and challenges associated with brain tumors.	Debra LaFrankie, RN, OCN Ben Peirce, LICSW	1:30 pm – 3:00 pm September 25	Contact Ben Peirce to register: 617-632-4236 Benjamin_Peirce@ dfci.harvard.edu

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
<p>Caregiver Support Group</p>	<p>A drop-in support group for spouses, partners, or family members of cancer patients.</p>	<p>Christina Palis, LICSW Allison Dibiaso, LICSW</p>	<p>Day Group 12:00 pm-1:00 pm September 7 Evening Group 6:00 pm -7:00 pm September 19</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 September 12 September 26</p>	<p>Contact Rachel Allende to register: 617-582-7339 Rachel_Allende@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p>Gynecologic Cancer Support Group</p>	<p>An open support group for patients who have been diagnosed with gynecologic cancer.</p>	<p>Christina Palis, LICSW</p>	<p>5:00 pm – 6:30 pm September 11</p>	<p>Contact Christina Palis to register: 617-582-7284 Christina_Palis@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p>Inflammatory Breast Cancer Support Group</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>Jess Mosey, LICSW</p>	<p>12:00 pm – 1:00 pm September 20</p>	<p>Contact Mariesa Powell to register: 617-632-2311</p>

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
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 September 14	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 – 6:30 pm September 20	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 September 20	Contact Christina Palis to register: 617-582-7284 Christina_Palis@dfci.harvard.edu
Melanoma Support Group	Support group for patients in active treatment for melanoma.	Allison Dibiaso, LICSW	6:00 pm – 7:00 pm September 27	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 Sept 12	Email Bruce MacDonald to register: Bruce_MacDonald@dfci.harvard.edu

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
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 September 19	Contact Alicia Remy to register: 617-632-2956 Alicia_Remy@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 September 13	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 September 19	Contact Jane Bausch to register: 617-632-3309 Jane_Bausch@dfci.harvard.edu
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	5:00 pm - 6:30 pm September 13	Contact Kristy Katsetos to register: 617-582-8604 KristyA_Katsetos@dfci.harvard.edu

Support Service	Membership	Facilitation	Time & dates	Contact
<p>Prostate Cancer Support Group</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>Tula Mahl Phone number: 617-582-9333 Tula_mahl@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p>Sarcoma Support Group</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>4:30 pm – 6:00 pm September 25</p>	<p>Contact Bobbi Allison to register: 617-632-3682 Roberta_Allison@dfci.harvard.edu</p>
<p>Stage IV Breast Cancer Support Groups</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 14 Facilitated by Leora Lowenthal & Fremonta Meyer, MD ~ 1:00 pm -2:30 pm Tuesday, September 19 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm Tuesday, September 26 Facilitated by Liz Farrell & Fremonta Meyer, MD</p>	<p>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</p>

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 90-minute sessions, our group will discuss a different topic relevant to moving forward after breast cancer.</p>	<p>Jess Mosey, LICSW</p>	<p>Please call or email for details of the next group and to be added to the waitlist.</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 September 14</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 September 6</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 September 14</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 September 13</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>Please reach out if you are interested in the fall 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 September 20</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 September 10</p>	<p>Please email Christopher Patterson to register: Christopher_patterson@dfci.harvard.edu</p>



Dana-Farber
Cancer Institute



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"> September 12 	<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"> September 13 	<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>



Dana-Farber
Cancer Institute



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 September 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"> September 13 	<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 September 2023.



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

PROGRAM	DATE & TIME	DESCRIPTION
<p>Coping with Cancer Support Group</p>	<p>Third Monday of every month</p> <p>12:00 pm – 1:30 pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 18 	<p>Patients in active treatment and up to 6 months post treatment. Caregivers welcome.</p> <p>Facilitated by Erin Solomon LICSW, ErinC.Solomon@DFCI.HARVARD.EDU & Lenka Phelps LICSW, LenkaM.Phelps@DFCI.HARVARD.EDU</p> <p>Please register by calling (978) 620-2020; ask to be connected to social work.</p> <p>This is an in-person group located at 5 Branch St, Methuen, Quiet Room on the 1st floor (next to cafeteria)</p>



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 2023.



ADDITIONAL ADULT PATIENT/FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

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.