

ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS

Ava Barron-Shasho, LCSW-C began practicing social work in 1993. In 2006, Ava joined the Hopewell staff facilitating participant groups and expressive arts workshops. Ava also has a private practice in Baltimore and specializes in working with trauma survivors and anxiety disorders.

Nancy-Bets Hay, LCSW-C, a clinical social worker, has been a group facilitator and workshop presenter at HopeWell Cancer Support for over 18 years and is in private practice as a psychotherapist. She earned her Masters' degree in Social Work and changed careers in order to work with cancer patients and their families after her own experience with breast cancer 23 years ago.

Tom Large, LCSW-C, CGP has been the Clinical Director at HopeWell Cancer Support since 2001. From 1993-2000, he was Program Director at HopeWell. In addition to his work here, he also has a private practice in Baltimore.

Anita Mentzer, LSCW-C, has been a clinical social worker for 26 years. She has been a group facilitator at HopeWell since 2008. She also worked in the field of Pediatric Oncology/Hematology for 7 years and currently works in an outpatient primary care medical setting.

Karen Rabins, LCSW-C, has facilitated various support groups at HopeWell for 10 years. She has worked in home and inpatient hospice, and is currently the social worker for a Baltimore synagogue. She, too, has a limited private practice.

HopeWell Cancer Support's mission is to create a community for all people with cancer, their families and friends, that encourages an exchange of information, the development of a support system and the presence of hope.

HOPEWELL CANCER SUPPORT IS AN APPROVED SPONSOR OF THE MARYLAND BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS FOR LICENSED SOCIAL WORKERS IN MARYLAND.



TABOO TOPICS & TOUGH SITUATIONS

Challenging Conversations and Dynamics in Oncology Support Groups

A CONTINUING EDUCATION WORKSHOP FOR HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS WITH:

Ava Barron-Shasho, LCSW-C
Nancy-Bets Hay, LCSW-C
Tom Large, LCSW-C, CGP
Anita Mentzer, LCSW-C
Karen Rabins, LCSW-C

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2011
8:30 AM TO 12:15 PM
10628 FALLS ROAD
LUTHERVILLE, MD 21093

APPROVED FOR 3 SOCIAL WORK CATEGORY I CEUS BY THE MD BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

HopeWell
CANCER SUPPORT



Purpose

Every group leader will be confronted by clients and clinical situations that are personally challenging. From the routine strains of group formation and resistances to extreme differences in membership, character disorders, and many other unique dynamics, no cancer group unfolds quite the way we imagine it will. Leaders try to manage such challenges in the best interests of both the individual and the group. Recognizing impasses, deciding what is workable and what is not, and developing appropriate strategies is crucial to provide patients and families the best chance for receiving good group support.

This workshop is designed for social workers, nurses, counselors, physicians and others interested in developing greater skill in group work with cancer patients and families. Presenters will review the “common” challenges that can occur as well as the taboo topics patients and care-givers have difficulty talking about. Techniques for assessing behaviors and interactions that hinder group work will be presented as will effective ways for bridging differences and helping participants work through deep ambivalence about taboo topics.

OBJECTIVES

Participants will:

- *Enhance their understanding of what factors and dynamics help or hinder successful oncology support groups.*
- *Understand the role they play as group facilitators and their use of self.*
- *Explore challenging clinical dilemmas, both topical and situational, and their impact on the group process.*
- *Identify strategies and techniques for assessing and managing challenging behaviors, interactions, differences and taboo topics,*

Schedule

8:30 – 9:00	Registration and Coffee
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome and Introductions A Framework for our Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Groups that Fly and Groups that Flop– Understanding the Part We Play as Facilitators
9:30 – 10:30	Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Common Challenging Situations and their Impact on the Group– Challenging Conversations Leaders Can’t Avoid
10:30 – 10:45	Break
10:45 – noon	Round Table Sessions and Group Problem Solving – Suggested Topics <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Addiction and cancer– When partners have differing approaches to treatment– Managing Characterological issues– Body Image
12:00 – 12:15	Final Thoughts Evaluation Lunch

TABOO TOPICS & TOUGH SITUATIONS

Challenging Conversations and Dynamics
in Oncology Support Groups

COST \$50.00 (includes continental breakfast, lunch and materials)
A confirmation letter will be sent upon receipt of registration
and payment. Payment is due by **September 19, 2011**.

TO REGISTER Return the registration form along with a check payable
to HopeWell Cancer Support. Our address is P.O. Box 755,
Brooklandville, MD 21022.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL 410.832.2719



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