

# CONNECTING TO CARE

Resources for your journey with cancer

JULY 2023

The newsletter for patients, employees, and friends of Karmanos Cancer Institute at McLaren Flint

## WHAT'S NEW FOR JULY?

All workshops and materials are provided free of charge. See page 2 for additional information.

Page 2 **Emotional Support Programs**

Page 3 **Hospitality House at McLaren Flint: Providing a Home-Away-From-Home**

Page 4 **Resources**



CANCER INSTITUTE

Wayne State University



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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

- Malala Yousafzai

# SUPPORT GROUPS

## CANCER EDUCATION AND WELLNESS GROUP

**ONLINE - First and third Wednesday of each month from 12:00-2:00 pm**

This group is open to anyone who has been diagnosed with cancer. For more information, contact Erin Simonetti, BSN, Registered Art Therapist, at [erin.simonetti@mclaren.org](mailto:erin.simonetti@mclaren.org).

**SUPPORT GROUPS DO NOT MEET DURING THE MONTH OF JULY**

## MULTIPLE MYELOMA SUPPORT GROUP

**ONLINE - Third Thursday of each month 6:30 - 8:00 pm**

**Meetings held September through June**

For more information, call (810) 820-1592 or email [Flintsgl@IMFSupport.org](mailto:Flintsgl@IMFSupport.org).  
Website: [flint.support.myeloma.org](http://flint.support.myeloma.org)

## NEW TOMORROWS GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Free ongoing grief education and support for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. For information, call (810) 496-8625.

## BIBLE STUDY

**Meets weekly on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm**

McLaren Hospitality House  
To RSVP or for more information, please contact the McLaren Hospitality House at (810) 820-9800.



Please join us for our free art therapy program for families touched by cancer. This includes all cancer fighters, survivors, previvors, caregivers, and their friends/family (ages 18+). Expect to meet individuals within our community who are seeking emotional support, creativity, and education.

Art Therapy is a visual form of expression used to promote self-discovery, externalize emotions, and reduce stress. Group and one-on-one art therapy sessions are offered each week. No art experience is needed to participate.

Expect to use basic art materials in class to enhance the therapeutic experience. If you do not have basic art supplies at home, we can provide them for you. If you are interested in joining, please contact Erin Simonetti, Registered Art Therapist.

- Individual art therapy sessions
- Group art therapy sessions (in person and online)

**Healing Through Art** is supported by Genesee Health System, Stella & Frederick Loeb Charitable Trust, Diagnostic Radiology Associates of Flint, P.C., The Gayar Foundation, Flint Institute of Arts, and generous donations from the community.

To learn more about Healing Through Art, go to [karmanos.org/flintarttherapy](http://karmanos.org/flintarttherapy), or contact:

**Erin Simonetti, M.Ed., ATR**  
*Registered Art Therapist and Health Coach*  
[erin.simonetti@mclaren.org](mailto:erin.simonetti@mclaren.org)  
**(810) 342-4206**



Hospitality House at McLaren Flint  
**CELEBRATING 10 YEARS  
 OF PROVIDING A HOME-AWAY-  
 FROM-HOME**

Patients, especially those with serious conditions, and their caregivers have so many concerns, McLaren Flint doesn't want where they will sleep or have their next meal to be among them. That is why, 10 years ago, McLaren built the Hospitality House, a home-away from home on the hospital campus.

Along with 32 comfortable guest rooms, Hospitality House boasts a large kitchen, able to accommodate four families at a time. It houses a library, craft and game rooms, beautiful seating areas in and outdoors, and laundry facilities. Hospitality House even provides toiletries for weary patients and caregivers who land there in emergency situations. All of it comes for a small, recommended donation.

For families in need, all this comfort comes free of charge, said Hospitality House Director Teresa Williams, "We will never turn anyone away, regardless of their ability to pay."

More than creature comforts Hospitality House offers much needed peace of mind to those often struggling with difficult diagnosis and high-stress situations, and a safe retreat where they can decompress and heal.

Learn more about how you can support the Hospitality House and its guests at [mclaren.org/hospitalityhouse](http://mclaren.org/hospitalityhouse)



**"It was so easy for me. I didn't have to worry about where to stay. It was clean and quiet. The people there were wonderful."**

– Apollo Molina  
 Proton Therapy Patient



**"It will make you feel more relaxed. It's just a really nice place to ease your mind. They have everything that you need."**

– Tyreasa Jackson Murray  
 Patient's Mother



**"It was a Godsend. It turned the impossible to the possible, and I could financially and logistically get the proton therapy."**

– Mary Ann  
 Breast Cancer Patient





# CONNECTING ANY CANCER ANY STAGE ANY AGE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD

## HOW WE HELP CANCER FIGHTERS, SURVIVORS, AND PREVIOUSORS

Through our personalized matching process, people diagnosed with cancer are connected with someone who has faced a similar cancer situation (a Mentor Angel). While each cancer experience is unique, Mentor Angels are matched by similar age, gender, and diagnosis, providing cancer fighters the opportunity to ask personal questions and receive support from a peer familiar with the situation who can offer empathy in a way others cannot.

## HOW WE HELP CANCER CAREGIVERS AND LOVED ONES

Imerman Angels connects those caring for – or grieving – the loss of a loved one with Caregiver Mentor Angels who can help provide support and comfort throughout their journeys. A loved one may be a family member (such as a child, parent, spouse, sibling, or grandparent) or a friend who has survived or currently has cancer.

**OUR SERVICE IS FREE FOR EVERYONE**

## Visit [imermanangels.org](http://imermanangels.org)

Click the “Request Support” link on our website and fill out the registration form. You can also call us at **1-866-IMERMAN** (463-7626).

## LOOKING FOR HELP?

Let us introduce you to...

### Erin Simonetti, MEd, ATR

Registered Art Therapist  
(810) 342-4206

- Individual art therapy in office and online
- Group art therapy sessions offered online
- Continuing support after treatment ends

### Christine LaMay

Patient Accounts Coordinator for Radiation Therapy  
(810) 342-3803

- Help with questions regarding financial options and medical costs
- Insurance verification
- Help with insurance education

### Dawn Renee Kleinschrodt

Patient Accounts Coordinator for Proton Therapy  
(810) 342-3837

### Drita Nukulovic, RN

Proton Research Nurse Navigator  
(810) 342-5674

- Clarification of medical concerns and information
- Referral to community resources
- Liaison between physician offices

- Coordination of medical appointments

### Proton Patient Navigator

(810) 342-3875

### Jamie Spicko, MS, RD

Registered Dietitian  
(810) 342-3823

- Nutritional information specific to each cancer patient
- Supplemental nutritional assistance

### Carrie Haneckow, BSN, RN

(810) 342-4848

### Anna Glasstetter, BSN, RN

(810) 342-5687

- Oncology Nurse Navigators
- Clarification of medical concerns and information
- Referral to community resources
- Liaison between physician offices
- Coordination of medical appointments

## Additional Karmanos Cancer Institute at McLaren Flint Resources

### Lisa Priestap, PT, MSPT

### Robin Doak, OTRL, CLT

### Emily Carvill, MA CCC-SLP

Cancer Rehabilitation Specialists  
(810) 342-5350

- Physical, occupational, and speech therapy for cancer-specific disability
- Evaluation of physical dysfunction
- Improvement of overall physical disability
- Patient education on the benefits of exercise throughout cancer care
- Evaluation and treatment of speech, cognitive function, and swallowing difficulties

### Chris Hurley, LPN

Central Intake Manager  
McLaren Homecare Group  
(810) 323-5974

- Home health care
- Palliative care
- Hospice services
- Medical supplies and equipment
- Home infusion services

### Ashley Cosenza, MS

Karmanos Cancer Genetic Counseling Service  
Certified Genetic Counselor  
Phone: (810) 342-3854  
Fax: (810) 342-3855

Email: [genetics@karmanos.org](mailto:genetics@karmanos.org)  
Website: [karmanos.org/genetics](http://karmanos.org/genetics)



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If you or someone you know would like to be added or removed from the Cancer Institute Newsletter mailing list, please contact [Erin.Simonetti@mclaren.org](mailto:Erin.Simonetti@mclaren.org).

The information needed is the person's first and last name and their full mailing address: street number, street name, city, and zip code.

(810) 342-3800  
[karmanos.org/flintcancer](http://karmanos.org/flintcancer)

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