

News  
from

# FIGHTING CHANCE

Counseling and Resource Center for Cancer Patients



November 2009



**Renu Hausen, MD** rises to address the Day of Hope audience of over 250 cancer patients. It's Saturday, September 23rd at The Bay Street Theatre in Sag Harbor. Renu is a radiation oncologist and a member of the Board of Directors of Fighting Chance.

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## From the Chairman

Fighting Chance produces the Day of Hope once every two years to address a "health disparity." Urban dwellers, you see, seem to be the "first to know" about scientific breakthroughs in curing cancer. About two years later, cancer patients in a rural setting find out about these life-saving measures. But, they're the "last to learn."

On the Day of Hope, hundreds of cancer patients on the East End gather to hear from a panel of elite oncologists. They find out about cutting edge therapies before most oncologists even know about them. For one day, at least, they join the ranks of the very best educated cancer patients.



**Duncan Darrow**  
Founder and Chairman  
Fighting Chance





Three of the panelists -- Doctors Adler, Emanuele and Schulman are interviewed by Wendy Moonan, long-time writer for *The New York Times*.



Fighting Chance staffer, Vanessa Petruccelli, waiting for guests to arrive.

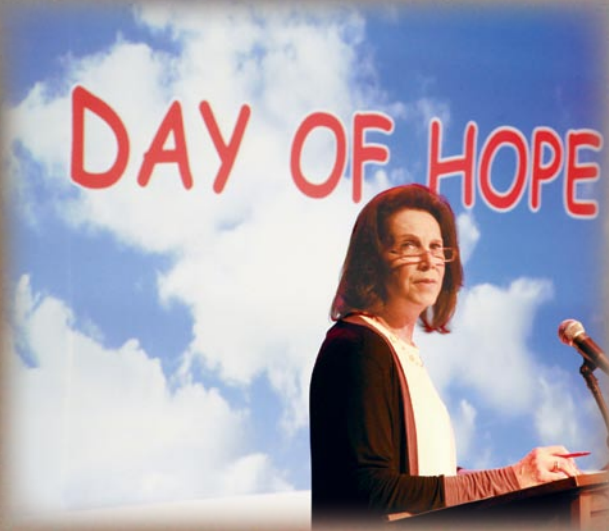


One of the volunteers from Stella Maris Elementary School in Sag Harbor.



Dr. Valdes (far right) -- a breast cancer surgeon from Southampton Hospital arrives -- along with Bob Challoner the hospital's CEO.



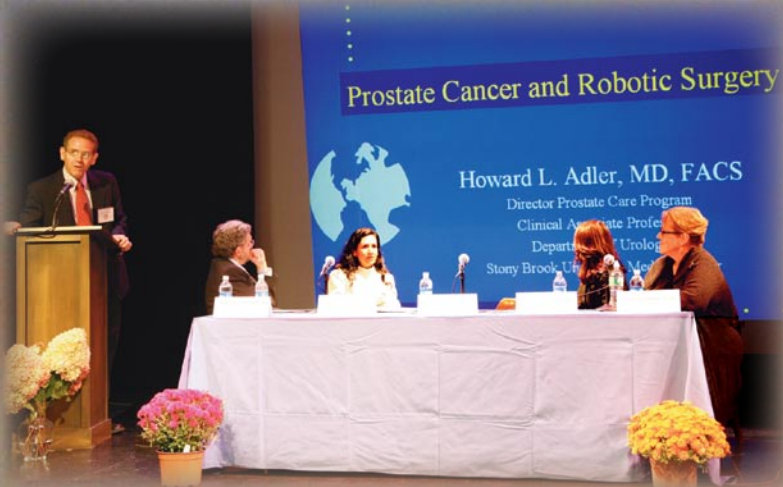


Panel members are introduced by the Symposium Moderator, Karrie Robinson, LCSW. For five years Karrie has served as an oncology social worker at Fighting Chance and its Director of Clinical Programs.



The panel is ready. From left to right: Dr. Schulman of Memorial Sloan-Kettering; Dr. Valdes from Southampton Hospital; Dr. Adler from Stony Brook University Hospital; Dr. Hausen from North Fork Radiation Oncology; and Dr. Emanuele, also affiliated with Southampton Hospital.





Dr. Adler addresses minimally invasive surgery for prostate cancer, by using robotic assistance from the new “da Vinci System.”



Dr. Schulman begins his talk on advances in treating leukemia, lymphoma and multiple myeloma.



Dr. Valdes talks about checking a patient’s lymph nodes as part of a breast cancer diagnosis.







The audience also hears from Dr. Hausen, a radiation oncologist, who describes recent advances in her field.



Did someone say "break?" Although their two and a half hour presentation is finished, all the doctors remain on stage, patiently answering questions.

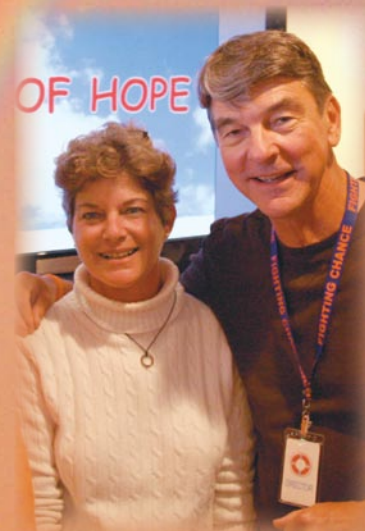


Dr. Schulman draws long lines of audience members with questions.





The audience takes a coffee break in the lobby of the theatre and enjoys the “health fair” comprised of information booths from some 15 non-profits including: CancerCare, Leukemia & Lymphoma Foundation, UrbanZen, Lucia’s Angels and many more; the media is still there, recording memorable moments.



Maxa Luppi, the Fighting Chance cancer patient navigator who worked harder than anyone to make Day of Hope successful, flanked by a grateful Ben Gillikin, Vice Chairman of Fighting Chance

Ann, Lorna, Suzie and Lonnie - all Fighting Chance Patients and featured in the LTV documentary, *Cancer Journeys On The East End.*





## Plant-based diet

- Whole grains over refined
- 2-4 fruit
- 3-5 vegetable (or more)
- Legumes, fish, poultry, nuts, seeds
- Skim or 1% Dairy
- Healthy oils (olive, sesame, walnut)



Donald Garrity, a nutritionist from Memorial Sloan-Kettering, captures the audience's attention as he reviews the many steps patients can take to improve their diet.

## CANCER JOURNEYS ON THE EAST END

The Patients of Fighting Chance

Play

The program ends with the 20-minute documentary about six Fighting Chance cancer patients and their successful journeys to recovery.



Thank you to  
Conference Partners...



Memorial Sloan-Kettering  
Cancer Center



South Fork Breast Health Coalition



NORTH FORK BREAST HEALTH COALITION

North Fork Radiation Oncology