



## Fighting Chance Sets Schedule for Topic-Specific Workshops for Spring 2009

A Conversation  
About Genetics for  
Cancer Survivors &  
Families 3/14

1

Emerging Therapies  
in  
Blood Cancers 3/18

2

Trends in Diagnosis  
& Treatment of  
Prostate Cancer 4/28

3

To register call the Fighting Chance Office . . 631-725-4646

### WORKSHOP DETAILS:

- 1) March 14, 2009 (10:30 am-Noon): *A Conversation About Genetics for Cancer Survivors and Families*. Location: Southampton Hospital/Parish Memorial Hall. Co-Sponsors: Southampton Hospital's Breast Health Center and The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.
- 2) March 18, 2009 (6 pm-8 pm): *Emerging Therapies in Blood Cancers*. Location: MSK Satellite Office in Commack. Co-Sponsors: Memorial Sloan-Kettering and Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.
- 3) April 28, 2009 (6 pm - 8 pm): *Trends in Diagnosis and Treatment of Prostate Cancer*. Location: Riverhead Library.

Help our  
**Green Initiative**

**Fighting Chance  
would prefer to  
send our  
quarterly newsletter  
by email.**

**If you would  
accept it that way,  
please send your  
email address to:  
info@fightingchance.org**



### From the Chairman

What you see here is the world's largest research hospital. It houses some of the work of the National Cancer Institute – which spends \$4 billion a year trying to cure cancer. The NCI operates under the umbrella of the National Institutes of Health, whose campus (in the aerial view above in Bethesda, Maryland) is like a medical “Top Gun”, since it is home to some of the best and brightest of America’s research scientists.

A long-term goal of mine, going back to 2004, was to open up channels of communication between Fighting Chance and the NCI. That goal seemed audacious. After all, why would this gigantic institution have any interest in a tiny grassroots operation providing supportive care to cancer patients at the tip of Long Island?

From my perspective, however, I could see how Fighting Chance would definitely benefit from a closer relationship with NCI. It could mean that our patients might be among the first to know - and not the last to learn - about the latest breakthroughs in cancer treatment.

For these reasons I was pleased and honored to be selected by the NCI early this year as one of a handful of “cancer patient advocates” tapped to assist the NCI in its drug development studies. Specifically, I’ve just been asked to join a panel of experts working on new drugs to counteract the side effects of chemotherapy. In March our group will be meeting for two days on the NCI’s Bethesda campus.



**Duncan Darrow**  
*Chairman of the Board*  
Fighting Chance

The subject of this study is one that all of us at Fighting Chance know about, since many of our patients receive chemo and suffer debilitating side effects like neuropathy, nausea and “chemo brain.” I hope to become more informed by the experts I’ll be working with and bring some additional enlightenment back to my colleagues at Fighting Chance.

## Remember Last Summer at the Maidstone "Tennis House"? . . .



. . . we're going back by Popular Demand  
so Save the Date for Gala '09 . . . June 27  
(for Tickets & Details call 631.725.4646)



Cancer Patient Navigation  
Training Program

Counseling & Resource Center for Cancer Patients  
serving the East End . . . free of charge since 2002

July 6 or July 20, 2009

(See back page for details)

### YOU SHOULD ATTEND IF . . .

- You're looking for a new job . . . in the healthcare field.
- You work in healthcare, but want to know more about cancer.
- You want to upgrade your skill to more meaningful volunteer service.
- You want to become a more capable caregiver for a loved one with cancer.
- You have cancer and want more tools to take care of yourself.
- You want a unique learning experience (which also might improve your resume).

## Coming this Summer...



**Cancer Patient Navigation  
Training Program**

Counseling & Resource Center for Cancer Patients  
serving the East End . . . free of charge since 2002

**To Register...  
Call the Sag Harbor Office  
of Fighting Chance...(631) 725-4646**

**When:** Session No. 1 July 6  
Session No. 2 July 20  Select the most convenient session for you.  
Each session limited to 12 participants

**Where:** The Office of Fighting Chance  
112 Hampton Street, Sag Harbor

**What:** An educational seminar with faculty drawn from the staff and Board of Fighting Chance. The speakers will include an oncology social worker, an NCI-trained patient navigator, a clinical psychologist, an oncologist and the cancer patient advocate who founded Fighting Chance. **Cost:** \$250.

**Why:** Cancer Patient Navigation -- which provides logistical support for oncologists and connects their patients with supportive care resources -- should become one of the most important new career paths in healthcare. Properly trained navigators will become more visible in hospitals and oncology clinics and highly sought after as volunteers. Fighting Chance is the only "storefront-based" center on Long Island with specialized cancer patient navigation services that are free-of-charge. One of the goals of Fighting Chance is to help train more navigators and professionalize this new paramedical specialty.

### morning: 9am - 12:30 pm

**Module #1** "Cancer Simplified" - An introduction to the disease in 44 flip charts (authored by the founder of Fighting Chance as a proprietary educational tool for our patients).

**Module #2** How Navigators Help – An Oncologist's viewpoint.

**Module #3** "Cancer Journeys on the East End" – A 30-minute documentary about cancer patients of Fighting Chance and their use of its navigational services.

### afternoon 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

**Module #4** Working with Navigators – Insights from an Oncology Social Worker and Specialist in Psycho-Oncology.

**Module #5** "Coping with Cancer on the East End" (authored by the staff of Fighting Chance as a proprietary educational tool for our patients) - An introduction to this unique how-to-find-it resource directory and its use in Cancer Patient Navigation.

**Module #6** How Navigators Help – Perspectives from a Panel of Cancer Survivors.

**All Sessions include Q&A and Handouts**

Fighting Chance is a 501©(3) organization and all contributions are fully tax-deductible. Checks can be made payable to Fighting Chance and sent to us at P.O. Box 1358, Sag Harbor, New York 11963. Donations can also be made via credit card either on our website ([www.fightingchance.org](http://www.fightingchance.org)) or by calling our office at (631) 725-4646.