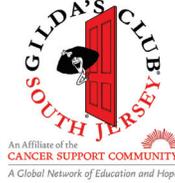


Strengthening Our Schools

In collaboration with:



Session Details

Dance/Movement Based Therapy

Morgan Rakay, MA, LPC, BC-DMT

Program Coordinator, Cancer Support Community Greater Philadelphia

Medical isolation of children with cancer is sometimes necessary to protect the health of the child, but can have a significant impact on the child's perception of availability of social support. This presentation will discuss factors that are shown to contribute to this experience and the movement interventions reflective of the relationships and development of social skills that would otherwise occur in the context of peer groups.

Childhood Cancer: The Psychosocial Effects on Children and Families

Kelly Blanchette, MS, CCLS

Child Life Specialist Goryeb Children's Hospital at Morristown Medical Center

The effects of childhood cancer reach far beyond the ill child and can last much longer than treatment. This session will examine the psychosocial effects on patients, immediate and extended family, and provide information about how to help children and families through the cancer experience.

Reducing Anxiety in Children: Acknowledging Secondary Trauma when a Family Member Has Cancer

Jen Sinclair, LPC and Noelia Ortiz-Lightner

Cancer Support Community Greater Lehigh Valley

"Mom, I can't sleep" ... "This isn't fair" ... "My belly hurts"

Sometimes anxiety in children manifests in ways that are not so easy to identify. This can be especially common when family members are preoccupied with chronic illness or a crisis of their own. Resiliency through challenging times is possible for families to achieve, with proper support, guidance and resources. This workshop will focus on ways that helping professionals and parents can build and maintain a sense of stability and security in children.

Answering Difficult Questions: How Kids Talk About Cancer

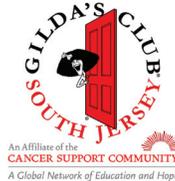
Kerry E. Ricci, MSW, LSW

Oncology Social Worker, Carol G. Simon Cancer Center at Overlook Medical Center

This session will explore ways that children talk about cancer at various stages of development. We'll discuss some important ways that school professionals can help children dealing with cancer in their family. We'll identify important red flag and green flag behaviors that will demonstrate how a child is coping with what is happening at home.

Strengthening Our Schools

In collaboration with:



Cancer, Loss, and COVID-19: Beyond Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic in the Classroom

*Mandi Zucker, MSW, LSW, CT,
Founder and President of Inner Harbor, LLC*

This workshop will focus on how to support individual students who are coping with illness and/or a death in a school setting, as well as how to support and inform other children in a classroom setting. Typically, death is not a subject that is discussed often in school, and many teachers are unprepared to facilitate this discussion in class. COVID-19 has brought the idea of illness and death to every student, and their current fears and anxieties will need to be addressed much more frequently and intensely than ever before. For children already living with a cancer diagnosis in their family, the dangers of this pandemic are even more real. How do we talk to students in a classroom, or virtual classroom, without increasing anxiety? How do we tell students about a death if one occurs while supporting each person individually? Are there things to do or not do when a student or staff member dies? These will be topics of discussion in this presentation.

Mindfulness in the Classroom

*Sarah Dennehy, MEd, RYT,
The Shanthi Project*

Mindfulness is about becoming more present in daily life, while learning coping strategies to help minimize anxiety. When children experience cancer in their family, this becomes even more relevant. This workshop will help school personnel establish practices that are applicable in any classroom. The format will be experiential as well as evidence-based.

Using Games Therapeutically for Children and Teens Affected by Cancer

*Lauren Dottor, DSW, MSW, MS, LCSW, LPC
Program Coordinator, Cancer Support Community Greater Philadelphia*

This workshop will focus on how to assess the emotional needs of clients and students impacted by cancer, how to utilize board games to help children and teens express and process their emotions, and ways to creatively use every day board games to achieve these therapeutic goals.