FIGHTING CHANCE

Counseling and Resource Center for Cancer Patients



February 2007



From the Chairman . . .

It was May of 2002 when Fighting Chance first got organized. A year later -- in May 2003 -- our Board met and decided we should undertake one project and do it really well.



Duncan Darrow
Chairman of the Board
Fighting Chance

Our first project was a 50 -page guide to cancer care resources on the East End. Kind of like a small "yellow pages". We called it *Coping With Cancer on the East End - a Practical Resource Guide*. It was a year in the making and first published in May 2004.

The Guide has been updated annually and by now tens of thousands of copies have been distributed or downloaded off our website, which gets over 5,000 visitors per month.

Before long we became more than a "clearinghouse" about what others were doing; we started creating new services ourselves when we saw a gap in the local support system.

So we added professional counseling, from an oncology social worker who had been at Memorial Sloan-Kettering for sixteen years. Then we hired a "patient navigator" who was trained at NCI. We also started running a support group for cancer patients and other new initiatives. Now we are known as a "Counseling and Resource Center for Cancer Patients," but we still serve the East End of Long Island, and we do so free of charge.



FIGHTING CHANCE Awards it's Medal of Honor to Sue Davies, Board Member

In January 2007, for the second year in a row, Fighting Chance has awarded its Medal of Honor to recognize someone who has made a difference in improving the quality of care for cancer patients on the East End of Long Island.

This year the medal was awarded to Sue Davies, seen here (at right) with one of last year's medal recipients, Charlie Grubb, and Duncan Darrow, Chairman of Fighting Chance.

Sue was the hostess of our first "Summer Gala" in 2006. Thanks to her leadership and passion it was a great success -- and raised over \$60,000. Since 2003, Sue has been an active Board member of Fighting Chance, always giving generously of her time.

She also runs a successful business in East Hampton -- Sue Davies Design -- and is active in real estate through the Town & Country brokerage. From all of us at Fighting Chance . . . Congratulations!





This is the new "Home page" of our redesigned website (www.fightingchance.org). The site often has over 5,000 visitors per month





our organization... our resources... contact us governance in-person counseling e-counseling calendar & newsletter resource guide who we are get involved day of hope support groups professional staff gifts & donate book of hope patient navigator library

MARK KRIS, MD Acclaimed Lung Cancer Specialist from Memorial Sloan-Kettering to Keynote 3rd Annual Day of Hope on November 10

For two years running our Day of Hope has filled the 330 seat Bay Street Theatre just about to capacity with cancer patients and their families. They become part of a unique dialogue with some of America's most prominent oncologists -- hearing about new scientific breakthroughs and engaging in a spirited "Q & A".

We already have arranged our keynoter for the "3rd annual" Day of Hope -- Mark Kris, MD, and we encourage those interested to register now by calling our office at 631.725.4646. The event is free, but you must register in advance.

The moderator for this year's Day of Hope will be Peter Bach, MD. Like Dr. Kris, he is an oncologist at Memorial Sloan-Kettering. Dr. Bach and his family spend weekends at their home in Sag Harbor.



Mark G. Kris
Associate Chair for Clinical Trials,
Department of Medicine; Chief,
Thoracic Oncology Service at
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer
Center, New York City



photo: c.b. grubb

Two Prominent Oncologists join Board of Directors



Martin S. Karpeh, Jr., MD is Chief of Surgical Oncology at Stony Brook University Medical Center, which is the largest medical facility in Suffolk County. Dr. Kareph also is head of The Cancer Center, which is located at the hospital and provides a unique multi-disciplinary approach to treating cancer patients.



Renu Hausen, MD is a radiation oncologist. She also is director of North Fork Radiation Oncology, a sizable muti-physician clinic she founded several years ago. She practices in both Riverhead and Southampton, New York.





Cancer patients like these are among those who participate in support groups run by Karrie Zampini Robinson, LCSW, who is an oncology social worker with over 16 years of experience and also serves a Director of Clinical Programs at Fighting Chance.

The group meets once a month at Southampton Hospital and the presence of Fighting Chance -- in providing leadership for the group -- is one of our partnerships with the hospital.





Cancer can be a very isolating experience, especially in a rural setting like the East End. Getting through the Holiday Season is often especially difficult, and so this year the support group decided to have their own "Holiday Party." The pictures you see here were taken by Pat Field, a member of the support group.

The monthly support group, like everything we do, is free of charge. To sign up just call our office at 631.725.4646.



COMING SOON... Workshops from Fighting Chance

March 24th

Southampton Hospital's Parrish Memorial Hall 10-12:00

Join staff from Fighting Chance & Southampton Hospital for supportive discussion, massage, meditation and chair yoga. This workshop is designed to help you relax and offer strategies for comfort.

May 19th

<u>Donald Garrity, Nutrionist from Memorial Sloan-Kettering</u> time and location to be determined.

FRIENDS OF FIGHTING CHANCE

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) or by calling our office at (631) 725-4646.