



TAKING CHARGE OF OUR TOMORROWS

A Breast Cancer Survivorship
Advocacy Program

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Hudson Hall
327 Warren Street, Hudson, NY
9:00 AM-3:30 PM



EDUCATION • EMPOWERMENT • COMMUNITY

Presented by the Stacy & Richard Rosenthal Family Fund

Hosted by Dr. Maria Theoudoulou

NYCH Community
Cancer Foundation

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PREMIER LEVEL



COLLABORATOR LEVEL



THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY EXHIBITORS

Akira Medical Imaging +
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The Healthcare Consortium

Imerman Angels

Miles of Hope Breast Cancer
Foundation

To Life!

Young Survivor Coalition



ADDITIONAL THANKS TO:

Hudson Hall, Chelsea McKaig, Drew Roth, and Katie Walsh

PROGRAM AGENDA



8:00-9:00 AM	Guest check-in, Exhibitor Hall opens
9:00-9:15 AM	Welcome and Opening Remarks Dr. Karen Tedesco, Dr. Maria Theodoulou
9:15-10:30 AM	<i>Identification, Diagnosis and Local Management of Breast Cancer and the Risk Factors of Gynecologic Cancers</i> Dr. Anna Boguniewicz, Dr. Heidi Godoy, Dr. Tia Olds, Dr. George Plitas, Dr. Loren Rourke, facilitated by Dr. Maria Theodoulou
10:30-10:45 AM	Break
10:45 AM-12:00 PM	<i>Diving Deeper into Clinical Research and New Breakthroughs in Treating Early and Late Breast Cancer</i> Dr. Frank Arena, Dr. Ranjit Banwait, Dr. Chau Dang, Dr. Neil Iyengar, Dr. Hyman Muss, facilitated by Dr. Maria Theodoulou
12:00-12:30 PM	Lunch, Exhibitor Hall re-opens
12:30-1:15 PM	<i>Moving Forward: The Role of Partnering with Industry</i> Juliet Fattaleh, Dr. Rodney Sherman, Deborah Wafer, facilitated by Mary Jimenez
1:15-2:00 PM	<i>Moving Forward: The Role of Patient Advocacy</i> Dr. Frank Arena, Myra Biblowit, Lauren Seides Chartan, Diane Granger, Emily Rubin, facilitated by Mary Jimenez and Dr. Maria Theodoulou
2:00-3:15 PM	<i>Keeping Your Healthy Parts Healthy and Healthier</i> Dr. Jeanne Carter, Dr. Azeez Farooki, Frances Ford, Dr. Heidi Godoy, Dr. Neil Iyengar, Dr. Hyman Muss, Sandra Sanderson, Dr. Tiffany Troso-Sandoval, Dr. Jeffrey Uzzilia, facilitated by Dr. Maria Theodoulou
3:15-3:30 PM	Closing Comments Dr. Maria Theodoulou

PANELISTS



Dr. Frank Arena

**Medical Oncology, New York University Langone Health
Arena Foundation for Medical Research**

Dr. Arena is a medical oncologist treating a variety of cancers, with a focus on breast cancer, gastrointestinal cancer, pancreatic cancer, and chronic leukemias and lymphomas. With over 20 years of experience in the field, Dr. Arena utilizes a precision medicine approach with molecular and genetic testing to tailor treatments to the specific needs and vulnerabilities of each patient's tumor. He also established The Arena Foundation for Medical Research, a family foundation dedicated to advancing cancer research, education, and support for compassionate patient care.



Dr. Ranjit Banwait

Breast Medical Oncology, New York Oncology Hematology

Dr. Banwait is a board-certified Internal Medicine and Geriatric Medicine oncologist with a deep focus on breast cancer treatment. He joined NYOH after serving as Chief Clinical Fellow in Hematology and Oncology at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. Dr. Banwait is married and has three sons. He is an avid runner and enjoys the outdoors.



Myra Biblowit

Breast Cancer Research Foundation

Myra is the President Emeritus of the Breast Cancer Research Foundation (BCRF), the world's latest private funder and nation's highest-rated breast cancer research organization with a mission focused exclusively on funding the most promising research to prevent and cure breast cancer. During Myra's 22 year tenure, BCRF grants enabled breakthroughs in prevention, diagnosis, genetics, treatment, metastasis and survivorship. Prior to joining BCRF, Myra was Vice Dean for External Affairs at NYU Medical Center where she headed Development, Alumni Relations and Public Relations. In addition to her notable expertise in leadership, marketing, and capital-raising on behalf of a number of prominent New York nonprofits, Myra has significant boardroom experience and a commitment to community impact.



Dr. Anna Boguniewicz

Cytopathology, Albany Med Health System

Dr. Boguniewicz is the Director of Cytopathology and the Director of the Pathology Residency Training Program at Albany Med. She is also the liaison pathologist for both the breast cancer program and gynecological oncology services.



Dr. Jeanne Carter

Psychology and Sexual Health, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Dr. Carter is a clinical psychologist and certified sexual health therapist who provides individual interventions to women with cancer. She currently serves as the Head of the Female Sexual Medicine and Women's Health programs and cares for patients at Memorial Sloan Kettering's Barbara White Fishman Women's Health Center. She is also a member of the attending staff of the Gynecology Service in the Department of Surgery and the Department of Psychiatry.



Lauren Seides Chartan

Advocate and Survivor

Lauren is a cancer survivor since the age of 17 who believes she has been shaped by her life's challenges and is carried by a sense of hope, determination, and will. She is an accomplished, experienced litigator who, after practicing law as both a criminal defense attorney in Manhattan, and then a Deputy County Attorney, returned to law school to pursue a Master's degree in Family Law, while raising her then 8-year old daughter as a single mom. She believes her experience of surviving the challenges engendered by facing life threatening illnesses and surgeries, have served to form the foundation for the Woman, Mother, and Lawyer that she has become and derives so much joy from. Lauren shares a beautiful home and life with her "almost husband" and life partner David, who she met at University of Rochester, where she transferred after being treated for Hodgkin's lymphoma. Her daughter Kyra is a glorious 28 year-old young woman, who remains her guiding light. Every day, she tries to follow her motto of "lead with your heart".



Dr. Chau Dang

Breast Medical Oncology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Dr. Dang is a board-certified medical oncologist working as part of a multidisciplinary team to care for patients with breast cancer. In her clinical research, she focuses on developing more-effective and less-toxic treatment strategies for patients. Her particular interest is in evaluating combination therapies that include anti-HER2 drugs with chemotherapy in the treatment of patients with early-stage and metastatic HER2-positive breast cancer.



Dr. Azeez Farooki
Endocrinology and Bone Health,
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Weill Cornell Medical College

Dr. Farooki is an attending physician endocrinologist with particular interest in bone metabolism in people with cancer, and Associate Clinical Professor at Weill Cornell Medical College. His clinical and research focus is bone disease in cancer patients. This includes benign bone disease (bone loss due to cancer therapies) and malignant bone disease, including hypercalcemia of malignancy. He has also been active at the intersection of diabetes and cancer. Dr. Farooki is a published author and expert speaker, and has served on numerous task forces regarding cancer care and research.



Juliet Fattaleh
Breast Oncology, Natera

Juliet is the National Director for Breast Oncology at Natera, where she leads a specialty team dedicated to expanding access to advanced genomic testing for breast cancer patients. With extensive experience partnering with leading oncologists and cancer programs across the country, Juliet is passionate about connecting patients with the latest innovations in cancer monitoring and care.



Frances Ford, LCSW-R, OSW-C
Social Work, New York Oncology Hematology

Frances has spent most of her career within the field of medical social work and over 10 years of oncology social work experience at NYOH. She provides supportive counseling and clinical case management services for patients. Frances' hope is to provide compassionate, person-centered care to those who are navigating difficult medical journeys, bringing mindfulness-based practices into her work, with the goal of guiding others towards presence and peace during stressful experiences.



Dr. Heidi Godoy
Gynecologic Oncology, New York Oncology Hematology

Dr. Godoy medically and surgically treats cancers of female reproductive organs, including ovarian, endometrial, and cervical cancers. Dr. Godoy is board-certified in obstetrics and gynecology, gynecology oncology and robotics. She is a member of several professional associations, including the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Society of Gynecologic Oncologists. Dr. Godoy lives in the Capital Region with her husband, two children and a Portuguese water dog (that doesn't like the water). She enjoys skiing, boating, hiking, and running.



Diane Granger

Patient Financial Services, New York Oncology Hematology

Diane has more than 25 years of experience helping patients navigate complex financial and healthcare systems, ensuring they have access to the treatment, resources, and support they need.

Drawing on her extensive background in insurance, manufacturer-sponsored patient assistance programs, foundation grants, and financial advocacy, Diane is a Senior Patient Financial Counselor and works closely with patients and their families to reduce financial barriers to care. She is passionate about empowering individuals with the knowledge and resources needed to make informed decisions during challenging times.



Mary Jimenez

Alamo Advocate Program, Alamo Breast Cancer Foundation

Mary is the Director of the Alamo Advocate Program at the Alamo Breast Cancer Foundation located in San Antonio, where she facilitates and leads the organization's global reach for advocacy scholars, educational sessions, and mentorship programs, as well as organizes and develops educational initiatives and strategic partnerships. She is an accomplished healthcare sales executive with over three decades of experience in biotechnology, oncology, and molecular diagnostics. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated exceptional leadership in launching groundbreaking oncology treatments and implementing comprehensive molecular profiling tools and resources. Her passion and ability to foster partnerships has made her a champion for health equity in the cancer community.



Dr. Hyman B. Muss

**Breast Medical Oncology and Geriatric Oncology,
University of North Carolina School of Medicine**

Dr. Muss is a Professor of Medicine at the Mary Jones Hudson Distinguished Professor of Geriatric Oncology and Director of the Geriatric Oncology Program at the University of North Carolina Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center. He is an experienced clinician-scientist with an interest in education and research focused on cancer in older patients, and has a major interest in breast cancer survivorship and long-term toxicity of treatment. Dr. Muss developed and was the principal investigator of multiple clinical and translational trials and has a long commitment of serving the medical community through mentorship and co-chairing various committees. He served in the U.S. Army in Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star medal.



Dr. Tia Olds

Radiation Oncology, New York Oncology Hematology

Dr. Olds completed her radiation oncology residency at SUNY Update Medical in Syracuse and is board-certified in Radiation Oncology. She has worked as a physician at NYOH for over a decade, primarily seeing patients at the Albany Cancer Center and Clifton Park Cancer Center. Dr. Olds is married and lives with her husband and two children. During her leisure time, she enjoys yoga and traveling.



Dr. George Plitas

Breast Surgery, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

Dr. Plitas is an Associate Attending surgical oncologist at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center who specializes in the treatment of patients with breast cancer. He is the Director of Research for the Breast Service in the Department of Surgery. Dr. Plitas obtained his MD and general surgical training from the New York University Medical Center and completed the Surgical Oncology Fellowship at MSKCC. Dr. Plitas is involved in both clinical as well as translational research involving tumor immunology. Specifically, his research is focused on targeting regulatory T cells for the immunotherapy of breast cancer.



Dr. Neil Iyengar

**Breast Medical Oncology, Emory University
Emory University School of Medicine**

Dr. Iyengar is a board-certified medical oncologist who specializes in treating patients with breast cancer. Dr. Iyengar serves as Director of Survivorship Services at Winship Cancer Institute of Emory University and is a clinical member of Winship's Glenn Family Breast Center. As Director of Survivorship Services, Dr. Iyengar leads the strategic direction, operations and integration of survivorship care across Winship and Emory Healthcare. He also oversees a comprehensive, personalized program that supports patients with wellness plans tailored to needs such as exercise, nutrition and supportive care, as well as research initiatives and evidence-based practices in survivorship. Dr. Iyengar is also an Associate Professor and Co-Director of the Breast Medical Oncology Program in the Department of Hematology and Medical Oncology at Emory University School of Medicine.



**Stacy Fischer Rosenthal
Advocate and Survivor**

Stacy is the owner and CEO of Fischer Travel, the original membership-based luxury travel and lifestyle company, founded more than 60 years ago. With over four decades of experience in luxury hospitality, she leads Fischer as a discreet, full-service organization serving high-net-worth individuals and families worldwide. Stacy is also Founder and CEO of Fischer-Rosenthal Consulting, advising hotel owners, developers, and management companies on brand positioning and guest experience. She serves on multiple boards across the luxury travel and hospitality sectors.



Loren Rourke

Breast Surgery, The Woodlands and Author

Dr. Rourke is known for her compassionate yet straightforward approach—blending empathy, humor, and “real talk”. Her mission is to empower patients through education, making complex medical information easier to understand (such as her memorable “grapes and stems” explanation) so women feel informed and confident in their care. Through her newly published book, *Real Talk, Real Hope: Breast Cancer Your Way*, Dr. Rourke provides honest answers, logical steps, and emotional support for women. Outside the hospital, Loren is a busy mom to teenage twins and several furry pets.



Emily Rubin

Writer and Survivor

Emily is a published author and writing instructor. Her debut novel, *Stalina*, was a selection in the Amazon Debut Novel Award Contest. Her stories and essays have been published widely. Her personal essay on being diagnosed a second time with breast cancer was the cover story for the September issue of *Cancer Health Magazine*. Emily runs the Write Treatment Workshops for the NYOH Community Cancer Foundation and Mount Sinai Cancer Centers. The Write Treatment Anthologies, Vols. I and II include writings from her workshop participants. Emily lives and writes in Columbia County, NY.



Rachel Hye Youn Rupright, MSW

NYOH Community Cancer Foundation

Rachel is the Foundation Administrator overseeing the NYOH Community Cancer Foundation, a non-profit founded by New York Oncology Hematology dedicated to supporting patients and their families with non-medical financial assistance and other resources. Rachel has worked in public service and at non-profits, served on non-profit boards of directors, and is dedicated to community organizing in the Capital Region's local Asian American community. She lives with her spouse and two young children in Albany.



Sandra Sanderson, PT, CLT-LANA

Physical Therapy and Lymphedema, Samaritan Hospital

While at Samaritan Hospital, part of St. Peter's Health Partners, Sandra has become an integral part of the Samaritan Cancer Center, collaborating closely with oncology teams and providing comprehensive rehabilitation to patients throughout their treatment and recovery. Her clinical practice is rooted in highly skilled manual therapy techniques, including Manual Lymphatic Drainage, axillary cording treatment, fibrotic tissue reduction, and pain-management strategies.



Dr. Rodney Sherman
Oncology Medical Affairs, Celcuity

Dr. Sherman is a board-certified medical oncologist and hematologist with over 30 years of experience spanning clinical practice and biopharmaceutical medical affairs leadership. After running a community oncology practice in New York for over a decade, he transitioned into industry, holding senior medical affairs roles at Novartis, Tesaro, Merck, Sanofi-Genzyme, Bicycle Therapeutics and Celcuity, where he currently serves as Director, Senior Medical Science Liaison. Throughout his career, he has led scientific strategies across breast, lung, genitourinary and hematologic cancers, partnering with leading academic institutions and key opinion leaders to advance cancer therapeutics. Dr. Sherman earned his MD from SUNY Stony Brook and completed his residency and fellowship at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York.



Dr. Karen Tedesco
Medical Oncology & Hematology, New York Oncology Hematology

Dr. Tedesco is board-certified in hematology and medical oncology and has been recognized throughout her career for excellence in clinical care, research, and service. In addition to treating patients and serving on multiple national and local leadership boards, Dr. Tedesco is also the NYOH Practice President, leading NYOH with continued clinical excellence, collaboration, and compassionate care, as well as opening a new Regional Cancer Center in January 2027. She is married to a gastroenterologist and has three children. A former competitive gymnast, Dr. Tedesco enjoys fitness, running, travel and spending time with family and friends.



Dr. Maria Theodoulou
Breast Oncologist, New York Oncology Hematology

Dr. Theodoulou is a breast medical oncologist with 40 years of experience in the academic and community environment. After spending over 30 years in New York City as a senior attending on the breast medicine division at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and Professor of Medicine at Cornell Weill, achieving recognition, nationally and internationally, for her clinical research and clinical trial work with targeted antibodies, antibody drug conjugates and systemic treatment in the elderly, she moved to the Hudson Valley. She is a sought after lecturer and continues to educate, and is the recipient of numerous awards and grants. She hosts and moderates the popular CME accredited academic breast cancer symposium for physicians and healthcare providers regarding patient care and treatment and developed a patient survivorship advocacy program supporting patients and their families affected by breast cancer.



Dr. Tiffany Troso-Sandoval
Cancer Coach and Consultant

With 25 years of experience in oncology care, Dr. Troso-Sandoval's focus has been on empowering women to navigate breast and gynecologic cancers with clarity and confidence. Their approach integrates deep clinical expertise, compassionate care, and impactful communication to deliver tailored patient support. Currently, Dr. Troso-Sandoval serves as a Medical Oncology Physician Concierge, helping women with cancer overcome the chaos, fear and confusion to become empowered and confident through education, medical oncology second opinions, cancer concierge services, as well as educational platforms.



Dr. Jeffrey Uzzilia
Cardio Oncology, Capital Cardiology

Dr. Uzzilia is the Director of the Echocardiography Laboratory at Capital Cardiology and the Chief of Noninvasive Cardiology at St. Peter's Hospital. Dr. Uzzilia has a broad interest in general cardiovascular disease and a particular interest in coronary artery disease treatment and prevention, congestive heart failure, and noninvasive cardiac imaging. He lives in Guilderland with his wife and three children. When he is not practicing medicine, he enjoys spending time with his family, playing tennis, and watching Siena University basketball.



Deborah Wafer
Community Engagement and Advocacy, Gilead Sciences

Deborah is the Executive Director of Community Engagement and Advocacy for HIV and Oncology at Gilead Sciences. A clinician by training, she brings a deeply patient-centered lens to her work, shaped by decades of experience at the intersection of clinical care and community engagement. In her current role, she oversees strategy and partnerships that advance community-driven engagement across priority disease areas. Deborah lives in Oakland, California, has three adult children, and enjoys cycling, cooking, and traveling to explore different cultures.

NYOH COMMUNITY CANCER FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Community Cancer Foundation

2025 Impact Report

The NYOH Community Cancer Foundation provides financial assistance, education, and other resources to cancer patients living in the Capital Region.

Financial Assistance

Helping cancer patients focus on their treatment, instead of worrying about daily household expenses and outstanding bills.



570

Individuals Supported



11

Counties
Served

with the greatest amount of assistance to Albany, Schenectady, Saratoga, and Rensselaer



17

Different Types
of Cancer
Treated

top cancers from individuals receiving assistance are breast, lung, digestive, and head and neck



\$216,312

Food & Household
Needs



\$35,500

Transportation



\$31,002

Housing



\$22,392

Utilities



\$12,392

Medical &
Complementary
Therapies



\$1,450

Holiday Gift
Cards

\$560

Average assistance per patient

\$319,049

Total financial assistance

NYOH Community Cancer Foundation
449 Route 146, Suite 101
Clifton Park, NY 1206
(518) 373-3950

hello@nyohfoundation.org
nyohfoundation.org f @ in @nyohfoundation

Patient Education and Other Resources

Sponsoring patient education and programming, plus accepting other donations for patients, survivors, and caregivers.



20

Interactive and free patient workshops on topics such as: writing, palliative care, and plant-based cooking



510

Patient care bags and other resources, such as port pillows and blankets



400

Children's books about cancer

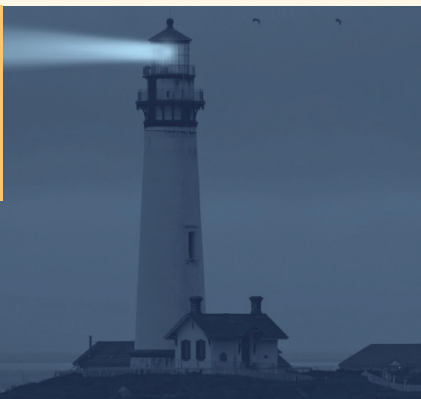


New video libraries about breast cancer and colorectal cancer

\$24,000

Total funds for patient education

Illuminating
Hope
in Challenging Times



NOTES



Check out our NYOH Foundation Events in 2026



MONTH OF MARCH

COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

*Courage
& Cancer*

An Evening of Stories

Wednesday,
May 6

Hilton Garden Inn, Troy

NYOH  Cancer
Survivors Day

Sunday,
June 7

Albany Capital Center,
Albany

TAKING CHARGE OF OUR TOMORROWS:

A BREAST CANCER SURVIVORSHIP
ADVOCACY PROGRAM

Saturday, August 1 • Hudson Hall, Hudson



Saturday,
September 26
Empire Live, Albany



“And So It Goes” by Drew Roth

MEDIUM: Graphite, acrylic paint and Colored Pencil

ARTIST STATEMENT: At its core, the artwork explores themes of Identity and Biology, which I feel is deeply connected to the journey of surviving and thriving.

The use of deconstructed cellular shapes, represents the sometimes overwhelming information that is given to patients as they start. I selected this piece for today's event because even though the subject's identity is obscured, there is hope. Her cellular growth is slowly being washed away and what remains is an expression of contentment. My hope is that viewers take away a sense of peace and that even though this time is chaotic, we will still find joy.