

# Support Groups

## ABCD: After Breast Cancer Diagnosis

Free one-to-one mentoring support to anyone going through the breast cancer journey as well as a free survivor staffed helpline.

**Contact:**

[abcdinc@abcdmentor.org](mailto:abcdinc@abcdmentor.org)

414-977-1780

5775 N. Glen Park Road Suite 201

Glendale, WI 53209

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## Bosom Buddies Support Group at Dixie Grill

Bosom Buddies is a breast cancer support group that provides mutual support and social interaction for women with breast cancer. Meetings are held the 2nd Monday each month.

**Contact:**

Lisa Mills

386-362-6309

101 Dowling Avenue SW

Live Oak, FL 32064

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## Brain Tumor Support Group at Shands/UF

Open to all patients, survivors, family and friends. Lunch included; RSVP requested. Meets monthly; call for schedule.

**Contact:**

[john.jordan@neurosurgery.ufl.edu](mailto:john.jordan@neurosurgery.ufl.edu)

352-273-9000

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## Breast Cancer Support

An ongoing, monthly Support Group that provides participants an opportunity to share experiences and gain support and strength from each other. Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m.

**Contact:**

Nancy Mackintosh

386-418-3737

Trinity United Methodist Church

4000 NW 53rd Ave.

Gainesville, FL

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## **Cancer Support Group at The Orange Park Medical Center**

Have you ever been diagnosed with cancer? Are you a caregiver of someone who is affected by cancer? If, so, you are not alone. Perhaps it is time to attend a complimentary Cancer Support Group. The Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) at Orange Park Medical Center is sponsoring a new support group for anyone affected by cancer. This includes loved ones. For more information or to RSVP, please call.

**Contact:**

904-639-8654  
1887 Kingsley Avenue, M.O.B. 3  
Orange Park, FL 32073

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## **Caregivers Support Group**

Suwannee River Economic Council offers a Caregivers Support Group for anyone caring for a loved with a chronic illness. This group allows participants an opportunity to meet with other caregivers in a confidential environment to share problems and concerns. Meetings are held the last Thursday each month.

**Contact:**

Sabrina, Case Manager  
386-362-4115  
Suwannee Senior Center  
1171 Nobles Ferry Road  
Live Oak, FL 32064

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## **Creative For Health Studio: Arts and Writing Workshops for People Affected by Cancer (Funded by the LIVESTRONG Foundation)**

The Arts in Medicine program will use the funding to launch Creative For Health Studio, free weekly arts and writing workshops for both those in and outside of the cancer community. The workshops will be led by artist in residence, Dylan Klempner, who will collaborate each week with artists and writers from across the Gainesville community and beyond. Over the course of the program, participants will paint, sculpt, write, dance, and sing in a fun and supportive environment.

**Contact:**

Dylan Klempner  
[dklempner@arts.ufl.edu](mailto:dklempner@arts.ufl.edu)  
352-733-0880  
ElderCare of Alachua County Senior Recreation Center,  
5701 NW 34th Blvd., Gainesville, FL, 32653  
(352) 265-9040

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## **Gainesville, Florida Multiple Myeloma Support & Networking Group**

[www.gainesvilleflmultiplemyelomasupport.com](http://www.gainesvilleflmultiplemyelomasupport.com)

Our mission is to support each other as Patients, Survivors, Caregivers, Family, and Friends in a friendly relaxed environment. We welcome all new members from any surrounding counties. We frequently have Oncology guest speakers, who keeps the group provided on new technology in the treatment of Multiple Myeloma. March is Multiple Myeloma Action Month and we now have an annual seminar in the month of march. Please come for a visit, and we hope you become an member.

**Contact:**

Linda Stegall Henry

[lshenry@embarqmail.com](mailto:lshenry@embarqmail.com)

352-529-7050

Meets 2nd Monday of the Month

5:30 - 7:30 pm

Cancer Center @ NFRMC Community Room

6420 NW Newberry Road

Gainesville, Florida 32605

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## Haven Hospice of the Lakes—Bereavement and Grief Support Group

[beyourhaven.org](http://beyourhaven.org)

In this support group, members have the opportunity to express their feelings and thoughts of coping with the death of a loved one as well as gain an understanding of grief and how it impacts their lives.

**Contact:**

Bereavement Coordinator

386-328-7100

6400 Saint Johns Avenue

Palatka, FL 32177

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## Haven Hospice Transitions at Skate Station

SASHA's (Support, Awareness, Strength, Hope, Acceptance) Friends is an Anticipatory Grief Support Group for Children. This groups offers support for children (ages 6 -14) who are dealing with a family member or adult friend that has been diagnosed with a life-limiting illness.

**Contact:**

Evelyn James, Bereavement Coordinator

352-692-5133

1311 NW 76th Boulevard

Gainesville, FL 32606

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## Healing Hearts at Haven Hospice of North Central Florida

The Healing Hearts grief support program offers individual, family and group counseling to help anyone who is coping with loss, regardless of how it occurs. Throughout the year, Healing Hearts offers grief support and educational programs for those who may have lost a mate, parent, child or other family member. This program is available to children and teens, adults and families.

**Contact:**

Vonceil Leine

352-692-5105

6037 W. US HWY 90

Lake City, FL 32055

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## Healing Touch Cancer Support

[www.trinitygnv.org](http://www.trinitygnv.org)

Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month, 5:30 p.m. in the Trinity United Methodist Church. All cancer patients, family and friends as well as cancer survivors are welcome. This group began in 1995 and continues today as an encouraging and loving place for those experiencing cancer in their lives. Every month has a focus and all meetings begin and end in prayer.

**Contact:**

Marcey

[marcey.corey1@gmail.com](mailto:marcey.corey1@gmail.com)

352-331-2960, (Church phone number: 352-376-6615)

Trinity United Methodist Church

4000 NW 53rd Avenue

Gainesville, FL 32653

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## Healthy Start of Lafayette County

[www.healthystartncf.org](http://www.healthystartncf.org)

The Healthy Start Tobacco Cessation resource is available for those enrolled in Healthy Start. Individual counseling is available through this service.

**Contact:**

[Colleen\\_Cody@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Colleen_Cody@doh.state.fl.us)

Multilingual 386-362-2708 ext. 218

140 SW Virginia Circle

Mayo, FL 32066

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## Healthy Start of Levy County

[www.healthystartncf.org](http://www.healthystartncf.org)

The Healthy Start Tobacco Cessation resource is available for those enrolled in Healthy Start. Individual counseling is available through this service.

**Contact:**

[Diane\\_Wilson@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Diane_Wilson@doh.state.fl.us)

Multilingual 352-486-5300 ext. 251

66 West Main Street

Bronson, FL 32621

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## Healthy Start of Putnam County

[www.healthystartncf.org](http://www.healthystartncf.org)

The Healthy Start Tobacco Cessation resource is available for those enrolled in Healthy Start. Individual counseling is available through this service.

**Contact:**

[rterry@fmdc.org](mailto:rterry@fmdc.org)

386-326-7391

1302 River Street

Palatka, FL 32177

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## HOPE Support Group

The HOPE Support Group offers Education and Emotional Support for Women with all types of cancer. Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday each month. Offered by the Orange Park Cancer Center.

**Contact:**

904-538-3666  
2161 Kingsley Avenue  
Orange Park, FL 32073

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## I Can Cope

An educational program for people facing cancer—either personally, or as a friend or family caregiver. The American Cancer Society Office in Gainesville is offering one-on-one consultations to provide straightforward information and answers for cancer-related questions.

**Contact:**

Zeena Brown, Area Administrative Assistant  
352-240-5057  
2119 SW 16th Street  
Gainesville, FL 32608

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## Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Family Support Group

Family Support Groups provide mutual support and education for patients and family members. They offer an opportunity to discuss anxieties and concerns with others who share the same experiences. This sharing strengthens the family bond and enhances everyone's ability to cope with cancer.

If you or a loved one has a diagnosis of Leukemia, Hodgkin Lymphoma, Non- Hodgkin Lymphoma, Myeloma or Myelodysplastic Syndrome, or any other form of blood cancer, please join us. We meet the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm.

**Contact:**

Dr. Michelle Bishop  
[michellebishoppd@gmail.com](mailto:michellebishoppd@gmail.com)  
352-331-0020  
Cancer Center of North Florida Regional  
6420 Newberry Road  
Gainesville, FL 32614  
Health & Healing Place – 1st Room on Right

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## Look Good, Feel Better

An American Cancer Society (ACS) program for women cancer patients. Group meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month. You must call the ACS to RSVP for this one-time meeting.

**Contact:**

Please call Gwen Carriere, ARNP if you have questions or need more information.  
352-376-6866  
North Florida Regional Medical Center  
Cancer Center

6420 Newberry Road  
Gainesville, FL 32605

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## Look Good...Feel Better

[www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

A free program that teaches women in active cancer treatment ways to deal with the appearance-related side effects of treatment.

**Contact:**

National Cancer Information Center  
800-227-2345

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## Man to Man

One on one support for men recently diagnosed with prostate cancer. Support is available via telephone, e-mail or in person.

**Contact:**

National Cancer Information Center  
800-227-2345  
2119 SW 16th Street  
Gainesville, FL 32608  
Or at:  
Winn Dixie Hope Lodge  
2121 SW 16th Street  
Gainesville, FL 32608

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## Man to Man Support Group at Putnam County Library

Helps men cope with prostate cancer by providing community-based education and support to patients and their family members. Man to Man volunteers hold free monthly meetings where men support each other and exchange information throughout the cancer experience.

**Contact:**

National Cancer Information Center  
800-227-2345  
601 College Rd.  
Palatka, Florida 32177

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## Moving Forward

Cancer support group for patients and caregivers, 1st Tuesday of each month, 3–4:30 p.m.

**Contact:**

Call Gwen Carriere, ARNP for further information  
[Gwen.Carriere@hcahealthcare.com](mailto:Gwen.Carriere@hcahealthcare.com)

352-333-4511 or 352-514-5960  
North Florida Regional Medical Center  
Cancer Center  
6420 Newberry Road  
Gainesville, FL 32605

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## Multiple Myeloma Support Group

Meets the 2nd Monday of each month, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the D'Acosta House.

**Contact:**

Gale Smith  
[smithgm@shands.ufl.edu](mailto:smithgm@shands.ufl.edu)  
352-214-6265  
703 N.E. 1st Street  
Gainesville, FL 32601

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## One on One Lymphedema Support

This One on One Lymphedema Support is for individuals interested in the prevention and treatment of lymphedema symptoms.

**Contact:**

Candace Bridgewater  
904-269-9113  
Orange Park, Florida 32073

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## Reach to Recovery

[www.cancer.org/treatment/supportprogramsservices/reach-to-recovery](http://www.cancer.org/treatment/supportprogramsservices/reach-to-recovery)

Reach to Recovery is a program that helps patients with breast cancer cope with their diagnosis, treatment, and recovery. The program pairs a breast cancer survivor with a recently diagnosed patient who has similar issues. Each volunteer is specially trained to help the patient express their feelings, verbalize her fears and concerns, and be an impartial sounding board for questions and matters that may be affecting them. Contact may be either a personal visit or a phone call based on location.

**Contact:**

American Cancer Society  
800-227-2345  
2119 SW 16th Street  
Gainesville, FL 32608

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## Shands/UF Blood & Marrow Support Group

Meets the 1st Friday of each month, 12 p.m. at Shands.

**Contact:**

Gale Smith, LCSW

[smithgm@shands.ufl.edu](mailto:smithgm@shands.ufl.edu)  
352-265-0224 x29508  
Shands/UF Cancer Hospital  
7th Floor, BMTU, #7011

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## **Support Group at Community Cancer Center of North Florida – Gainesville**

[www.cccnf.com/wellness\\_support.php](http://www.cccnf.com/wellness_support.php)

Support group facilitated by a licensed counselor that offers a safe, confidential environment to connect with others who are facing similar challenges associated with cancer care. The group utilizes empathy, compassion and even humor to help discuss the issues. Gainesville location: 3rd Tuesday of each month from 5:30 – 7 p.m.

**Contact:**

352-331-0900  
7000 NW 11th Place  
Gainesville, FL 32605

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## **Support Group at Community Cancer Center of North Florida—Lake City**

[www.cccnf.com/wellness\\_support.php](http://www.cccnf.com/wellness_support.php)

Support group facilitated by a licensed counselor that offers a safe, confidential environment to connect with others who are facing similar challenges associated with cancer care. The group utilizes empathy, compassion and even humor to help discuss the issues. Lake City location: 2nd Thursday of each month from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Contact:**

386-755-0601  
4520 W. US Highway 90  
Lake City, FL 32055

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## **The Safe in Him Cancer Survivors Support Group**

[www.compassionateoutreach.org](http://www.compassionateoutreach.org)

A nondenominational, spiritually based group designed for those who have survived the diagnosis of cancer and their families. The vision of this group is to minister hope, help and healing for the hurting heart. Offered through Compassionate Outreach Ministries.

**Contact:**

[info@compassionateoutreach.org](mailto:info@compassionateoutreach.org)  
352-373-1888  
320 SE 43rd Street  
Gainesville, FL 32641

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## **The Women’s Cancer Support Group of Lake City: Baya Pharmacy East**

This group provides emotional support through shared experiences and provides education with professional speakers in related fields every other month. Both newly diagnosed and survivors of any type of cancer are welcome to attend. Meetings are held the 2nd Monday each month from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

**Contact:**

Joan Restall, Katie Griffin  
[jrestall@peoplepc.com](mailto:jrestall@peoplepc.com)  
386-755-0522, 352-752-4198  
780 SE Baya Drive  
Lake City, FL 32025

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## West Putnam Cancer Support Group at Interlachen Public Library

Offers general support for cancer survivors, family and friends. Programs alternate with a Speaker or Share and Care. Meetings are held the 2nd Thursday each month from 4:30- 5:30 p.m.

**Contact:**

Vivian Bly, Facilitator  
386-684-2490  
133 N. CR 315  
Interlachen, FL 32148

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## Woman's Club of Palatka

[www.gfwcpalatka.com](http://www.gfwcpalatka.com)

This group provides mutual support and social interaction for women with breast cancer. Call for additional information. Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday each month at 4:30 pm.

**Contact:**

Bridget Dennis  
386-937-3579  
600 South 13th Street  
Palatka, FL 32177

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