

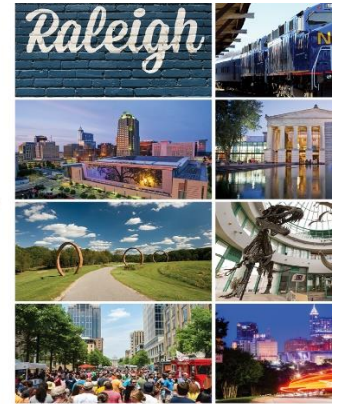
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38TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 15-17, 2022

Raleigh Marriott City Center | Raleigh, North Carolina USA

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Suicide Assessment: Implementing an Educational Program to Improve Suicide Assessment, Intervention and Documentation with Oncology Patients and Families

Pre-con Workshop
Tuesday, 6/14/2022
8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Teresa van Oort, LCSW-S, MHA; Mark Anderson, JD, LMSW; Yasiva Canga-Gonzalez, MSW

Session Description:

The Social Work Department at MD Anderson has created a staff-training curriculum designed to enhance the overall understanding of the process of suicide intervention and assessment, the tools involved in the process and documentation after the CURES Act. Previously, our staff received institutional and one-on-one training, however, this curriculum focuses on the assessment and intervention aspects with oncology patients, rather than just focusing on completing the C-SSRS tool. For the conference, we will be offering a shortened version of the full-day training. We will explore the current health care environment's views and statistics related to suicide, the attendees' transference and countertransference with a suicidal patient, the Columbia Suicide Severity Screening (C-SSRS) tools integration into assessment, and how to engage staff in a similar daylong training curriculum. Trainees will learn to better address a suicidal patient's needs and how to have a richer more comprehensive conversation with their patients about these very important issues.

Learning Objectives:

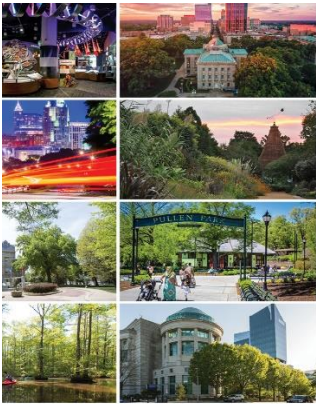
1. Discuss the suicide process throughout the oncology patient's disease cycle (new diagnosis, disease progression, remission, end of life).
2. Examine their beliefs about suicide and the ethical implications when teaching others suicide assessment interventions and discussion.
3. Design a similar suicide assessment and interventional educational program for their departments.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Education, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 4



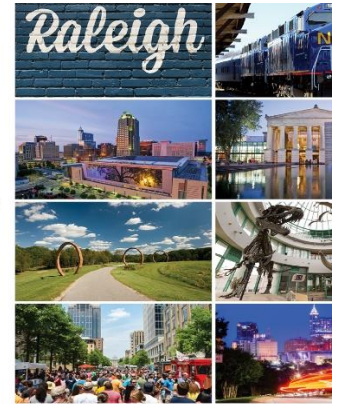
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Let's Talk About Sex: Understanding Our Own Biases and Becoming More Comfortable with the Conversation

Pre-con Workshop

Tuesday, 6/14/2022

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Jennifer Bires, LCSW, OSW-C; Sage Bolte, LCSW, PhD, CST

Session Description:

A Sexual Attitude Reassessment (SAR), often the cornerstone of sexual health trainings, use media, vignettes, and other information to begin examining and understanding the many layers of our sexual attitudes and beliefs. This mini SAR will allow participants to begin to explore their own sexual health value system. Sexual health is a critical aspect of quality of life. Cancer and its treatments have both acute and chronic impact on a patient's and partner's sexual health (Flynn et al., 2011), yet this critical assessment and conversation is all too often overlooked in medical assessments (Arora et al., 2013; Bdair & Constantino, 2017; Nusbaum & Hamilton, 2002). Barriers to more challenging conversations like sexual health can certainly be environmental including real time constraints, but many of the major barriers are our own internal barriers – perceptions, assumptions, discomfort, misinformation and fear (Bdair & Constantino, 2017). To do this, it requires a level of comfort in raising the questions of sexual health along with a level of comfort in being open to whatever information or additional questions may arise once the topic is broached. This interactive presentation using didactic and experiential teaching methods, grounded in research and evidenced based interventions, will explore our own perceived and real barriers along with the discomforts we may experience in doing sexual health assessments so that we can be fully present and the best advocates for our patients and their sexual health and lead by example within our teams.

Learning Objectives:

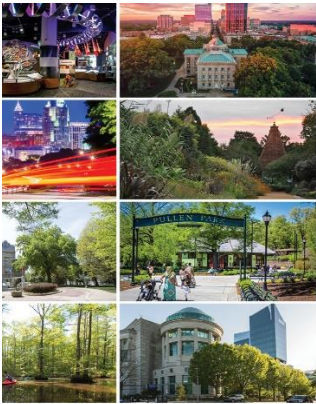
1. Recognize their own biases, attitudes, values and beliefs when people's sexual behaviors differ from their own.
2. Address and Discuss a wide range of sexual health topics.
3. Apply fresh ideas in sexual health enabling them to provide high quality, equitable sexual health information and referral or treatment.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Special Populations

Presentation Level: Advanced

CE credits: 4



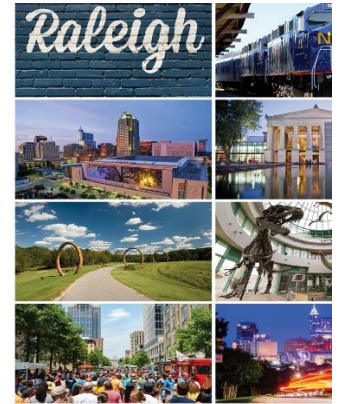
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Opening Keynote: COVID-19, Racial Inequity and Cancer Care: Addressing the Gaps through a Cultural Competence Lens

Opening Keynote

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

9:30 am - 10:30 am

Karen Bullock, PhD, LCSW, APHSW-C

Session Description:

Long-standing systemic health and social inequities have put many Black, Indigenous, Hispanic/Latino, Asian and Pacific Island populations at risk for greater morbidity and mortality than White populations, historically; and this risk has been undeniably pronounced by coronavirus. The future of oncology social work in the context of such inequities demands a call-to-action with a commitment to ethics and essential leadership on care teams, in the community and educational institutions. This Keynote discusses cultural competence as a standard of practice in the Social Work Code of Ethics and a tool for addressing disparities, breaking the silence about structural and systemic racism and promoting patient-centered care.

Learning Objectives:

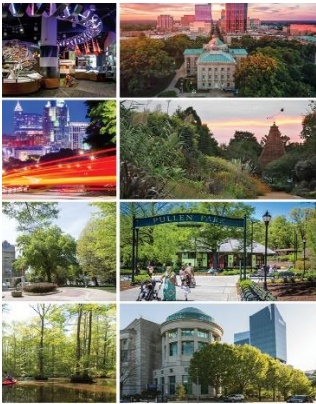
1. Identify barriers and mediating factors influencing racial/ethnic inequities in cancer care.
2. Describe the importance of dismantling structural and systemic racism in serious illness care using culturally competent as a tool for developing anti-racist practices.
3. Discuss a framework for critical self-assessment, guiding principles, and strategies for establishing and re-evaluating best practices in oncology social work for eliminating healthcare inequities for individuals and families that have been historically marginalized by healthcare systems.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Special Populations

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1



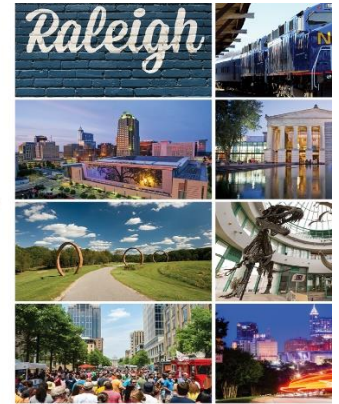
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Remembrance and Renewal: Grief Support Programming for Healthcare Workers

Paper Session I

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Emily Lambrecht-Stock, LISW-S, OSW-C

Session Description:

Oncology healthcare staff develop meaningful relationships with their patients. When a patient passes away, professionals can experience disenfranchised grief where the loss isn't acknowledged or socially supported. High levels of grief and low acknowledgment can lead to a high level of secondary traumatic stress and burnout. The Remembrance and Renewal (R&R) program was designed and implemented in a cancer hospital to build resilience and decrease risks of burnout resulting from grief due to patient deaths. R&R is a self-guided, personalized experience for all oncology healthcare staff to remember those who have impacted their lives both professionally and personally, as well as renew their mind, body, and spirit. Development and implementation of the R&R program will be discussed as well as the importance of support for oncology healthcare worker's grief.

Learning Objectives:

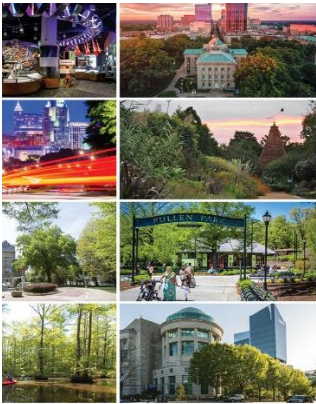
1. Describe at least two impacts of grief on oncology healthcare workers.
2. State at least one example of how Remembrance and Renewal programming has addressed grief in healthcare workers.
3. Evaluate how a grief program could be implemented in their workplace.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Self Care, Interdisciplinary Care

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1



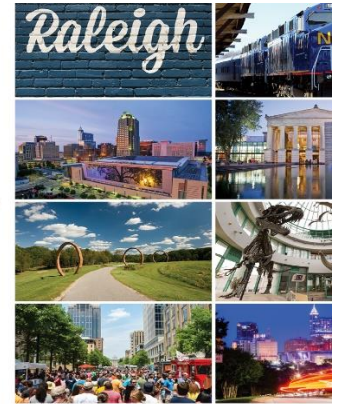
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Recognizing BIPOC Barriers to Care in Times of COVID-19 and Identifying Improved Access to Oncology Care

Paper Session I

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Dawnica Mathis-Huff, LCSW-S; Kendolyn Shankle, LCSW; Djuana Fomby, LCSW

Session Description:

This presentation will review how COVID 19 has impacted barriers to oncology care in the BIPOC community and provide viable solutions for clinicians. The purpose is to enhance quality of care for BIPOC patients by increasing oncology social work knowledge and provide tools to implement in practice. This presentation will increase social work practitioners' knowledge through open discussion, case studies, evidence-based dialogue, and role play to enhance necessary skills for clinicians in social work practice.

Learning Objectives:

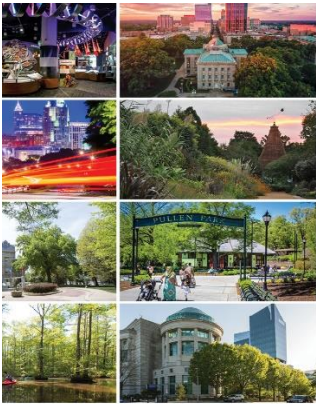
1. Discuss barriers to care in BIPOC community.
2. Enhance cultural competencies in the BIPOC community to increase access to care.
3. Implement knowledge of social determinants of health to apply in practice and improve health outcomes in the BIPOC community.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Special Populations, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1



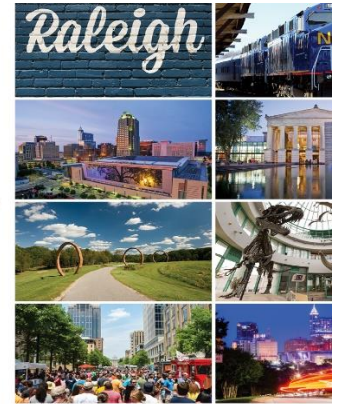
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Expanding Models of Oncology Peer Support

Paper Session I

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Miriam Pomerantz, LSW; Lisa Capparella, MSS, LCSW, OSW-C

Session Description:

Oncology peer support programs are based on the premise that support from others who have been through a similar experience can help reduce the negative impacts of those affected by cancer (Campell, Phaneuf, Deane, 2004). However, there are a paucity of programs that address the needs of the actual peer supporters even though their role is imperative in supporting those who are newly diagnosed with cancer or those who in their cancer care journey, although such programs exist in other areas (Kowitt, Ellis, Carlisle, et al., 2019). In 2020, SW's in a cancer center located in the northeast US developed the novel Buddy2Buddy program. The program formally supports current Buddies (peer supporters) who have volunteered their time and energies to support newly diagnosed patients, or any patient, along their continuum of care. The Buddy2Buddy program has three main goals, to provide education, networking opportunities and survivorship support. Criteria for becoming a Buddy include being someone who >1-year post-treatment, compassionate, a good listener, and communicative. Buddies undergo an interview process and training session before being matched with patients. OSW's provide formal support for these Buddies via follow-up calls and problem-solving related to specific Buddy Program-matched cases. More formal supports include an optional monthly psychoeducation group; each session focuses on a different topic related to the program goals. Interventions such as the Buddy2Buddy Program can directly influence the psychosocial well-being of the Buddies, and can indirectly influence the well-being of their matched cancer patients by improving access to social/relational and knowledge.

Learning Objectives:

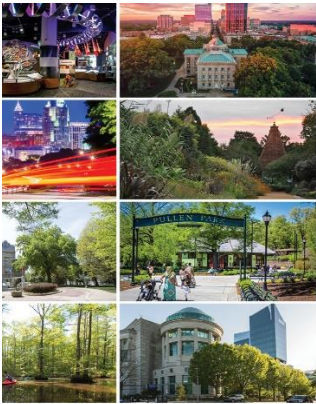
1. Describe and discuss at least three characteristics of a successful peer support program.
2. Discuss what is involved in developing and evaluating an internal buddy and a peer support program.
3. Identify at least 3 self-reported benefits of being involved in a peer support program.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Education, Survivorship

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1



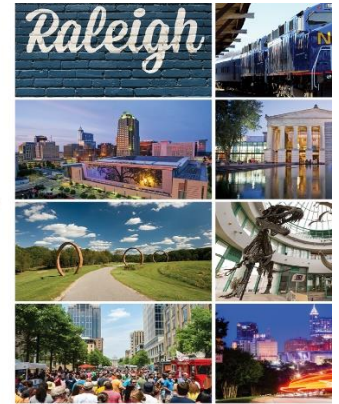
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Hello? Where Did Everybody Go? Initial Impressions Regarding the Impact of Facilitating a Bereavement Support Group in an Oncology Setting

Paper Session I

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Amy Burke, LCSW, OSW-C

Session Description:

This presentation will reflect upon experiences facilitating a bereavement support group in an oncology setting. Moffitt Cancer Center is a national comprehensive cancer and research institute serving patients throughout the state of Florida and nationally, offering inpatient and outpatient care and an extensive array of clinical trials. In spite of all of the life-saving treatments that are offered, patients die and we recognized potential benefits of offering bereavement support to caregivers and loved ones of individuals who have died following their care at Moffitt. Patients and families often become accustomed to attending appointments at an oncology center while pursuing aggressive treatment with a goal of either curing a disease, or prolonging life. The relationship with an oncology provider can feel abruptly severed when a patient either dies, or is referred to hospice care. A sense of loss may be compounded. As oncology professionals, we often excel at guiding individuals and families through exhausting all identified aggressive treatment options. Have we, at times, stopped short of acknowledging death, grief and bereavement as an important potential experience on the cancer trajectory? At Moffitt, we sensed an opportunity to extend patient-and family-centered care beyond active treatment to include bereavement support. Hello – we're still here for you as you adjust after saying goodbye.

Learning Objectives:

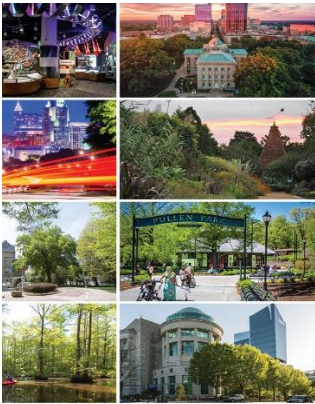
1. Align bereavement/grief support with patient-and family-centered oncology care.
2. Identify potential barriers and benefits to establishing a bereavement support group at an oncology center.
3. Review an example of a bereavement support group psychoeducational format, including general grief experiences among support group members.
4. Discuss opportunities for ongoing innovation in acknowledging grief and providing bereavement support in an oncology setting.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Specialized Needs, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1



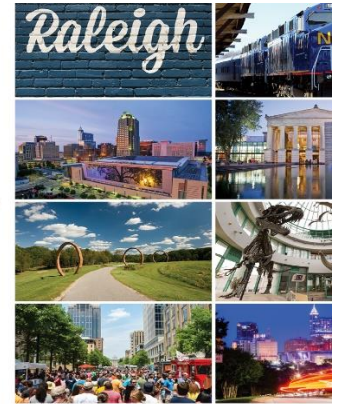
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It Starts With You: How Oncology Social Workers can Successfully Create Institutional Change and Grow Your Program

Paper Session I

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Courtney Bitz, LCSW, OSW-C, ACHP-SW

Session Description:

The Covid pandemic and social repercussions are causing dramatic changes in healthcare. Times of disruption are opportunities for oncology social workers (OSW) to strategically impact institutional change and programmatic growth. The natural bridge from clinical skills to leadership skills is under-appreciated and yet has never been more opportune. There remains a gap in OSW education and training in learning how to be a strategic leader, influence decision makers and create meaningful change in our institutions. This presentation will focus on three OSW created programs, 1. Couples Coping with Cancer Together Program, 2. Patient and Family Goals of Care Program, and 3. Clinical Social Work Billing Program as examples of how incorporating specific strategies and leadership skills resulted in innovation, institutional change, and programmatic growth. The programs will be briefly presented with emphasis on the strategies and leadership skills that contributed to success. Examples of strategies: relentless perseverance, engaging stakeholders using the values-benefits-outcomes model and incorporating transformational language. Leadership skills consist of emotional regulation, connecting with values from diverse perspectives, building trust with stakeholders, and staying forward thinking. A staff leadership model, and strengths-based ways of working, will be introduced as an essential foundation. Additional benefits to OSW incorporating these strategies, leadership skills and staff leadership model: enhanced integration with and seen as essential to institutional priorities, a greater likelihood psychosocial services will be available to patients/families, less likely to be furloughed in times of financial institutional distress and the ability to contribute to the growth of the OSW field.

Learning Objectives:

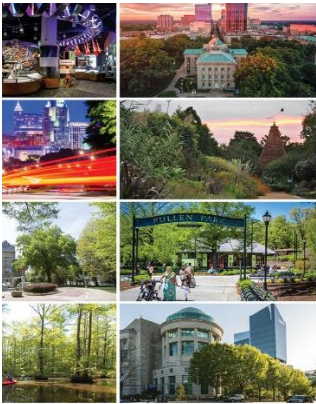
1. Describe specific strategies and leadership skills that are key to successfully creating institutional change and programmatic growth.
2. Define a staff leadership model and strengths-based ways of working.
3. Apply specific strategies, leadership skills, staff leadership model, and strengths-based ways of working in their professional practice and institutions.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Leadership/Administration, Advocacy

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1



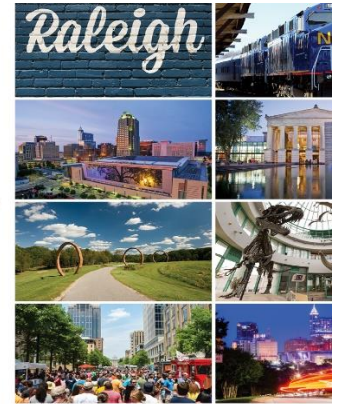
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Solution-Focused Brief Therapy as a Strength-Based, Hope-Engendering, and Culturally Inclusive Approach for Adolescents and Young Adults Diagnosed with Cancer (Part I)

CPI 1 (Part 1)

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Anao Zhang, LCSW, ACSW, ACBT

Session Description:

Solution-focused brief therapy (SFBT) is a strength-based and hope-engendering therapeutic approach, with a wealth of literature supporting its effectiveness for psychological and mental health outcomes. This interactive practice intensive workshop focuses on delivering SFBT to adolescents and young adults (AYAs) diagnosed with cancer from the lenses of clinical and research literature. When compared with diagnostically oriented approaches, like cognitive-behavioral therapy, a non-diagnostic approach is arguably more appropriate given many irrational thoughts in the general population are often rationale and normal among individuals diagnosed with cancer. Participants will learn the up-to-date clinical and empirical evidence supporting SFBT for AYA cancer survivors, including those from a racial/ethnic minority background. Participants will also learn proposed change theories/mechanisms of SFBT to promote psychosocial wellness related to specific SFBT techniques. Special attention will be given to adjusting SFBT for cancer populations, for AYAs diagnosed with cancer, and for AYA cancer survivors from a racial/ethnic minority background. Participants will have the opportunity to practice SFBT techniques/skills and clinical strategies through interactive clinical case discussions and reflections. Clinician intentionality, i.e., when, how, and why use what SFBT techniques/skills, will also be emphasized during the workshop. Participants will also have the opportunity to share their own clinical cases and ask questions.

Learning Objectives:

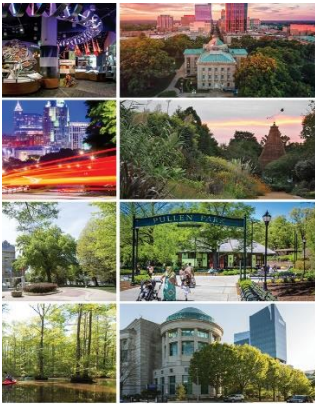
1. Describe the clinical and research/empirical evidence supporting SFBT as a culturally inclusive therapeutic method for AYAs diagnosed with cancer.
2. Analyze SFBT techniques/skills in relation to its change theories/mechanisms when being delivered to cancer populations.
3. Appraise and critique the use of various SFBT techniques given certain clinical scenarios.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Adolescent and Young Adult

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



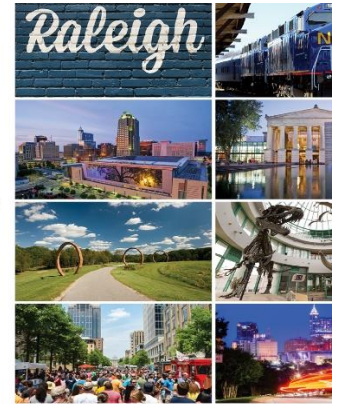
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Many Thanks: Gratitude's Role in Alleviating Existential Distress Related to Cancer (Part I)

CPI 1 (Part 1)

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Kerry Irish, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW; Kailie Sullivan, LCSW, OSW-C

Session Description:

Existential distress within the context of cancer may include death anxiety, grief related to change and loss, challenges related to loss of autonomy and control, regret over the past, and a sense of isolation and altered relationships (Kissane & Franzcp, 2012; Vehling & Philipp, 2018). Understanding and alleviating existential distress is an essential component of the clinical care provided by oncology social workers, and clinical interventions aimed at promoting gratitude demonstrate positive results in reducing death anxiety and fear of recurrence (Otto, Szczesny, Soriano, Laurenceau & Siegel, 2016), reducing distress (Ruini & Vescovelli, 2012), improving resilience (Cerezo, Ortiz-Tallo, Caredenal, & Torre-Luque, 2014), higher psychological functioning (Ruini & Vescovelli, 2012; Sztachanska, Krejtz, & Nezelek, 2019), greater social support (Sztachanska et al, 2019), post-traumatic growth (Ruini & Vescovelli, 2012) and overall improvement in well-being (Cerezo et al, 2014). There is also an emerging body of research on the benefits of gratitude for the wellbeing of healthcare workers in mitigating the effects of stress and empathic distress (Cheng, Tsui & Lam, 2015). The focus of this clinical practice intensive is to increase knowledge and clinical acumen with evidence-based and practical, easy-to-use clinical practice materials. The presentation will: (1) Provide a theoretical context and review of the current literature regarding existential distress in cancer patients and the benefits of gratitude interventions to mitigate same; (2) provide specific clinical skill-building suggestions for oncology, palliative care and hospice social workers; and (3) incorporate suggestions for developing programs that may enhance both patient and staff well-being.

Learning Objectives:

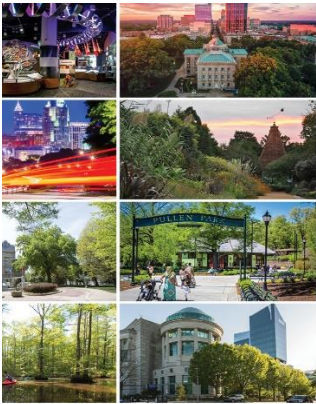
1. Identify and describe existential distress and factors that contribute to same in cancer patients.
2. Articulate the value of gratitude in enhancing wellbeing and mitigating existential distress in cancer patients.
3. Identify and apply three gratitude-enhancing clinical interventions with cancer patients.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



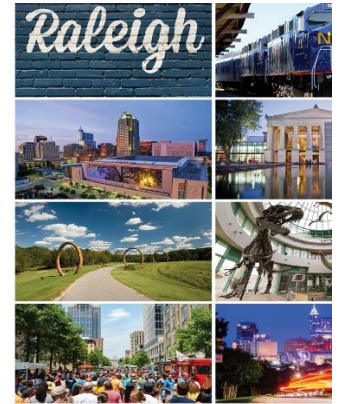
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From Margin to Center: Unmasking Invisibility of Asian American Experience and Improving Service Delivery for Asian American Patients (Part I)

CPI 1 (Part 1)

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Ayaka Nakaji, MSW, LCSW; Sarah Low, MSN, RN, OCN, CMSRN; Bonnie Yoo, MSW, LCSW

Session Description:

Asians/Asian Americans are well represented in the health care provider pool but as a patient population group, they are not well studied and their needs are not well understood despite being the only ethnic group in the United States whose leading cause of death is cancer and not heart disease (Lee et al., 2021). Furthermore, Asian identified Oncology Social Workers represent merely 3.91% of the membership in AOSW according to the Diversity and Inclusion Statement issued in 2020. This trend contributes to the invisibility of Asians/Asian Americans in research and public policy even though Asian American face unique health challenges and cancer disparities (Fang & Ragin, 2020 & Lee et al., 2021). One of the keys to tackle this invisibility and fostering deeper understanding of Asian/Asian American experiences is to examine different migration patterns each ethnic group has followed and how those experiences have shaped current social and economic status, processes of acculturation, shared traumas, as well as health seeking behaviors (Lee et al., 2009 & Karasz et al., 2019). This proposed 3-hour practice intensive training aims to bring awareness to how cultural and historical contexts of Asian/Asian American diaspora experience impact Asian/Asian American cancer patients and their families, how biases associated with Asian/Asian Americans might be affecting the oncology social worker's assessment and intervention, and make recommendations for strategies to provide more culturally attuned service utilizing intersectional approach. Presenters will utilize case examples, small group discussions, interactive exercises, and other learning strategies.

Learning Objectives:

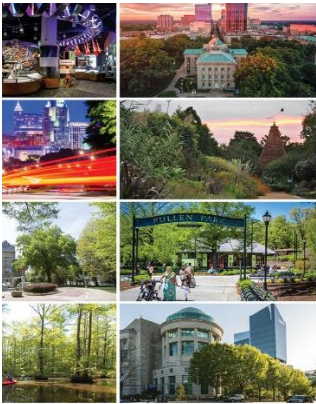
1. Identify and discuss at least three major cancer disparities facing Asian/Asian American patients.
2. Describe at least two characteristics concerning the context of Asian Diaspora experience and how that may impact Asian American patients and their families.
3. Discuss and apply at least three intervention strategies enabling more effective communication when working with Asian American patients and their families.
4. Apply at least three intervention strategies for working in, communicating and advocating with interdisciplinary team members related to unmet needs of Asian/Asian American patients and their families.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Special Populations, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



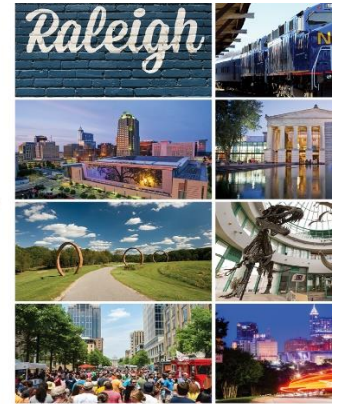
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Mind the Gap: Building Advocacy Skills to Cross the Line Between Clinical and Policy Practice (Part I)

CPI 1 (Part 1)

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Sarah Conning, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, APHSW-C; Michael Grignon, LMSW, CCM, MBA; Leena Nehru, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; Elana Campbell, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C

Session Description:

The imperative to promote social justice is a defining feature of the social work profession. Viewing individuals within the context of their social environment and supporting them with interventions that span micro, meso, and macro levels is both the genius of social work and a sorely needed corrective in our health care system. Yet strong forces within our training, employment and professional development create a divide between clinical and policy practice. Recognizing that the 2022 AOSW Annual Conference will take place during a midterm election year, along with many changes in healthcare delivery due to the pandemic (think telehealth), this panel presentation will include a health policy briefing and overview of current focus issues identified by major cancer advocacy organizations. Participants will review and practice advocacy skills that can be used right away, including identifying policy implications of individual cases, helping patients tell their stories, communicating with decisionmakers, and engaging with advocacy coalitions. We will critically examine the “gap” that persists between clinical and policy practice in order to identify barriers and opportunities to better fulfill our advocacy mission, both individually and collectively. Participants in this session will help to inform and shape AOSW’s advocacy agenda by engaging in critical analysis and discussion, together with members of the Advocacy Committee, of this crucial dimension of our profession.

Learning Objectives:

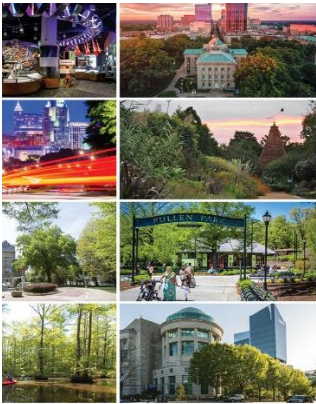
1. Identify and describe barriers to more effective integration of clinical and policy practice in the field of social work.
2. Describe current policy initiatives identified by major cancer advocacy organizations and identify the problems and principles behind them.
3. Develop a plan for applying advocacy skills in routine practice and engaging in collective action toward a better society.
4. Practice the skills needed to engage effectively with legislators and other policy decision makers.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Advocacy

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1.5



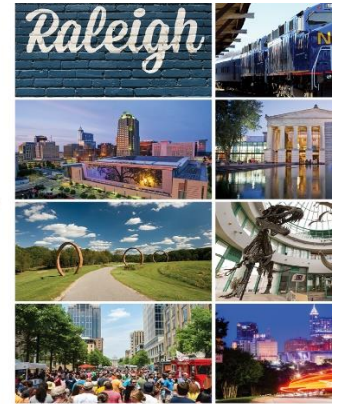
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Solution-Focused Brief Therapy as a Strength-Based, Hope-Engendering, and Culturally Inclusive Approach for Adolescents and Young Adults Diagnosed with Cancer (Part II)

CPI 1 (Part 2)

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Anao Zhang, LCSW, ACSW, ACBT

Session Description:

Solution-focused brief therapy (SFBT) is a strength-based and hope-engendering therapeutic approach, with a wealth of literature supporting its effectiveness for psychological and mental health outcomes. This interactive practice intensive workshop focuses on delivering SFBT to adolescents and young adults (AYAs) diagnosed with cancer from the lenses of clinical and research literature. When compared with diagnostically oriented approaches, like cognitive-behavioral therapy, a non-diagnostic approach is arguably more appropriate given many irrational thoughts in the general population are often rationale and normal among individuals diagnosed with cancer. Participants will learn the up-to-date clinical and empirical evidence supporting SFBT for AYA cancer survivors, including those from a racial/ethnic minority background. Participants will also learn proposed change theories/mechanisms of SFBT to promote psychosocial wellness related to specific SFBT techniques. Special attention will be given to adjusting SFBT for cancer populations, for AYAs diagnosed with cancer, and for AYA cancer survivors from a racial/ethnic minority background. Participants will have the opportunity to practice SFBT techniques/skills and clinical strategies through interactive clinical case discussions and reflections. Clinician intentionality, i.e., when, how, and why use what SFBT techniques/skills, will also be emphasized during the workshop. Participants will also have the opportunity to share their own clinical cases and ask questions.

Learning Objectives:

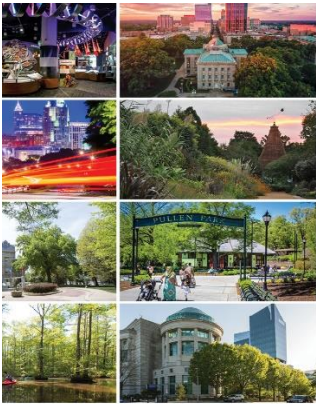
1. Describe the clinical and research/empirical evidence supporting SFBT as a culturally inclusive therapeutic method for AYAs diagnosed with cancer.
2. Analyze SFBT techniques/skills in relation to its change theories/mechanisms when being delivered to cancer populations.
3. Appraise and critique the use of various SFBT techniques given certain clinical scenarios.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Adolescent and Young Adult

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



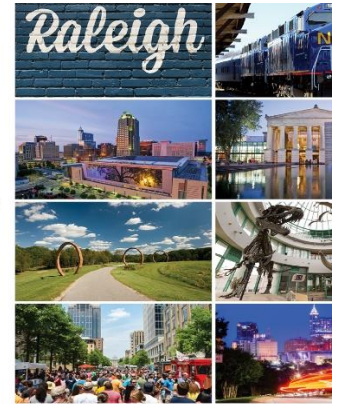
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Many Thanks: Gratitude's Role in Alleviating Existential Distress Related to Cancer (Part II)

CPI 1 (Part 2)

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Kerry Irish, LCSW, OSW-C, FAOSW; Kailie Sullivan, LCSW, OSW-C

Session Description:

Existential distress within the context of cancer may include death anxiety, grief related to change and loss, challenges related to loss of autonomy and control, regret over the past, and a sense of isolation and altered relationships (Kissane & Franzcp, 2012; Vehling & Philipp, 2018). Understanding and alleviating existential distress is an essential component of the clinical care provided by oncology social workers, and clinical interventions aimed at promoting gratitude demonstrate positive results in reducing death anxiety and fear of recurrence (Otto, Szczesny, Soriano, Laurenceau & Siegel, 2016), reducing distress (Ruini & Vescovelli, 2012), improving resilience (Cerezo, Ortiz-Tallo, Caredenal, & Torre-Luque, 2014), higher psychological functioning (Ruini & Vescovelli, 2012; Sztachanska, Krejtz, & Nezelek, 2019), greater social support (Sztachanska et al, 2019), post-traumatic growth (Ruini & Vescovelli, 2012) and overall improvement in well-being (Cerezo et al, 2014). There is also an emerging body of research on the benefits of gratitude for the wellbeing of healthcare workers in mitigating the effects of stress and empathic distress (Cheng, Tsui & Lam, 2015). The focus of this clinical practice intensive is to increase knowledge and clinical acumen with evidence-based and practical, easy-to-use clinical practice materials. The presentation will: (1) Provide a theoretical context and review of the current literature regarding existential distress in cancer patients and the benefits of gratitude interventions to mitigate same; (2) provide specific clinical skill-building suggestions for oncology, palliative care and hospice social workers; and (3) incorporate suggestions for developing programs that may enhance both patient and staff well-being.

Learning Objectives:

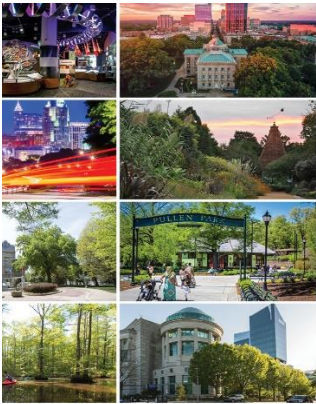
1. Identify and describe existential distress and factors that contribute to same in cancer patients.
2. Articulate the value of gratitude in enhancing wellbeing and mitigating existential distress in cancer patients.
3. Identify and apply three gratitude-enhancing clinical interventions with cancer patients.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



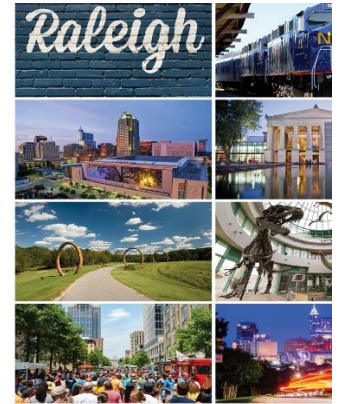
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From Margin to Center: Unmasking Invisibility of Asian American Experience and Improving Service Delivery for Asian American Patients (Part II)

CPI 1 (Part 2)

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Ayaka Nakaji, MSW, LCSW; Sarah Low, MSN, RN, OCN, CMSRN; Bonnie Yoo, MSW, LCSW

Session Description:

Asians/Asian Americans are well represented in the health care provider pool but as a patient population group, they are not well studied and their needs are not well understood despite being the only ethnic group in the United States whose leading cause of death is cancer and not heart disease (Lee et al., 2021). Furthermore, Asian identified Oncology Social Workers represent merely 3.91% of the membership in AOSW according to the Diversity and Inclusion Statement issued in 2020. This trend contributes to the invisibility of Asians/Asian Americans in research and public policy even though Asian American face unique health challenges and cancer disparities (Fang & Ragin, 2020 & Lee et al., 2021). One of the keys to tackle this invisibility and fostering deeper understanding of Asian/Asian American experiences is to examine different migration patterns each ethnic group has followed and how those experiences have shaped current social and economic status, processes of acculturation, shared traumas, as well as health seeking behaviors (Lee et al., 2009 & Karasz et al., 2019). This proposed 3-hour practice intensive training aims to bring awareness to how cultural and historical contexts of Asian/Asian American diaspora experience impact Asian/Asian American cancer patients and their families, how biases associated with Asian/Asian Americans might be affecting the oncology social worker's assessment and intervention, and make recommendations for strategies to provide more culturally attuned service utilizing intersectional approach. Presenters will utilize case examples, small group discussions, interactive exercises, and other learning strategies.

Learning Objectives:

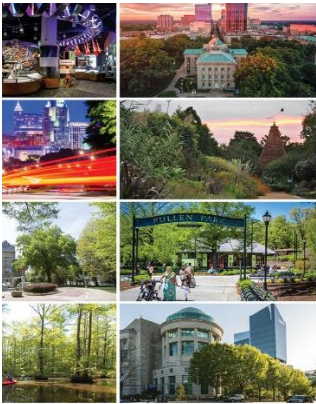
1. Identify and discuss at least three major cancer disparities facing Asian/Asian American patients.
2. Describe at least two characteristics concerning the context of Asian Diaspora experience and how that may impact Asian American patients and their families.
3. Discuss and apply at least three intervention strategies enabling more effective communication when working with Asian American patients and their families.
4. Apply at least three intervention strategies for working in, communicating and advocating with interdisciplinary team members related to unmet needs of Asian/Asian American patients and their families.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Special Populations, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



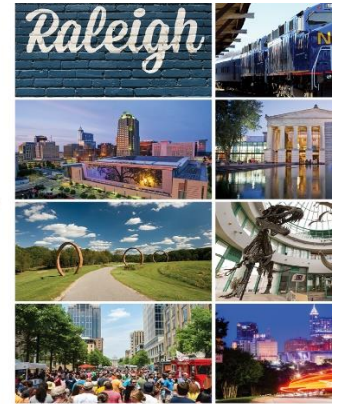
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Mind the Gap: Building Advocacy Skills to Cross the Line Between Clinical and Policy Practice (Part II)

CPI 1 (Part 2)

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Sarah Conning, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C, APHSW-C; Michael Grignon, LMSW, CCM, MBA; Leena Nehru, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; Elana Campbell, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C

Session Description:

The imperative to promote social justice is a defining feature of the social work profession. Viewing individuals within the context of their social environment and supporting them with interventions that span micro, meso, and macro levels is both the genius of social work and a sorely needed corrective in our health care system. Yet strong forces within our training, employment and professional development create a divide between clinical and policy practice. Recognizing that the 2022 AOSW Annual Conference will take place during a midterm election year, along with many changes in healthcare delivery due to the pandemic (think telehealth), this panel presentation will include a health policy briefing and overview of current focus issues identified by major cancer advocacy organizations. Participants will review and practice advocacy skills that can be used right away, including identifying policy implications of individual cases, helping patients tell their stories, communicating with decisionmakers, and engaging with advocacy coalitions. We will critically examine the “gap” that persists between clinical and policy practice in order to identify barriers and opportunities to better fulfill our advocacy mission, both individually and collectively. Participants in this session will help to inform and shape AOSW’s advocacy agenda by engaging in critical analysis and discussion, together with members of the Advocacy Committee, of this crucial dimension of our profession.

Learning Objectives:

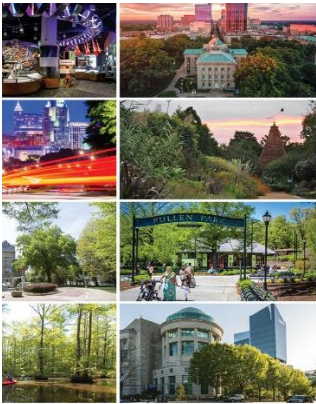
1. Identify and describe barriers to more effective integration of clinical and policy practice in the field of social work.
2. Describe current policy initiatives identified by major cancer advocacy organizations and identify the problems and principles behind them.
3. Develop a plan for applying advocacy skills in routine practice and engaging in collective action toward a better society.
4. Practice the skills needed to engage effectively with legislators and other policy decision makers.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Advocacy

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1.5



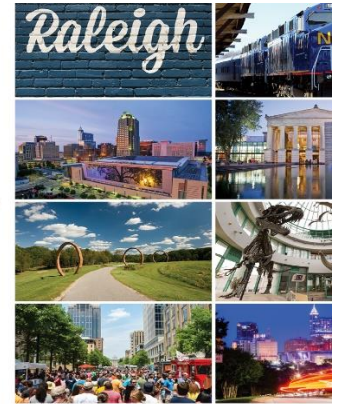
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Access with Quality in Mind: Transforming a Caregiver Discharge Class for Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplant
Paper Session II
Wednesday, 6/15/2022
4:50 pm - 5:50 pm

Lucia Lemus Mejia, MSW, LCSW, ACHP-SW, OSW-C; Nicole D'Souza, MSW, LCSW; Jose Llanes, BSN, RN

Session Description:

Caregivers experience burden and stress, lack self-care skills, and have higher rates of depression and anxiety, particularly following hospital discharge (2, 5, 6, 7, 8). The COVID-19 pandemic significantly disrupted cancer care and led to heightened distress among caregivers (11, 13). Discharge preparedness has been associated with better quality of life and reduced burden among caregivers (3, 4, 5, 12). In its inception, City of Hope's HCT Discharge Class for Caregivers relied solely on in-person teaching. Inspiration from the existing platform prompted an interdisciplinary team to develop a versatile, caregiver-centric approach which enhanced class accessibility for caregivers during the COVID-19 period. The transformed model was expanded to five different platforms to increase accessibility and eliminate in-person reliance for learning (1). Marketing and promotion plans were also developed to build further engagement across the multidisciplinary team. A six-month statistical analysis suggested that the new virtual class promoted knowledge gain, readiness to care for the patient at home, and self-awareness for needs as a caregiver. A desire to act with a sense of urgency led to the development of a sustainable, adaptable, and replicable model, regardless of class content or target population.

Learning Objectives:

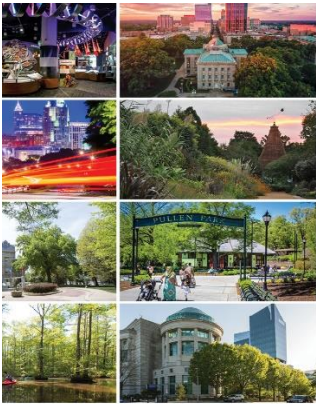
1. Differentiate between the varied benefits among five unique ways to deliver education to caregivers of Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation patients.
2. Extrapolate the components of this 'HCT Discharge Class for Caregivers' model that are replicable in your setting.
3. Describe the concept of "caregiver-centricity" as it relates to interventions aimed at successful patient transition from the hospital following Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Disease Type (ovarian, lung, GYN, etc.), Education

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1



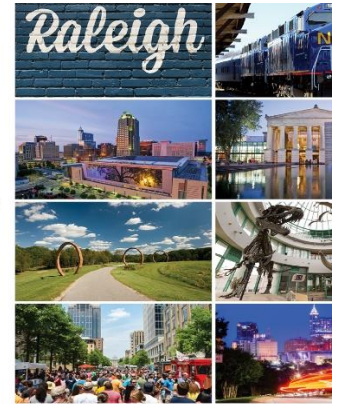
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Social Work Productivity: Using Quantitative Data To Show Qualitative Work

Paper Session II

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

4:50 pm - 5:50 pm

Teresa van Oort, LCSW-S, MHA

Session Description:

This presentation will explore the development of a numerical algorithm used to monitor and track oncology social work practice productivity. The discussion will focus on the process from piloting to ultimate implementation, including the current piloting at other institutions to measure its effectiveness across the profession. The goal is to enhance social work leadership's ability to show the work done by social work counselors in their daily practices. Through open discussion, case studies, and discussion of the potential creation of an evidence-based tool; this presentation will open a dialogue and provide necessary skills for oncology social workers to add to their practice.

Learning Objectives:

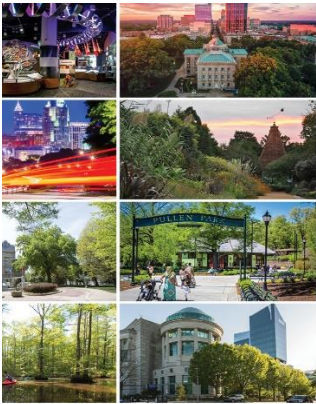
1. Discuss the history of measuring social work productivity, including current practices.
2. Recognize a new tool currently being used at MD Anderson and piloted at City of Hope.
3. Engage in a dialogue about measuring oncology social work productivity.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Leadership/Administration, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Advanced

CE credits: 1



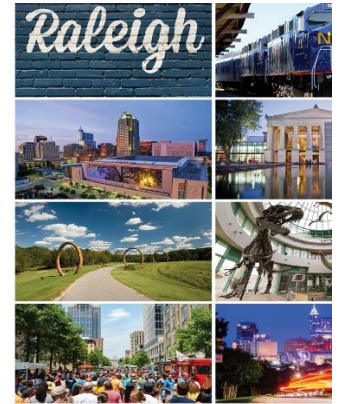
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Challenging Conversations: Social Workers Lead the Way

Paper Session II

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

4:50 pm - 5:50 pm

Cheryl Hughes, MSW, LCSW; Jennifer Bires, LCSW, OSW-C

Session Description:

Good communication skills are a valuable asset for oncology social workers, enabling them to build therapeutic relationships with patients, families and team members, paving the way for improved patient trust in the medical team (Markides, 2011). In addition, a demonstrated ability to communicate well is a leadership skill that is highly valued by other clinicians (Rank & Hutchison, 2000); therefore, raises the status of the oncology social worker in hospitals and cancer centers. This presentation brings together many factors that can contribute to being an expert communicator. It begins by outlining the impact of the autonomic nervous system response during challenging conversations. Knowledge of the way the human autonomic nervous system works can improve a clinician's ability to positively influence these conversations. Sympathetic nervous system response kicks into gear when we feel threatened (even if we're not actually being threatened). And if we are not aware – this can lead to a break down in communication. Learning how to notice this reaction and utilize relaxation skills to calm our nervous system can enable a clinician to more effectively engage in a hard conversation. It also has the added benefit of modulating the nervous system of the patients and families with whom they are meeting (Geller & Porges, 2014).

Learning Objectives:

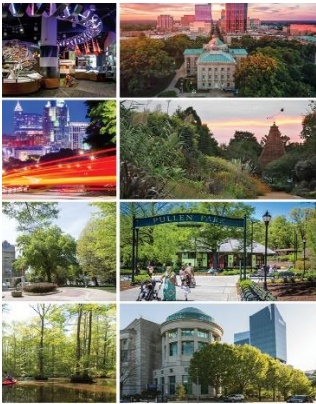
1. Describe the physiological responses occurring in both providers and patients during challenging conversations.
2. Identify strategies to remain calm and diffuse highly emotional interactions with patients and caregivers.
3. Implement effective strategies to communicate challenging news to patients, family members and other clinicians.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Leadership/Administration, Education

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1



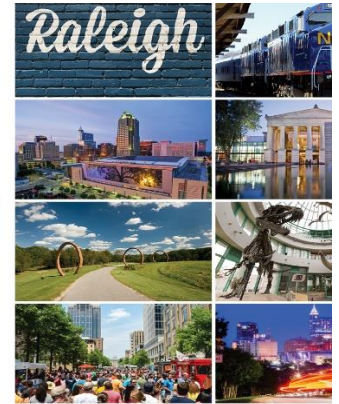
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Waiting and “Weighted Down”: the Challenge of Anticipatory Loss for Individuals and Families with Li-Fraumeni Syndrome

Paper Session II

Wednesday, 6/15/2022

4:50 pm - 5:50 pm

Catherine Wilsnack, MSW, LMSW

Session Description:

Li-Fraumeni Syndrome (LFS) is characterized by risk of multiple primary malignancies in diverse sites, pediatric onset, near complete penetrance by age 70 years, limited options for prevention, and substantial uncertainty regarding disease manifestation and prognosis. Forty-five families, including 120 individuals aged 13–81 years, enrolled in the National Cancer Institute’s Li-Fraumeni Syndrome Study completed 66 interviews regarding their LFS experiences. An interdisciplinary team used modified grounded theory to examine expectations of loss and change due to likely cancer diagnoses, and the consequences of this likelihood across physical, social, and emotional domains. Disease-free periods were characterized by fearful anticipation of diagnosis or recurrence, uncertainty regarding post-treatment quality of life, and planning for shifts in family dynamics to enable caregiving. The chronicity of waiting for these changes incited dread and inhibited effective coping with the pragmatic, emotional, and existential challenges of the syndrome. Consequently, families reported high burden on roles and resources and limited guidance to prepare for, or achieve resolution with, grief. Anticipatory loss, the experience of bereavement prior to an expected change, distinguishes hereditary cancer risk from a sporadic diagnosis. Such grief is often incomplete in impact or meaning, subjected to rapid or profound change as conditions worsen, and poorly understood. In this study, losses were compounded by profound uncertainty, a chronic feature of LFS, which compromised mourning. Long-term engagement of social workers with bereavement training, in partnership with genetics providers, can provide invaluable educational and psychological support to families as they navigate these implacable challenges.

Learning Objectives:

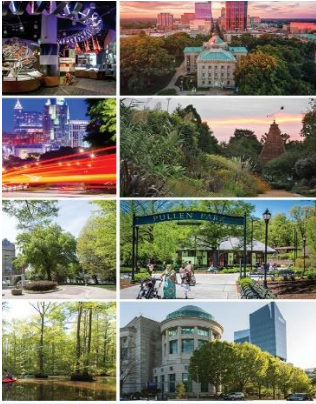
1. Apply the concept of anticipatory loss to the context of inherited cancer predisposition/genetic syndromes.
2. Identify physical and psychological/social losses and learn mechanisms for assessing and intervening with both.
3. Distinguish inherited cancer predispositions syndromes by their unique psychosocial features and the impact of these unique characteristics for care teams and intervention.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Pain, Palliative Care and End of Life, Special Populations

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1



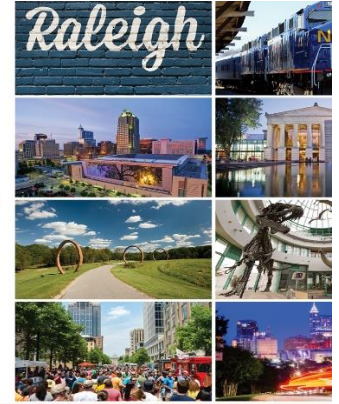
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The Hurried Life: Time May Not Be the Problem or the Solution

Learning Institute I

Thursday, 6/16/2022

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Debra Mattison, MSW, LMSW, ACSW, OSW-C, FAOSW

Session Description:

Oncology social work is not easy work. The pace and price of intense emotions experienced have been elevated to new heights over the last 2 years with an ongoing global pandemic, a social justice pandemic including racism, health inequities, existential fears regarding climate change and political fractures resulting in distrust and animosity in multiple relationships. We have experienced a plethora of losses, ranging from deaths of loved ones, patients, and colleagues to loss of daily routines and transitions never imagined. Many have coped by pushing harder and digging deeper. We are caught up in soul-numbing busyness--tired, worn out with a goal to just make it to the next scheduled day off. We find ourselves saying "There is just not enough time. If only we had more time." And yet, what would we do with more time? Work more on that backlog of tasks yet undone? We frequently talk with peers about exhaustion and pressure to perform, yet have no plan to address our needs. Having more time does not address the "hurried life." This session will explore "robbers" of time as well as strategies to stop searching for the elusive "more time" while engaging in more meaningful moments of what matters most. This session will provide didactic information while engaging in self-exploration activities to develop a personal plan to reduce the distress of a "hurried life." These principles are easily transferrable to clinical practice applying self-learning regarding one's "hurried life" to assisting patients with similar issues.

Learning Objectives:

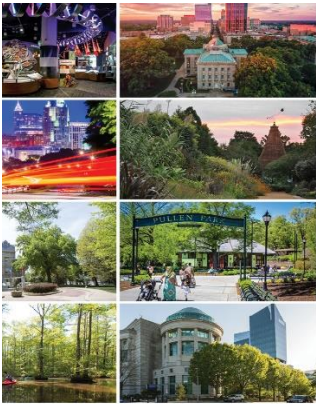
1. Examine evidence-informed contributors to a "hurried life" and potential professional physical, emotional and spiritual outcomes.
2. Engage in application of interprofessional informed strategies to develop a personal plan to navigate intentional movement from an unsustainable professional "hurried life" of depletion to a busy life of meaning.
3. Identify one application of content to clinical practice with patients and families.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Self Care, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



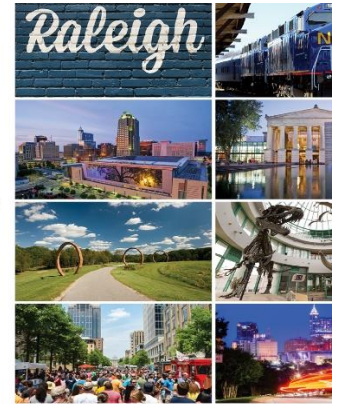
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Incorporating Intersectionality in Professional Development: Advocating for Social Justice through Mentorship
Learning Institute I
Thursday, 6/16/2022
8:30 am - 10:00 am

Lisa Capparella, LCSW; Shirley Otis-Green, LCSW, OSW-CE, FAOSW; Kristine Naputo, LMSW

Session Description:

This interactive learning institute will focus on exploring the benefits of mentorship throughout one's career, highlighting the importance and impact of incorporating intersectionality in professional development. This will be structured through: 1) An introduction of the value and benefits of mentorship, incorporating a theoretical and evidence-informed approach 2) An interactive discussion exploring the participants' mentorship experiences and 3) Group reflection and questions. Effective mentorship addresses such key components as: professionalism; clinical practice and research; diversity; ethics; leadership; innovation and program development; social justice; advocacy and health policy. Effective mentorship is mentee-centered, reciprocal and creates a safe environment for the explorations of injustices, concerns, fears, worries, as well as celebration for the accomplishments and professional growth of the mentee (Gardner et al., 2015). Mentorship can be a mechanism to address issues of underrepresentation and exclusion in our field and workplace (Remaker et al., 2019). We will facilitate a skill-building exercise using the NICE analysis model to create a personalized mentorship plan based on a critical discussion of the seven stages of mentorship (Richie & Genoni, 2007, pp. 11-12). Representing three generations of social work practice, the presenters will share their lived experiences to model, discuss and share the impact of formal and informal mentorship throughout their career trajectories. Discussion will focus on the logistics, burdens, and benefits related to various mentorship models, including strategies to assist participants in developing a professional mentorship network that evolves over time.

Learning Objectives:

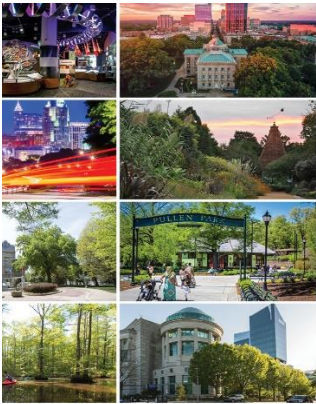
1. Identify the difference between mentorship and supervision, and describe the benefits of providing and receiving mentorship throughout one's career trajectory.
2. Self-identify qualities and traits of an effective mentor and develop a plan to create a comprehensive mentorship network.
3. Examine how social injustice and intersectionality impacts their work in individual, community, and in healthcare systems.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Professional Issues, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1.5



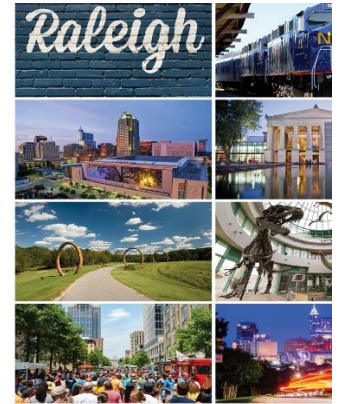
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Developing Antiracist Social Work Practice in Oncology Care

Learning Institute I

Thursday, 6/16/2022

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Linda Mathew, LCSW-R; Melissa Stewart, LCW-R; Meredith Cammarata, LCSW-R

Session Description:

The events of COVID-19 and the murder of George Floyd heightened the attention on racism in the United States including the significant health disparities for Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) and Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI). These racial disparities in healthcare are exacerbated by underlying inequities that stem from racist structural and systemic barriers across sectors. This experiential presentation will review the work of an Antiracism Committee (AC) that was initiated at a comprehensive cancer center. The work of the AC is in alignment with the updated Code of Ethics, as well as the institution's commitment to address racism and improve policies and practices for delivering care and developing the workforce. The AC's process of developing different methods designed to encourage oncology social workers to reflect on how racism manifests in the medical setting and their clinical practice will be discussed. The utilization of social location and the creation of community guidelines as core strategies in antiracism work will be explored.

Learning Objectives:

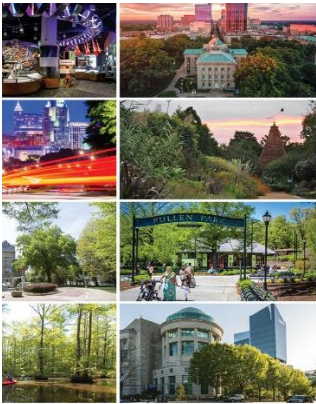
1. Identify ways that racism manifests in the medical setting and social work practice and impacts patient care.
2. Apply strategies for developing socially just antiracist social work practice in accordance with the NASW Code of Ethics.
3. Discuss how the use of social location and community guidelines supports antiracist social work practice.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Leadership/Administration, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Advanced

CE credits: 1.5



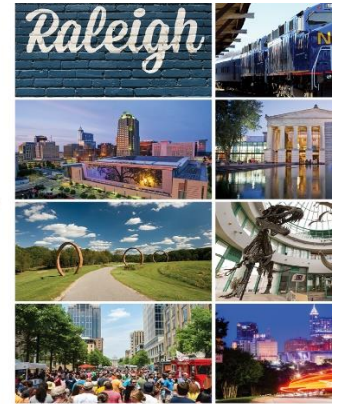
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Mitigating Financial Toxicity: Navigating Disability Insurance

Learning Institute I

Thursday, 6/16/2022

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Joanna Fawzy Morales, Esq.

Session Description:

When diagnosed with a serious medical condition, such as cancer, many patients question whether or not they will be able to work through their treatment or how long it will take before they can return to work. Patients often turn to members of their health care team, including social workers, for information about how to access disability insurance benefits. This learning institute will: 1) discuss various types of disability insurance options; 2) explore the interaction between the FMLA and different types of disability insurance; 3) explain the process to appeal denials of benefits; 4) describe potential pitfalls in disability insurance; and 5) cover other financial assistance options. Attendees will receive information and practical tools that they can utilize in their clinical practice to support patients in making decisions related to applying for benefits, to complete applications and supporting documentation, and to help patients transition off disability benefits.

Learning Objectives:

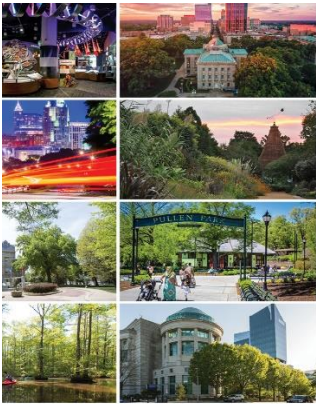
1. Identify current disability insurance options available to patients who need to take time off from work.
2. Summarize the information necessary to effectively navigate patients through applying for and appealing denials of disability benefits.
3. Outline key issues in the interaction of disability benefits with health insurance coverage and the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Financial Toxicity, Patient Navigation

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



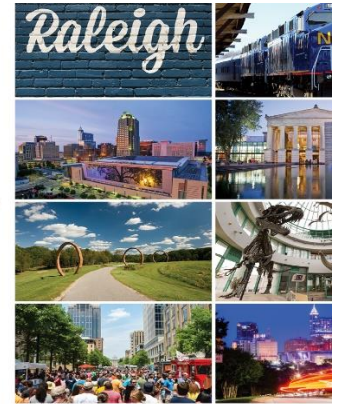
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Oncofertility 101: The Role of the Oncology Social Worker in Fertility Preservation

Learning Institute I

Thursday, 6/16/2022

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Julia Leavitt, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; Lauren Broschak, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C

Session Description:

Young people who are diagnosed with cancer and treated with gonadotoxic cancer therapies can have an increased risk for infertility (NCCN Guidelines, 2017). The impact of these treatments can vary from temporary infertility while on treatment or for months to years following treatment, or permanent infertility. "Cancer-related infertility is associated with long- and short-term psychological and social distress related to relationships, financial burden, complexity of fertility preservation procedures, alternate paths to parenthood, as well as concerns about patient health and the health of future or current offspring" (Canzona et al., 2019, p. 282). The standard of care, as recommended by NCCN and the ASCO Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology, is for the oncology team to discuss the impacts of treatment on fertility and fertility preservation options with every new patient at the time of diagnosis prior to the initiation of treatment (NCCN Guidelines, 2017; Lockart, 2019). As Oncology Social Workers, we are an essential part of the oncology team and can aid in having these discussions, offering the patients a space to process the decision before them. In this presentation, we will review the specifics of how different treatments can affect fertility, the various options for fertility preservation, how and when to have fertility conversations with our patients, and tools to bring back to your institution. We will also include interactive portions into our presentation to give you time to practice these conversations and ask questions about the information learned.

Learning Objectives:

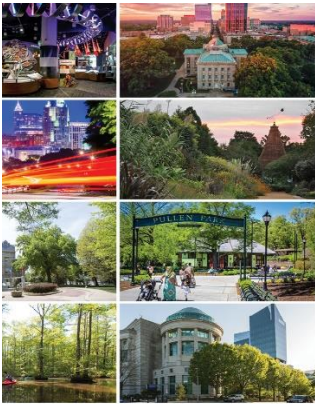
1. Identify three developmentally appropriate oncofertility counseling techniques that can be used with all oncology patients of reproductive age.
2. Explain the options for fertility preservation available to oncology patients based on male and female biological reproductive systems.
3. Utilize this presentation to improve practitioner knowledge, be inspired to bring knowledge back to their institutions and practice Oncofertility standard of care counseling.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Specialized Needs, Adolescent and Young Adult

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



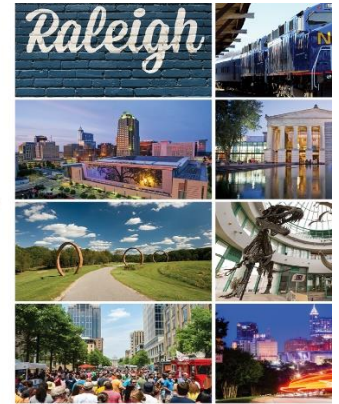
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Multilevel Interventions for the Diagnosis, Treatment and Prevention of Financial Toxicity

Learning Institute I
Thursday, 6/16/2022
8:30 am - 10:00 am

Meredith Doherty, PhD; Denalee O'Malley, PhD; PhD

Session Description:

Financial toxicity is the negative impact of a cancer diagnosis on patients' and families' financial wellbeing, resulting from the accumulated costs of cancer and its treatment. Financial toxicity has been shown to impact patients' treatment adherence, pain and symptom burden, mental health, and overall survival. This learning institute will provide an overview about the current evidence on financial toxicity's impact and describe available interventions to prevent, diagnose, and treat financial toxicity in cancer patients. Attendees will learn about current research on the drivers and consequences of financial toxicity and the conceptual models that illustrate its underlying mechanisms. Attendees will learn about evidence-based interventions that aim to mitigate financial toxicity by addressing risk factors at the micro, mezzo, and macro level of the health system. The overall objective of the institute is to provide oncology social workers with multiple diagnostic and interventional tools shown to mitigate financial toxicity and resources to develop implementation plans and strategies in resource constrained care delivery contexts.

Learning Objectives:

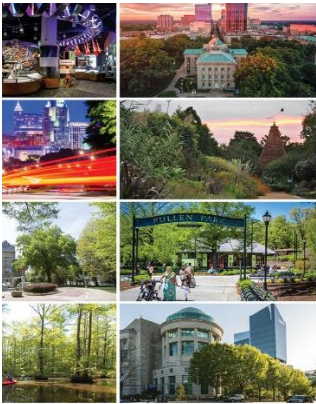
1. Demonstrate up-to-date knowledge of the latest research on the financial toxicity of cancer treatment and evidence-based interventions to address it.
2. Select and implement the appropriate financial hardship interventions for their setting and patient population.
3. Discuss how the health policy environment contributes to financial toxicity and be equipped to advocate for structural and institutional change.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Financial Toxicity, Leadership/Administration

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



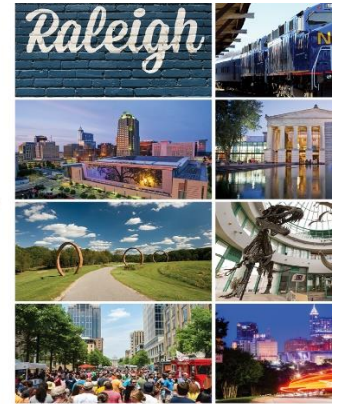
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Couples Communicating about Cancer: A Dyadic Group Aimed at Helping Couples Navigate Difficult Conversations and Improve Illness-Related Communication

Paper Session III

Thursday, 6/16/2022

10:30 am -11:30 am

Julie Ackerman, LCSW, OSW-C; Sarah Bremen, MSW

Session Description:

Communication patterns of avoidance and nondisclosure can emerge between cancer patients and their significant others, even in otherwise well-adjusted relationships (Langer et al., 2018). This can be problematic as accumulating literature suggests that effective communication is significant to the patient and partner's adjustment to illness and their ability to cope as a couple (Baucom et al., 2012). Dyadic interventions show great promise in helping couples develop stronger communication skills and improve overall relationship functioning, in addition to reducing individual psychological distress such as anxiety and depression (Hu et al., 2019). Thus, a former psychoeducational program for couples was revitalized and turned it into an interactive, dyadic program to reinforce cancer-related, patient-partner communication. While information-based interventions are useful, professionally facilitated skills training sessions for couples have proven to be particularly effective (Regan et al., 2012). The four-week couples program focuses on key concepts such as (1) the value in seeing the cancer diagnosis as a "we" issue, (2) discovering and practicing effective communication skills, (3) understanding the importance of having difficult conversations, and (4) gaining strategies to reconnect and increase intimacy. Oncology social workers attending this workshop will leave the seminar with information about how to implement a couples program at their facility if desired. Additionally, attendees will learn about facilitating activities that address more illness-specific topics, challenge protective buffering by building healthy communication skills, and strengthen intimacy and a sense of connectedness.

Learning Objectives:

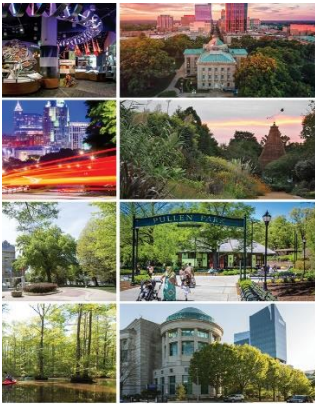
1. Discuss the benefits of implementing a dyadic intervention for couples with a focus on illness-specific communication.
2. Describe reasons why protective buffering may occur in relationships and what effect it can have on individual and relationship functioning.
3. Identify at least one activity to use with a couple who is having difficulty communicating about cancer-related feelings and/or issues.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Education

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1



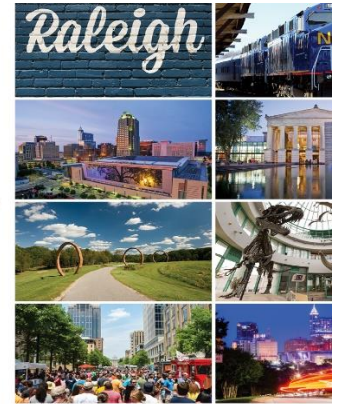
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Distinguishing Oncology Social Work: Competencies, Opportunities, Roles, and Expertise (CORE)

Paper Session III

Thursday, 6/16/2022

10:30 am -11:30 am

Brad Zebrack, PhD; Tara Schapmire, PhD; Shirley Otis-Green, MSW, ACSW, LCSW, OSW-CE, FAOSW

Session Description:

According to the AOSW Scope and Standards of Practice (SSoP), Oncology Social Workers (OSWs) provide service and value to multiple stakeholder groups, including patients and families, professional colleagues, organizations and institutions, and geographic communities. Little empirical research, however, has systematically demonstrated the extent to which OSWs consistently engage in the practices and services prescribed in the SSoP across the multiple and varied settings where they work. Thus, this presentation reports recent findings from the Oncology Social Work Competencies, Opportunities, Roles, and Expertise (CORE) study, a nationwide survey of workforce conditions for OSWs across a variety of cancer care settings. Responses from 876 respondents derived a theoretically interpretable and statistically supported solution representing nine OSW practice domains of relevance. The first three factors represented fundamental social work competencies: (1) Assessment and provision of support; (2) Evidence-informed intervention; and (3) Care coordination/Resource referral. Additional domains reflected OSW activities related to (4) Community outreach, (5) Culturally relevant practice, (6) Distress screening and protocol compliance, (7) Family-centered care, (8) Decision-making support, and (9) Care for vulnerable populations. In an era calling for precision or personalization of medicine and evidence of value-based care, the oncology social work profession risks its viability by not clearly defining and claiming its practice domain. The findings here serve as a framework for defining the tasks and responsibilities of practicing OSWs. They also may inform future research efforts to link those tasks to value-added outcomes for patients, providers, and cancer care delivery systems.

Learning Objectives:

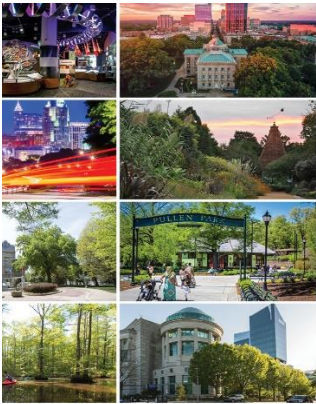
1. Describe practice behaviors and tasks that distinguish oncology social work.
2. Apply study results to inform OSW Scope and Standards of Practice.
3. Inform future research efforts to link OSW tasks to value-added outcomes for patients, providers, organizations and institutions, and other stakeholder groups.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Professional Issues, Research

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1



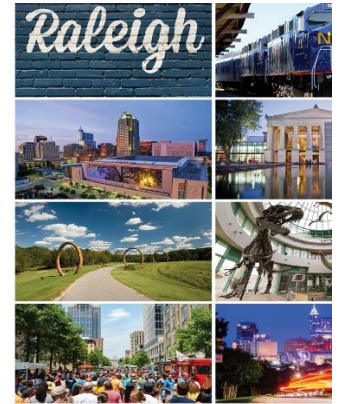
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The Impact of Cancer on Patients with History of Sexual Trauma and Need for Trauma Informed Care in Oncology

Paper Session III

Thursday, 6/16/2022

10:30 am -11:30 am

Allison Moskowitz, LMSW

Session Description:

Sexual assault is a pervasive issue in the United States, with current research reflecting that 1 in 5 women and 1 in 38 men are victims of a completed or attempted rape in their lifetime (Smith et al., 2018), and 47% of transgender people reporting sexual assault in their lifetime (James et al., 2016). Research has shown that cancer can trigger negative thoughts and feelings associated with the sexual trauma, and can contribute to cumulative trauma (Schnur et al., 2018). Oncology patients with a history of sexual trauma may identify feeling invaded, vulnerable and a lack of control (Schnur & Goldsmith, 2011). Examination, treatment and monitoring may also serve as a repeated trigger, especially if the cancer is that of a sexual reproductive organ. Treatment can trigger distressing memories of the abuse (Gallo-Silver & Weiner, 2006). The implementation of trauma informed care (TIC) in oncology settings would be beneficial to patients with a history of sexual trauma (Lawson & Lawson, 2018). TIC should involve practices that foster feelings of safety, support, collaboration, empowerment amongst patients (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2014). Thoughtful screening tools can be implemented to identify patients who have a history of sexual trauma. Identified patients should be offered support services and referrals to receive trauma treatment. Members of the oncology treatment team should be educated on how to foster a supportive provider-patient relationship. Additional gaps in assessment of trauma and unmet needs within this population will be discussed in the presentation.

Learning Objectives:

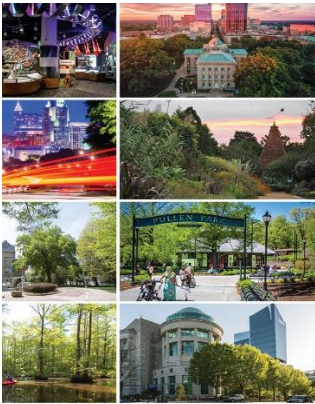
1. Summarize three ways that cancer can impact a patient with a history of sexual trauma.
2. Discuss 3 ways that trauma informed care can benefit this population.
3. Cite three ways that the interdisciplinary treatment team can provide trauma informed care.

Course Designation: Ethics

Keywords: Special Populations, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1



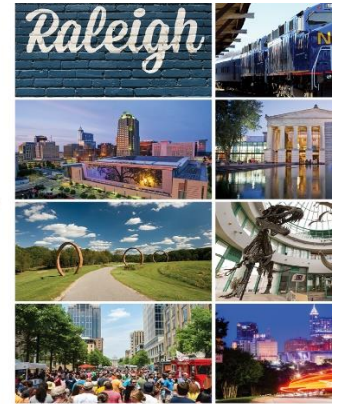
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Prognostic Understanding in Patients with Relapsed Hematologic Disease

Paper Session III

Thursday, 6/16/2022

10:30 am -11:30 am

Marinel Olivares, LCSW, ACHP-SW

Session Description:

Advances in treatment of hematological malignancies have led to patients living longer (1). While treatments, including chemotherapy and stem cell transplant help prolong life, they also carry risks and complications (2). These complications can impair quality of life and increase risk of mortality, raising the need for goals of care discussions (1). This paper describes a pilot that implemented a clinical social work led goals of care (GOC) program for hematology patients with poor prognosis at an NCI Cancer Center. Prior to GOC meeting, patient completes an electronic GOC SupportScreen questionnaire (3). Patients are asked their perception of likelihood of cure with supporting text and percentages (76-100%; 51-75%; 26-50%; or 0-25%) (3). From April 2020- July 2021, 163 patients completed the GOC SupportScreen. Data from the pilot shows the majority of hematology patients with poor prognosis perceive a high likelihood of cure. This is congruent with the literature that hematologic patients overestimate their prognosis (4). Accurate prognostic understanding is crucial to a patient's decision-making as misperception can lead to treatment decisions that patients may not otherwise choose if they fully understand their medical situation (5). This is especially crucial for those with advanced disease as they consider both quantity and quality of life. Patients want to make the best decision about their care and one way this can be achieved is them having good prognostic awareness. CSWs have the skills to advocate for prognostic concordance through collaboration with the healthcare team and facilitation of GOC meetings.

Learning Objectives:

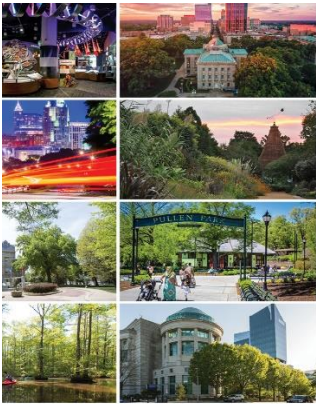
1. Describe the importance of accurate prognostic understanding in patients with poor prognosis.
2. Realize the value of a GOC SupportScreen questionnaire in assessing prognostic understanding in patients.
3. Realize the value of clinical social workers in facilitating GOC meetings and helping ensure prognostic concordance between patient and healthcare team.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Pain, Palliative Care and End of Life, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1



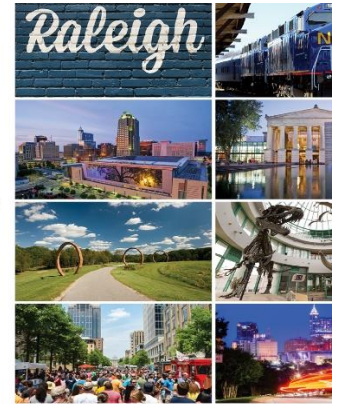
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ACS Quality of Life Lecture: The North Star of Oncology Social Work Advocacy

Quality of Life Lecture

Thursday, 6/16/2022

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Elizabeth Franklin, PhD, MSW

Session Description:

Oncology social workers have an ethical obligation to advocate with and on behalf of their patients and their profession. This lecture will focus on that ethical responsibility as well as the history of oncology social work advocacy. Information will also be provided to attendees on how to build their personal and professional advocacy toolkit.

Learning Objectives:

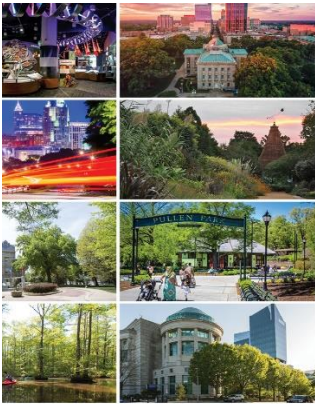
1. Understand the concept of the north star of advocacy
2. Recognize the history of social work advocacy
3. Build oncology social work advocacy skills

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Advocacy

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1



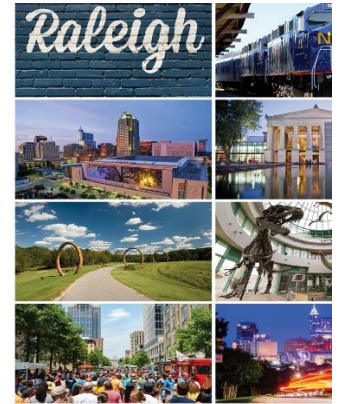
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Embracing Brokenness And Reclaiming Life: Wabi Sabi And Kintsugi In Oncology Social Work Practice

Learning Institute II

Thursday, 6/16/2022

2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Debra Mattison, MSW, LMSW, ACSW, OSW-C, FAOSW; Sandra Blackburn, MSW

Session Description:

This presentation will examine the application of concepts from the ancient philosophies of Wabi Sabi and kintsugi as sources to inform innovative intervention techniques in today's complex world. Wabi Sabi is rooted in Zen Buddhism and offers a frame of reference which does not try to hide flaws, but rather embraces and appreciates imperfection in ourselves and others. Kintsugi is the Japanese art of putting broken pottery pieces back together in a skillful and loving process of repair and restoration. Participants will leave with creative techniques to integrate Wabi Sabi and kintsugi concepts into practice. Using didactic sharing, discussion and engaging activities, this session will delve into finding meaning in the imperfect along with strategies to reconstruct the often shattering impact of cancer. Application to our own professional experience of imperfection, brokenness and impermanence will also be explored to promote our own resilience in the demanding work we do.

Learning Objectives:

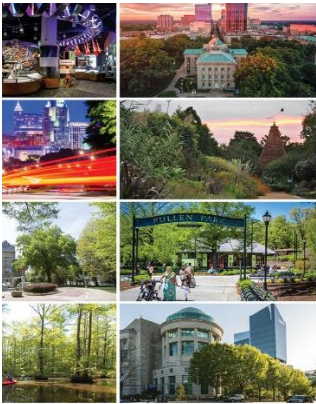
1. Identify at least 3 main concepts regarding philosophies of Wabi Sabi and Kintsugi.
2. Apply philosophies of Wabi Sabi and kintsugi to the cancer experience for both patients and oncology social workers.
3. Examine and apply innovative interventions related Wabi Sabi and kintsugi to clinical practice with diverse patients and practice settings and in supporting social workers as inter-professional team members.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Self Care

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



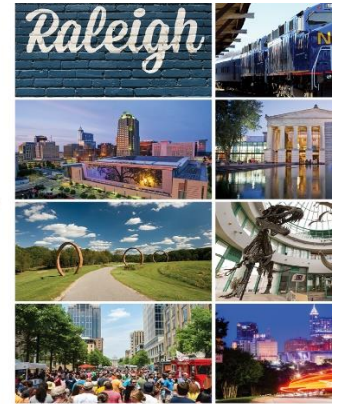
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Mitigating Financial Toxicity: Navigating Medicare

Learning Institute II

Thursday, 6/16/2022

2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Joanna Fawzy Morales, Esq.; Madison McMahon Ward, MPH

Session Description:

A majority of older Americans do not understand their Medicare options or how to use their coverage. Many patients turn to their health care providers for guidance. This learning institute will explore ongoing changes to the health care system and the Medicare program specifically. Attendees will receive information and practical tools that they can utilize in their clinical practice to aid patients in understanding their various Medicare options and enrollment periods, and navigating their Medicare coverage and the appeals process to mitigate the potential financial toxicity of a cancer diagnosis.

Learning Objectives:

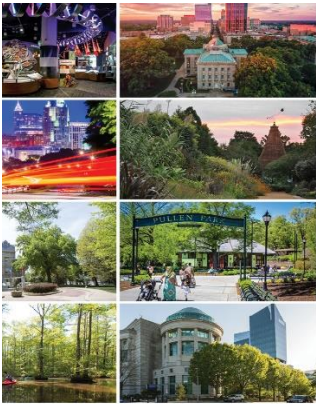
1. Articulate the different parts and the various enrollment periods of Medicare.
2. Summarize the information necessary to effectively navigate their patients through utilizing their Medicare coverage.
3. Outline factors to consider when choosing between Medicare options, to lower out-of-pocket costs and mitigate the potential financial burden of a cancer diagnosis.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Financial Toxicity, Patient Navigation

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



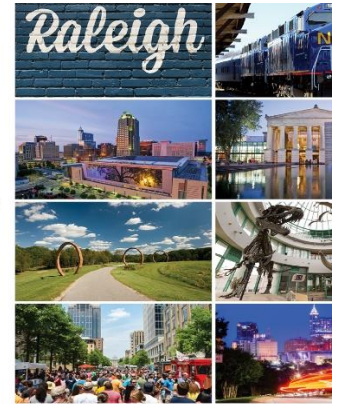
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How We Built This: Utilizing Clinical and Administrative Social Work to Build a Comprehensive AYA Program

Learning Institute II

Thursday, 6/16/2022

2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Wendy Griffith, LCSW, OSW-C

Session Description:

Organizations interested in building AYA programming benefit most from engaging strong oncology social workers who possess both clinical and administrative skills as leaders in these programs. In a purely clinical role, oncology social workers are critical multidisciplinary team members. They have the knowledge and skills required to build rapport with AYA patients (and caregivers) and identify needs that often are not verbalized by this age group. They also have the counseling, advance care planning, and resource linkage skills necessary to address AYA patient needs in a meaningful way. From an administrative perspective, many oncology social workers also have the communication, problem-solving, and organizational skills needed to be successful program managers. Assuming this role, social workers can effectively unite multidisciplinary teams under a common goal, advocate for the needs of AYA patients on larger systems levels, and lead the programming necessary to improve the lives of AYA patients and caregivers. This presentation will outline the development and structure of a large comprehensive AYA Program (which includes a support group, young adult advisory council, young adult conference, annual scholarship program, annual retreat, and an AYA Clinic staffed by medical and psychosocial providers.), discuss the role of an oncology social worker as the program manager (programming, evaluation, metrics, reporting, communications, etc.), explore lessons learned, and briefly review national AYA resources both for patients and for healthcare professionals.

Learning Objectives:

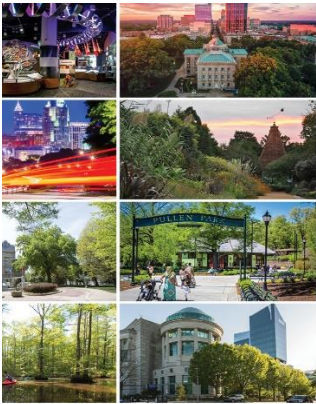
1. Analyze the structure and organization of a comprehensive AYA Program lead by an oncology social worker
2. Compare the strengths and weaknesses of the attendee's hospital system, and identify opportunities for the growth of their AYA programming
3. Identify national AYA specific resources that are helpful for clinicians and patients

Course Designation: None of the Above

Keywords: Adolescent and Young Adult, Leadership/Administration

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



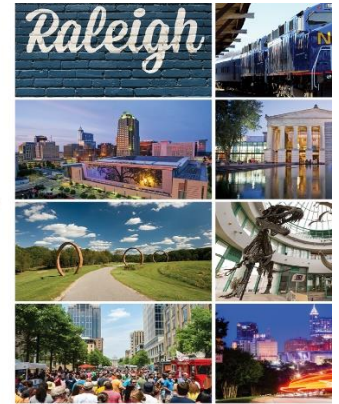
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But I'm Not an M.D.: Oncology Social Workers Discussing Psychopharmacology When Working with Patients
Learning Institute II
Thursday, 6/16/2022
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Sara Toth, LCSW; Andrew Roth, M.D.; Dianne Mead, LCSW-R, M.A.

Session Description:

A patient's ability to cope and function adaptively may shift, moving from diagnosis to treatment, followed by post-treatment or end of life care. Some patients experience anxiety and/or depression in ways they cannot regulate without additional support; in such cases, a patient may need to access support through both psychopharmacology and psychotherapy. Oncology Social Workers are often the first to meet with patients to discuss their psychosocial distress and anxiety. These meetings can prove to be integral in ameliorating spikes in patient's anxiety early on and introducing psychopharmacology can be a helpful part of these conversations. This partnership between all counseling support can become a key component of cancer treatment. In this presentation, we will explore a range of stress responses ranging from ordinary to more complex, and will discuss appropriate interventions including psychoeducation, behavioral/stress reduction, and psychopharmacology. Through case examples and an in-depth review of research, we will: review how and when to refer patients for psychotropic medications; discuss promoting understanding and knowledge for oncology patients around psychopharmacology interventions; discuss talking with patients about psychopharmacology side effects; and, highlight the collaboration between prescribers and non-prescribers as an integral part of cancer care.

Learning Objectives:

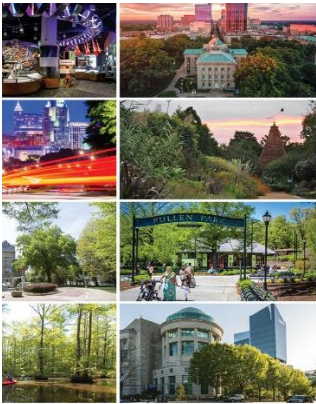
1. Discuss a range of stress responses ranging from ordinary to more complex, and participants will learn appropriate interventions including psychoeducation, behavioral/stress reduction, and psychopharmacology.
2. Recognize how and when to refer patients for psychotropic medications and how to speak with patients about psychopharmacology side effects.
3. Highlight the collaboration between prescribers and non-prescribers as an integral part of cancer care. And, participants will have a better understanding and knowledge for oncology patients around psychopharmacology interventions.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Interdisciplinary Care

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1.5



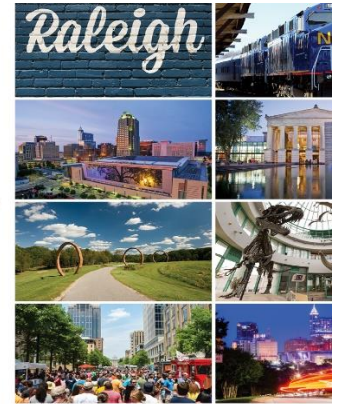
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Educating Social Workers in Palliative and End-of-Life Care (ESPEC): Innovative Training Integrating Palliative Care into Oncology Social Work Practice

Learning Institute II

Thursday, 6/16/2022

2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Myra Glajchen, DSW, MSW, BSW; Shirley Otis-Green, MSW, MA, FNAP, FAOSW; Tara Schapmire, PhD, MSSW, OSW-C, FAOSW; Christine Wilkins, PhD

Session Description:

Frontline oncology social workers comprise the largest group of psychosocial oncology providers in the United States, playing a crucial role in optimizing communication and whole-person care. Yet many oncology social workers report training gaps, and deficiencies in the knowledge and skills necessary to competently address the specific needs of the seriously ill. As a result, in spite of their prominent role in facilitating, leading, and documenting advance care planning discussions, family meetings, and other activities, many social workers lack confidence in, or recognition for, these important professional roles. This Learning Institute will describe an innovative, evidence-informed training program: Educating Social Workers in Palliative and End-of-Life Care (ESPEC), designed to train health social workers in the principles of primary palliative care. The first speaker will provide the rationale and theoretical foundation for developing competency-based training and teaching best oncology social work practices through interactive on-line training, virtual instructor led training, mentorship, and leadership training. Using an interactive case narrative, instructional videos, and large group exercises, the second speaker will provide a roadmap for integrating the eight domains of the National Consensus Project Guidelines for Quality Palliative Care into oncology social work practice. The third and fourth speakers will take a deeper dive into best oncology social work practices in comprehensive biopsychosocial-spiritual assessment, advance care planning, family meetings and interprofessional team communication, using instructional videos, polling and reflective questions with interactive small group techniques. The session will end with strategies for visibility, leadership and professional development within oncology social work practice.

Learning Objectives:

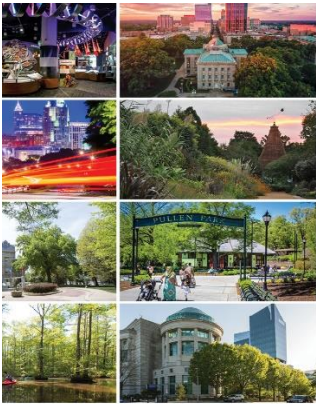
1. Identify strategies for the integration of primary palliative care into oncology social work practice.
2. Identify best practices in key social work skills to improve the delivery of person-centered, family-focused, culturally congruent care.
3. Develop a roadmap for applying the eight domains of quality palliative and establishing a foundation for oncology social work practice.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Education, Pain, Palliative Care and End of Life

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



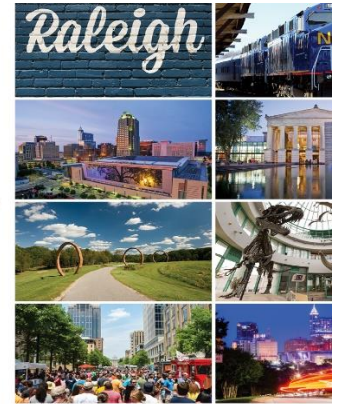
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Unleashing Your Inner Researcher: First Steps for Oncology Social Workers to Build Practice-Informed Research
Learning Institute II
Thursday, 6/16/2022
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Iris Fineberg, PhD, MSW, OSW-C, FNAP, FAOSW

Session Description:

The conduct of research is a valuable mechanism for strengthening the visibility and influence of oncology social work. Clinicians may not realize that they do not need to be a Researcher to do research. Even when they have ideas about what would be interesting to explore, oncology social work practitioners may not view themselves as researchers and may not feel equipped to do research. Social workers can illuminate their unique perspectives and professional contributions to oncology care by initiating and advancing practice-informed research. Furthermore, social work priorities such as attention to culture, equity and inclusion, and dedication to underserved populations can be advanced even through small-scale research exploration in the oncology care setting. This session will guide session participants on the first steps of developing and formulating practice-informed research, taking into consideration how to approach this endeavor and what makes good research questions. Participants will work individually and in groups to develop their own research questions and consider alternatives for pursuing research in their practice setting. Participants will leave the session equipped with conceptual and concrete tools to advance their skills in social work initiated and other-led practice-informed oncology care research.

Learning Objectives:

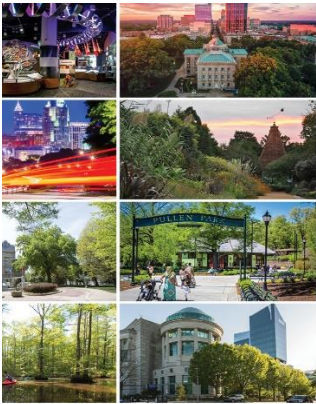
1. Identify and apply components that make a good research question.
2. Identify alternatives for pursuing research in interprofessional oncology care practice settings.
3. Articulate how social work initiated practice-informed research reflects social work values and strengthens the field of oncology social work.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Research

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



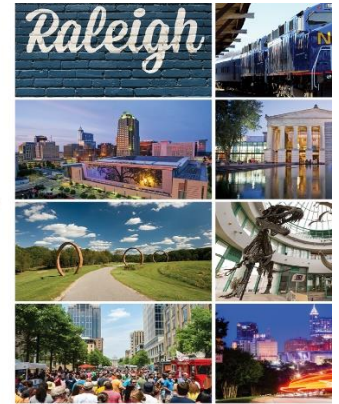
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Mastering Resilience in Oncology Social Work Professional Practice: Staying Engaged and Thriving in the Face of a Global Pandemic

Paper Session IV

Thursday, 6/16/2022

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Lori Schwartz, LCSW-R, OSW-C; Alison Snow, PhD, LCSW-R, OSW-C; Stephanie Lehrman, LCSW, APHSW-C

Session Description:

Past research has centered on risks and protective factors that come along with a career in the social work field. There is limited research exploring how seasoned social workers have remained in the field in spite of the challenges and job related stressors to find out what factors help them to endure in this profession (Mack, 2012). This presentation will be facilitated by seasoned oncology social workers who have many years of experience in the field. It will focus on professional sustainment and will explore the protective factors, such as resilience, adaptability, flexibility, creativity, that provides these professionals with their drive to persevere in the face of numerous stressors, including a global pandemic. We will review the ways that we have focused on incorporating professional development to empower our team to stay engaged. This includes our standardized student training program in oncology social work, our annual social work month celebration with a distinguished oncology social work professional, and the ways that we nurture success and foster resilience during supervision.

Learning Objectives:

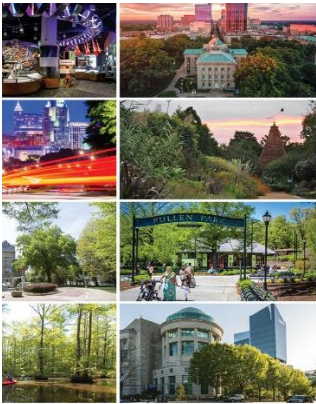
1. Identify strategies for professional development and sustainability in oncology social work
2. Develop knowledge around standardized orientation and training curriculum.
3. State three ways that the use of supervision can keep oncology social workers engaged in their practice.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Leadership/Administration, Education

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1



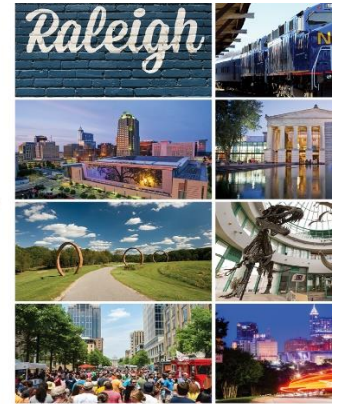
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A Legacy to Live By: Incorporating Legacy Work as Standard Practice in Advanced Stage Cancer Patients

Paper Session IV

Thursday, 6/16/2022

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Claire Ralli, MSW, LCSW-R, OSW-C; Catherine Markey, MSW, LCSW, ACHP-SW; Christine Webber, MSW, LMSW, ACHP-SW, OSW-C

Session Description:

The fear that one's life has been meaninglessness may yield greater distress than physical suffering in individuals diagnosed with cancer, rendering it imperative in wholistic oncologic care to engage patients in exploring questions about legacy. Legacy work is more than creating something for future generations. It is a pathway to ease the existential distress associated with advance stage cancer and is widely utilized in hospice and palliative care programs given its efficacy in increasing patient wellbeing, quality of life, and enhancing patient-family communication. The New York Oncology Hematology (NYOH) interdisciplinary team sought to incorporate this work earlier in the disease trajectory to avoid risk of individuals having too little emotional or physical energy to engage in and benefit from the work. Moving conversation earlier during treatment for advanced stage cancer patients increases control in choosing personally relevant work and the time to engage in it. NYOH created comprehensive legacy projects kits that include supplies for a variety of specific projects, introductory and directional literature, and resources for further legacy work. The project was shared with key stakeholders and training was conducted with all levels of staff, empowering them to utilize their rapport with patients to introduce and engage them in legacy work. The program had a "soft" launch in early 2021, and formally in September; further study of usage and continued collection of patient narratives about the project would be beneficial to gauge feelings of satisfaction, hope, confidence, self-efficacy, and frequency of meaningful conversations with family members and caregivers.

Learning Objectives:

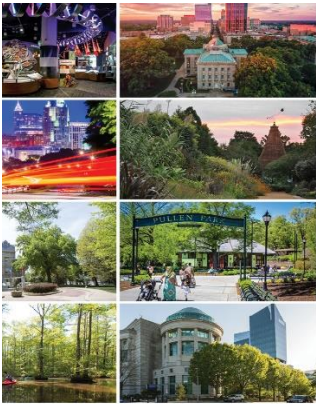
1. Relate knowledge of Legacy Work to staff, and increase confidence in explaining legacy work to patients, families and the interdisciplinary team.
2. Identify benefits of Legacy Work in advance stage cancer patients, and the importance of improving access to this work to patients outside of hospice care.
3. Identify a wide range of Legacy work projects that are translateable to a variety of meaningful goals that patients may have.
4. Identify steps to integrate programmatic implementation of legacy work for greater population.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Interdisciplinary Care, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1



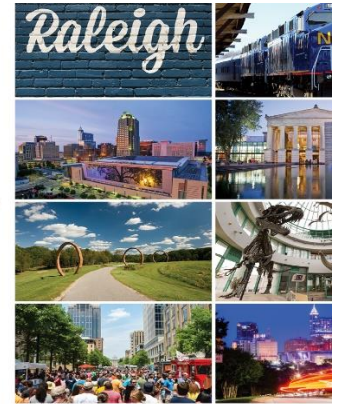
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"I Wish I Knew About These Programs Before - I Would've Jumped On That!": Barriers To Cancer Center Financial Assistance

Paper Session IV

Thursday, 6/16/2022

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Meredith Doherty, PhD

Session Description:

We identified and sampled financially at-risk gynecologic oncology patients based on data from their clinical record (e.g., age, diagnosis, and number of chemotherapy visits). We then conducted semi-structured telephone interviews to (1) assess their degree of financial toxicity, (2) understand the barriers they face in accessing the financial assistance program at their cancer center, and (3) elicit their suggestions for improving the usability of these programs. We identified four barriers and three facilitators to financial assistance program utilization. The barriers included: lack of awareness, perceptions of ineligibility, stigma/fear of negative consequences, and overwhelm; facilitators included: simplifying financial processes, providing individualized assistance, and being more proactive by intervening earlier. We integrate these findings with existing literature in health policy and communication to make recommendations for improving cancer patients' awareness and utilization of hospital-based financial assistance programs. These include (but are not limited to), message framing to reduce fear/stigma, strategies for increasing visibility, targeting and individualizing financial assistance programs.

Learning Objectives:

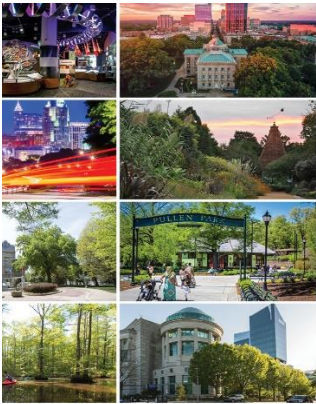
1. Articulate barriers that cancer patients face when trying to access financial assistance programs at their treatment setting.
2. Discuss the social and health policy that informs the delivery of financial assistance in hospitals and how organizations can encourage greater participation in these critical but underutilized programs.
3. Address the psychosocial challenges that patients face in order to intervene at the individual and organizational level to ensure that patients have access to financial relief at the right time.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Financial Toxicity, Advocacy

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1



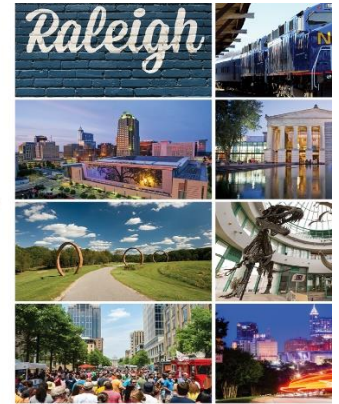
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Utilization of the Intercultural Development Inventory to Enhance Multicultural Change in Oncology

Paper Session IV

Thursday, 6/16/2022

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Michael Burson,

Session Description:

Implicit bias is known to impact both patients' physical and mental health outcomes negatively. In oncology settings, medical providers' implicit bias related to race impacts treatment trajectories, health outcomes, patients' self-efficacy, patients' quality of life, and overall patient experiences. As such, direct interventions related to decreasing oncology providers' implicit biases and improving cultural competencies are crucial to eliminating the health disparities seen for BIPOC people and people with other marginalized identities. Social workers are often a driving force in cultural change and programs focused on positive change are often needed in oncology settings. This presentation explores a midwestern U.S. regional cancer center's utilization of the Intercultural Development Inventory (IDI) with providers as part of a social work-led interdisciplinary program to improve multicultural competency and decrease implicit bias in this facility. We will explore the crucial role social work played in development of this program, how the IDI was implemented as part of the program, barriers to implementation, and lessons learned. As well as directions for future use of the IDI as part of a larger social justice and multicultural education platform with oncology social workers in primary roles. This presentation will focus on the utilization of the IDI broadly in oncology settings and more specifically provide considerations for implementing multicultural interventions in the Midwest.

Learning Objectives:

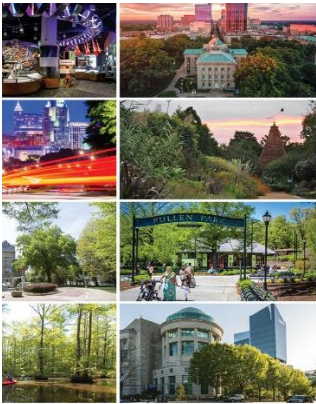
1. Describe the impact medical providers' implicit bias can have on oncology patients, particularly those patients facing larger systemic health care disparities.
2. Define the IDI, barriers related to implementing the IDI, solutions to those barriers and potential directions for future use of the IDI in oncology settings.
3. Recognize the crucial role of social work in social justice and cultural change programs in oncology settings.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Leadership/Administration, Advocacy

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1



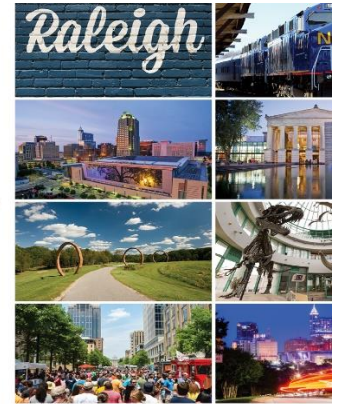
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Reproductive Beliefs in the Context of Hereditary Cancer: Families with Li-Fraumeni Syndrome (LFS)

Paper Session IV

Thursday, 6/16/2022

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Catherine Wilsnack, MSW, LMSW

Session Description:

Background: Hereditary cancer syndromes present novel challenges for individuals and families as they consider family formation. For many such syndromes, cancer risk is elevated substantially due to a heritable genetic mutation, or pathogenic variant. This presentation will use Li-Fraumeni Syndrome (LFS) as an example with the aim of distinguishing unique reproductive risks for various hereditary cancer syndromes and describing reproductive beliefs within multigenerational family units in which at least one member had LFS. **Methods:** Forty-five families enrolled in the National Cancer Institute Li-Fraumeni Family Study completed 66 family group interviews. An interdisciplinary team constructed a thematic codebook of inductive and deductive codes using interpretive description and modified ground theory, then implemented a framework method to organize themes. **Results:** Across LFS family groups, participants described three themes that informed their reproductive beliefs, including: 1) moral challenges, 2) religious challenges, and 3) health concerns. Participants described varied degrees of tension between moral and religious principles prohibiting interference with conventional conception and a potent obligation to minimize cancer risk for future generations. Additionally, individuals' personal cancer history created worry regarding cancer reoccurrence due to becoming pregnant. **Conclusions/Implications:** Family systems research in the context of hereditary cancer can offer insight into factors related to reproductive beliefs. Given the hereditary nature of genetic cancer syndromes, reproductive decision-making is complex and may involve multiple family members with disparate opinions as they share common concerns. Reproductive care guidelines specific to different hereditary cancer syndromes warrant consideration to enhance informed decision-making and patient engagement in important health-related choices.

Learning Objectives:

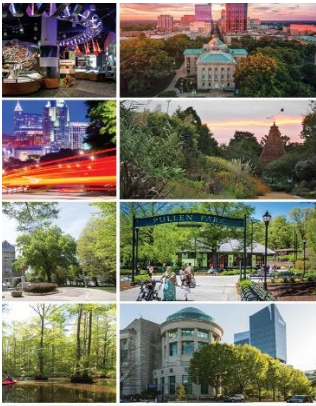
1. Discuss common inherited cancer predisposition syndromes and classify them by lifetime cancer risk estimates and options for prevention and early detection.
2. Differentiate the impact of reproductive beliefs on medical versus psychosocial outcomes in individuals with genetic predispositions to cancer, using Li-Fraumeni Syndrome (LFS) as an example.
3. Identify family formation challenges, such as reproductive options and their limitations, and will recognize the value of interprofessional collaboration in addressing the multifaceted reproductive health and mental health needs of individuals and families living with hereditary cancer syndromes.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Disease Type (ovarian, lung, GYN, etc.), Special Populations

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1



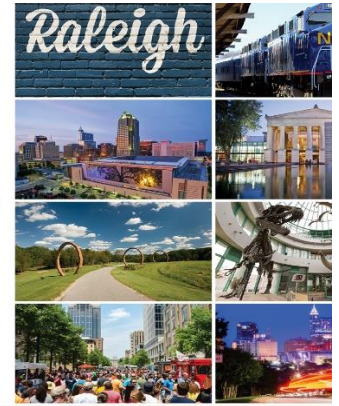
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Tectonic Plates: Intersectionality and a New Way Forward in the Age of COVID-19

CPI 2 (Part 1)

Friday, 6/17/2022

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Eucharia Borden, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; Lailea Noel, PhD, MSW; Lisa Petgrave-Nelson, LMSW, OSW-C; Carolyn Messner, DSW, SNAP, FAPOS, FAOSW

Session Description:

The past two years have been anything but normal. Oncology Social Workers have not only been dealing with the impact of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic on their clients, colleagues, students, and community partners; but they have also felt the impact in their personal lives. Couple this experience with the intersectionality of being women in racially and ethnically diverse communities, and the impact is amplified. Yet, oncology social workers feel the need to continue to practice by applying the wisdom and coping skills from the pre-pandemic era. Through the lived experiences of oncology social workers, this practice intensive will highlight how to work with allies from outside one's own community or circle of influence and explore the need for adaptations of known individual and community-level coping mechanisms to achieve balance amidst evolving societal cultural shifts.

Learning Objectives:

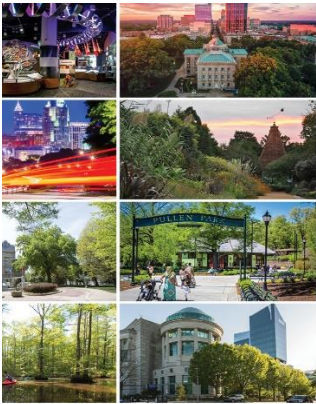
1. Differentiate the adaptive vs. maladaptive nature of known coping mechanisms for professionals in racially and ethnically diverse communities.
2. Analyze social work concepts such as intersectionality and its application to the impact of the global pandemic on members of historically oppressed groups.
3. Incorporate allies, and adapted coping mechanisms in order to produce the best personal and professional outcomes, which impact social work service delivery.

Course Designation: Cultural Competency

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Self Care

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1.5



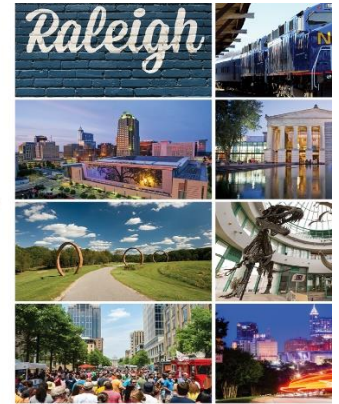
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Oncology Well Being Debriefings: Learning How to Facilitate Debriefings for Oncology Clinicians

CPI 2 (Part 1)

Friday, 6/17/2022

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Vickie Leff, MSW, LCSW, APHSW-C

Session Description:

The evidence is clear that reflective debriefings for healthcare providers not only improves patient care, but increase the resilience capacity of clinicians, reduces burnout and increases the important aspect of social support. This session will review the evidence of using debriefings in health care, present instruction on developing a debriefing program, teach facilitation skills to be able to start debriefings at your agency or institution upon completion. Participants will be able to facilitate debriefings in addition to teach others how to facilitate the groups.

Learning Objectives:

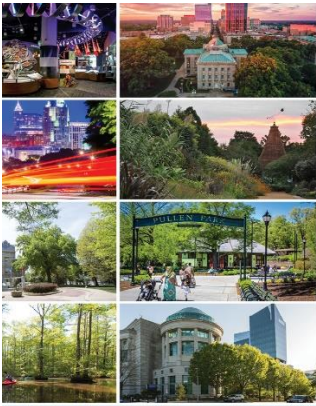
1. Discuss the evidence that supports debriefing for healthcare providers.
2. Present a debriefing program and the necessary details to leadership for approval.
3. Enrich group facilitation skills.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Interdisciplinary Care

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



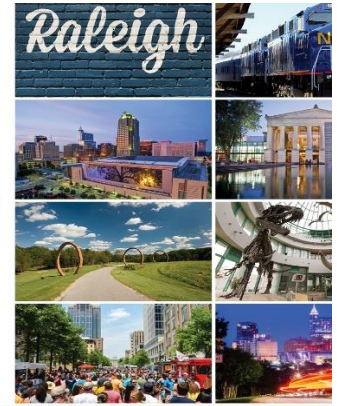
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Pain Interventions to Mitigate Inequities and their Impact Across the Continuum of Illness

CPI 2 (Part 1)

Friday, 6/17/2022

8:30 am - 10:00 am

Yvette Colón, ACSW, FAOSW; Terry Altilio, APHSW-C, ACSW

Session Description:

Pain as a multi-dimensional construct integrates physical, emotional, cognitive, spiritual, and cultural aspects of our shared humanity – a clear invitation for social work engagement. Well-documented disparities in pain management demand attention of those with a social justice mandate. The international movement focused on open notes and transparent communication between patients and clinicians is driving research focused on word choice and increasing attention to written and spoken language, that perpetuates bias and impacts treatment decisions. This learning experience will focus on social work interventions ranging from attention to delegitimizing words and language to evidence-informed interventions such as Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) to provide oncology social workers with tools to inform assessment and enrich therapeutic outcomes. Research suggests that CBT and ACT improve functioning and quality of life for individuals with cancer pain. In addition to identifying the language that infuses and delegitimizes pain experiences, participants will engage in shared deliberation about intervening to mitigate the impact of word choice. Participants will gain awareness of and review demonstrations and key components of CBT and ACT. Participants will learn simple CBT and ACT techniques and explore the value of pain journals, diaries, and notebooks, interactive guided imagery, and relaxation to help cancer pain patients manage symptoms and chronic stress, decrease anxiety, and improve coping and problem-solving. Information about training, continuing education opportunities and professional resources will be provided. Additionally, this workshop will reinforce pain management as an expected knowledge base in oncology social work.

Learning Objectives:

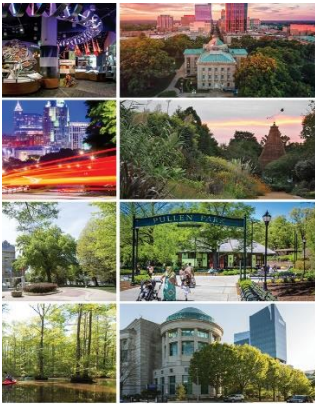
1. Identify and intervene in spoken and written communication that infuses pain assessment and management, contributing to inequities and delegitimizing of patient experience.
2. Review the efficacy of CBT and ACT in the treatment of cancer pain.
3. Utilize three evidence-informed strategies to help patients cope with cancer pain more effectively.

Course Designation: Ethics

Keywords: Pain, Palliative Care and End of Life, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



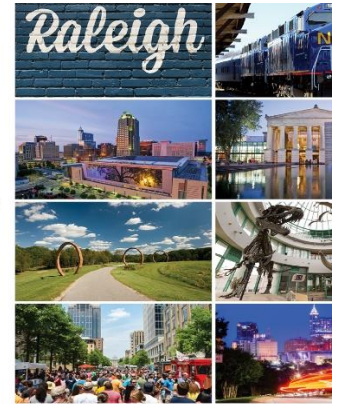
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Tectonic Plates: Intersectionality and a New Way Forward in the Age of COVID-19

CPI 2 (Part 2)

Friday, 6/17/2022

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Eucharia Borden, MSW, LCSW, OSW-C; Lailea Noel, PhD, MSW; Lisa Petgrave-Nelson, LMSW, OSW-C; Carolyn Messner, DSW, SNAP, FAPOS, FAOSW

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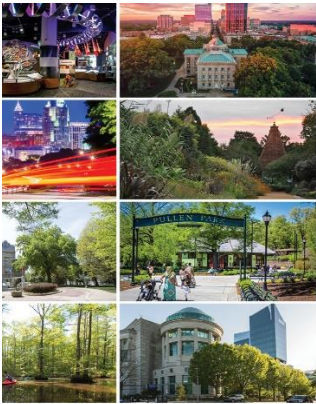
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Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Self Care

Presentation Level: Introductory

CE credits: 1.5



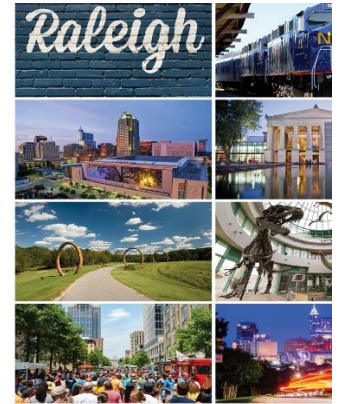
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Oncology Well Being Debriefings: Learning How to Facilitate Debriefings for Oncology Clinicians

CPI 2 (Part 2)

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10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Vickie Leff, MSW, LCSW, APHSW-C

Session Description:

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Learning Objectives:

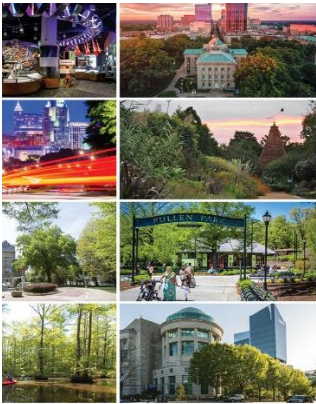
1. Discuss the evidence that supports debriefing for healthcare providers.
2. Present a debriefing program and the necessary details to leadership for approval.
3. Enrich group facilitation skills.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Clinical Practice/Skill Building, Interdisciplinary Care

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



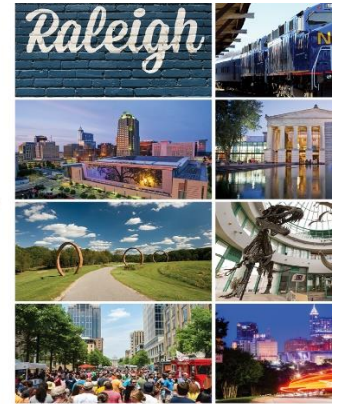
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Pain Interventions to Mitigate Inequities and their Impact Across the Continuum of Illness

CPI 2 (Part 2)

Friday, 6/17/2022

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Yvette Colón, ACSW, FAOSW; Terry Altilio, APHSW-C, ACSW

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Pain as a multi-dimensional construct integrates physical, emotional, cognitive, spiritual, and cultural aspects of our shared humanity – a clear invitation for social work engagement. Well-documented disparities in pain management demand attention of those with a social justice mandate. The international movement focused on open notes and transparent communication between patients and clinicians is driving research focused on word choice and increasing attention to written and spoken language, that perpetuates bias and impacts treatment decisions. This learning experience will focus on social work interventions ranging from attention to delegitimizing words and language to evidence-informed interventions such as Cognitive-Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT) to provide oncology social workers with tools to inform assessment and enrich therapeutic outcomes. Research suggests that CBT and ACT improve functioning and quality of life for individuals with cancer pain. In addition to identifying the language that infuses and delegitimizes pain experiences, participants will engage in shared deliberation about intervening to mitigate the impact of word choice. Participants will gain awareness of and review demonstrations and key components of CBT and ACT. Participants will learn simple CBT and ACT techniques and explore the value of pain journals, diaries, and notebooks, interactive guided imagery, and relaxation to help cancer pain patients manage symptoms and chronic stress, decrease anxiety, and improve coping and problem-solving. Information about training, continuing education opportunities and professional resources will be provided. Additionally, this workshop will reinforce pain management as an expected knowledge base in oncology social work.

Learning Objectives:

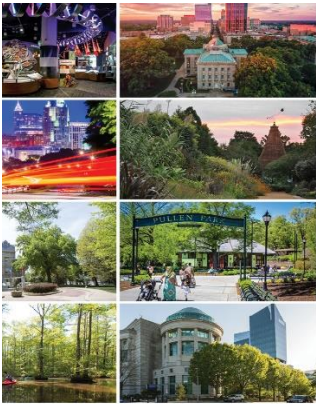
1. Identify and intervene in spoken and written communication that infuses pain assessment and management, contributing to inequities and delegitimizing of patient experience.
2. Review the efficacy of CBT and ACT in the treatment of cancer pain.
3. Utilize three evidence-informed strategies to help patients cope with cancer pain more effectively.

Course Designation: Ethics

Keywords: Pain, Palliative Care and End of Life, Clinical Practice/Skill Building

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



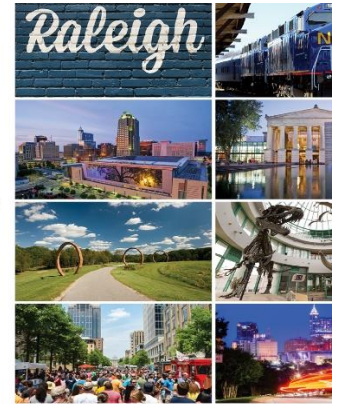
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Closing Panel: Making the Case: Advocating for Oncology Social Work Services

Closing Panel

Friday, 6/17/2022

12:00 pm - 1:45 pm

Krista Nelson, LCSW OSW-C FAOSW; Jennifer Bires, LCSW OSW-C; Courtney Bitz, LCSW, OSW-C, ACHP-SW; Shirley Otis-Green, ACSW LCSW OSW-C FNAP FAOSW; Brad Zebrack, PhD, MSW, MPH, FAOSW; Barbara Jones, PhD, MSW FANP; Vicki Kennedy, MSW

Session Description:

Oncology social workers are essential for a cancer program to meet the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's Triple Aim: (1) the provision of evidence-based services that improve patient/family/population outcomes; (2) the improvement of patient and provider satisfaction; (3) the reduction of unnecessary utilization and costs³—and in meeting the additional imperative (i.e., the Quadruple Aim) to (4) enhance the well-being of providers in the delivery of quality care.⁴ Oncology social workers' interventions increase patient satisfaction, improve efficiencies, and lessen the burden on physicians and healthcare teams by allowing them to do what they do best, administer innovative medical treatment to more patients.⁵ Evidence supports that the diagnosis and treatment of cancer results in biopsychosocial-spiritual distress. Research finds that, at a minimum, 30 percent of all newly diagnosed patients with cancer are identified as clinically distressed to the point of requiring psychosocial intervention.^{6,7,8} Failure to attend to these concerns impacts outcomes, costs, system utilization, and increases moral distress for patients, families, and staff. Despite this, few cancer programs report sufficient oncology social work staffing to meet these critical needs. This expert panel will define the value of oncology social work and provide a written business case developed with the Association of Community Cancer Centers. Together we will discuss the complexity and nuances of funding (including billing) of social work services and inform social workers of how their work supports the triple aim and how to advocate for adequate staffing. Benchmarking results from an ACCC survey of OSW Staffing will be discussed.

Learning Objectives:

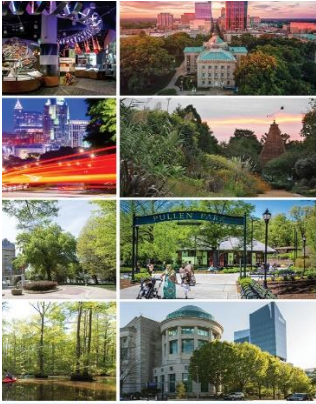
1. Define and articulate the value of the oncology social work role within the cancer care team from a business perspective.
2. Evaluate the complexity and nuances of funding (including billing) of social work services.
3. Demonstrate the essential nature of oncology social work and how this work helps meet the triple aim and accreditation.

Course Designation: Clinical

Keywords: Leadership/Administration, Advocacy

Presentation Level: Intermediate

CE credits: 1.5



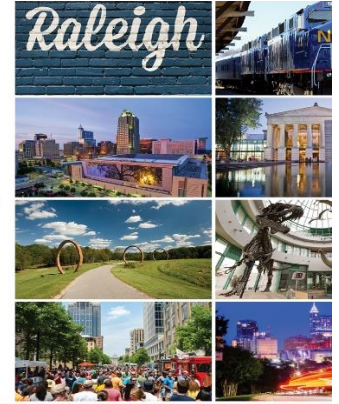
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Session Description:

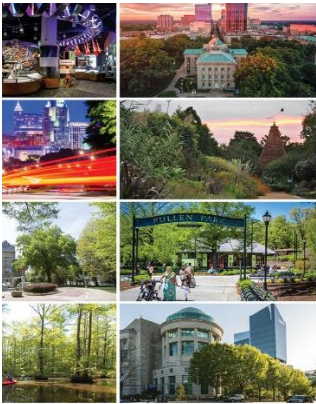
Learning Objectives:

Course Designation:

Keywords:

Presentation Level:

CE credits:



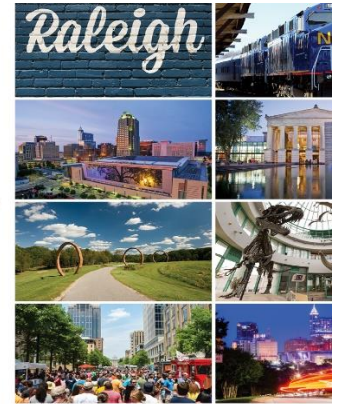
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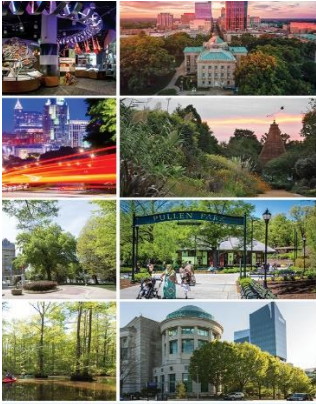
Learning Objectives:

Course Designation:

Keywords:

Presentation Level:

CE credits: 0



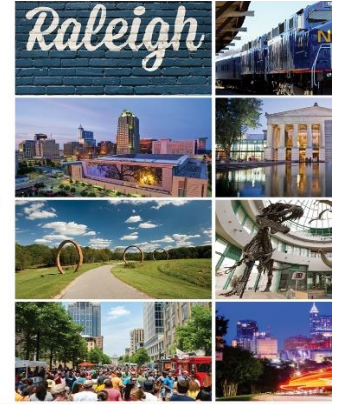
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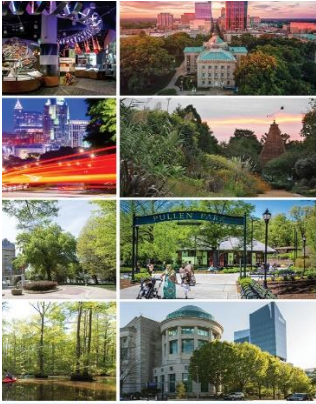
Learning Objectives:

Course Designation:

Keywords:

Presentation Level:

CE credits:



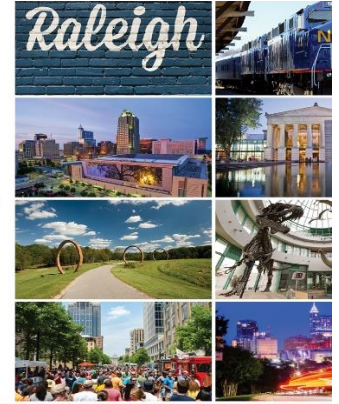
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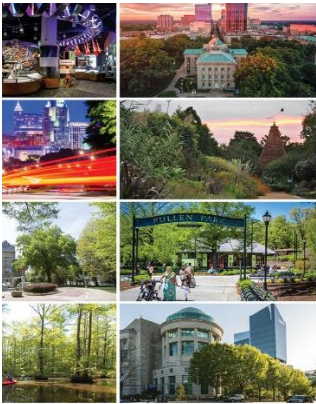
Learning Objectives:

Course Designation:

Keywords:

Presentation Level:

CE credits: 4



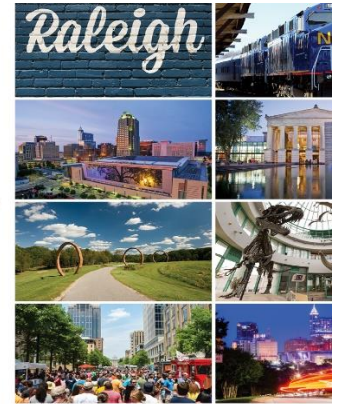
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Session Description:

Learning Objectives:

Course Designation:

Keywords:

Presentation Level:

CE credits: 11