



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2023

# THE SPECIALIST

## EDITION HIGHLIGHTS

6

### Beating Cancer With Creativity

Alexandra shares her  
cancer journey.

18

### Take Control Of Your Heart Health

By Dr. Michael J. DiGiovanna

22

### Creative Date Ideas



TABLE OF CONTENTS

6

**Stories**

**Beating Cancer With Creativity**  
*A Patient Story*

**Yoga & Puppies**  
*An Event for the Soul*



12

**Health**

World Cancer Day

Radomization & Bias in  
Clinical Trials

Brooklyn Imaging

National Cancer Month

Take Control Of Your Health

Brooklyn Medical Oncology



22

**Wellness**

Creative Date Ideas



32

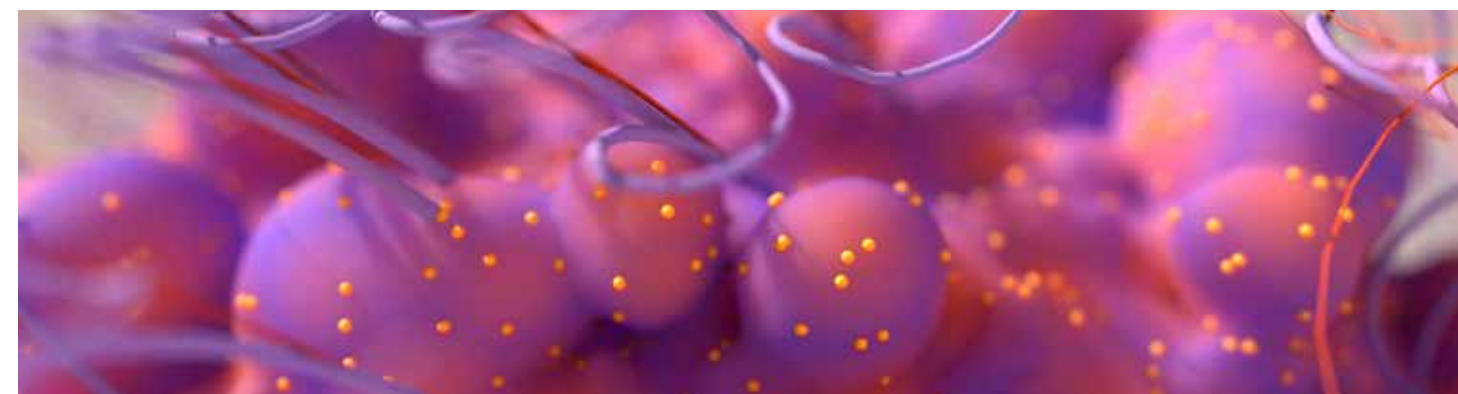
**Bulletin**

Nutrition Update

IT Update

Career Opportunities

New Hires





# A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

## My Friends,

As we begin the month of February, it is important to recognize that this month is National Cancer Prevention Month and American Heart Month. This is a time to focus on the important topics of cancer prevention and heart health, and to take steps to reduce our risk of these diseases.

In this month's issue, we want to encourage you to make healthy lifestyle choices and to get regular cancer screenings. These actions can have a significant impact on reducing your risk of cancer and cardiovascular disease.

We are also excited to announce the opening of our newest comprehensive cancer center on Nostrand Ave. This state-of-the-art facility allows us to extend our expertise and quality care to our patients with advanced treatments and technologies from our world-class team of specialists.

Additionally, in this issue, you will also read an inspiring story of a young woman whose creativity in music, social media, and the arts helped her find positivity in the battle against lymphoma. We hope that her story will serve as an inspiration to all of us to find the strength to overcome any challenges that come our way.

In the end, we want to remind you that taking care of our health should be our first priority. So, let's make this February a month to take charge of our health and make positive changes for the future.

Warm regards,

**Dr. V**



# Patient Feedback



## Dr. Helen Shum

"I find the waiting time is never too long when I have an appointment. The front desk always addresses any questions I may have. The office is clean. The blood techs are great and also listen to my needs. When I meet with my doctor, I feel good and confident that I can face the day. Keep up the good work."



## Dr. Jagmohan Kalra

"I was very satisfied with my new physician at this appointment. She truly explained my concerns and condition with my disease. My experience at New York Cancer & Blood Specialists and the service they provided me was above and beyond during my visit appointments."



## Dr. Alfredo Torres

"I have been a patient since 2005. Although the organization has grown tremendously, I still receive that same personal attention I did 17 years ago."



## Dr. Roy Chen

"Everyone was courteous and helpful. The Dr. is always knowledgeable, asks questions, and is always courteous."



## Dr. Dennis Strittmatter

"The staff was courteous and pleasant the dr was thorough and gave a comforting visit."





# Beating Cancer with Creativity:

## A Young Girl's Journey of Healing Through Music, Art, and Social Media



For Alexandra, it was an ordinary workday, but that would change when she leaned her head against her hand and felt an unfamiliar lump. Without delay, she told her mother and scheduled an appointment with her primary care physician. The doctor performed a sonogram on Alexandra's neck during the appointment and discovered multiple tumors. This day marked the beginning of Alexandra's journey with cancer.

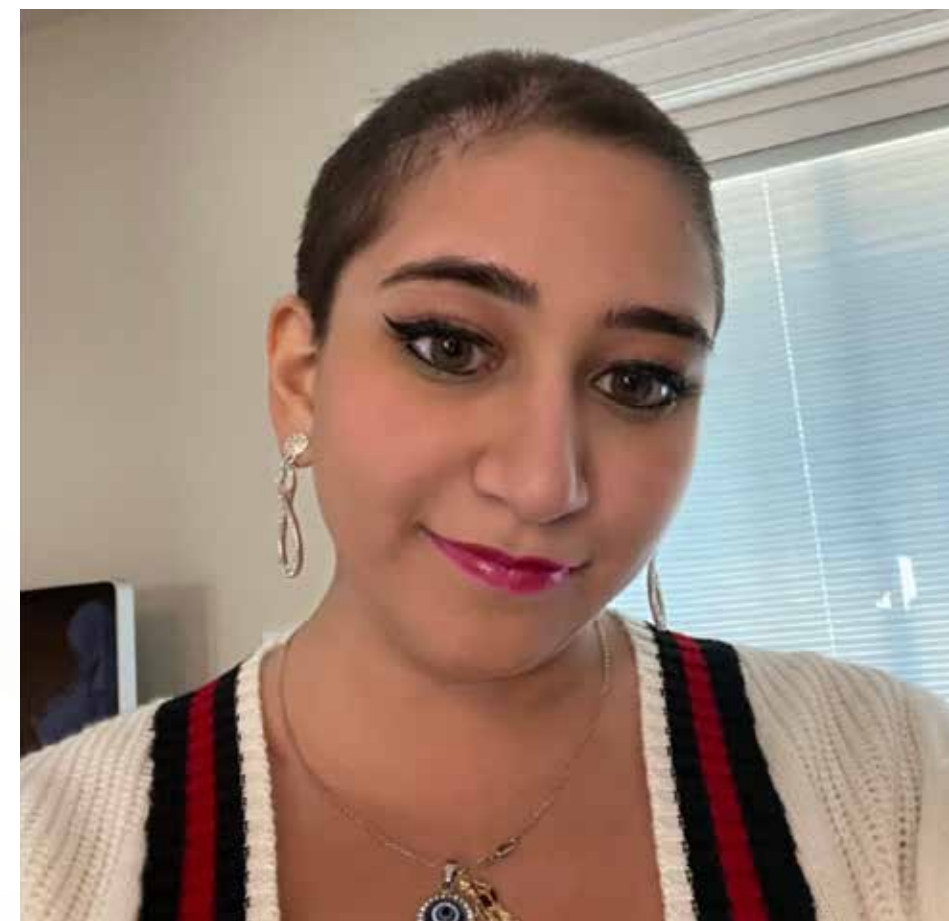
At 23 years old, Alexandra was shocked and overwhelmed when she received her cancer diagnosis. Her doctor referred her to Dr. Abhirami Vivekanandarajah, a specialist at New York Cancer

& Blood Specialists, whom Alexandra referred to as "Dr. V." To better understand her condition, Alexandra underwent a biopsy. The results revealed that she had lymphoma, a type of blood cancer that originates in the lymphatic system, which is responsible for fighting germs in the body.

The news of her diagnosis left Alexandra feeling upset and shocked. She remembered telling her mother that her life would change dramatically. Suddenly, she went from being a healthy 23-year-old woman to a cancer patient. Her treatment began with chemotherapy administered every two weeks. Despite her initial fear,

Alexandra found solace in the kind and compassionate care provided by the nurses at Dr. V's office. Her nurses, Sharon and Gianna, in particular, stood out to her as exceptional care providers and even became friends. They went above and beyond to ensure that all of the patients, including Alexandra, were comfortable throughout their treatment.

After completing her second round of chemotherapy, Alexandra began to experience the physical changes brought on by cancer. One of the most significant of these changes was the hair loss. "I was in the shower when all my hair just started falling out in clumps," Alexandra



remembered. "It was horrible." In an effort to cope, she asked her sister to help her shave her head. "I felt better after because I didn't have to watch my hair fall out anymore." Alexandra felt that the change was a good way to accept the reality of the cancer and move forward.

During her treatment, Alexandra, an artist, found comfort in her art as a way to distract herself and calm her mind. She also shared her journey on social media to help others going through similar experiences. Music also played a significant role in her healing process. "Music helped me a lot, especially listening to Harry Styles," she said. "I've been to a couple of his concerts before, and I was supposed to see him again, but sadly I couldn't make it because I found out I had cancer." His music helped her cope with her struggles; whenever she felt sad, she would play his songs and feel better almost immediately.

During her treatment, Alexandra participated in a fundraising walk called Light The Night, which supports The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Her friends and family walked with her to show their support. After completing four rounds of treatment, Alexandra underwent a PET scan to assess her progress. Unfortunately, the tumors had only decreased slightly, meaning she needed four more rounds of chemotherapy. Finally, after completing eight rounds of chemotherapy and a PET scan showing no evidence of disease, Alexandra received the news she had been waiting for: "in remission." She reflects on that day as "the most rewarding thing I ever heard."

With the news of being cancer-free, Alexandra has much to look forward to. She has planned a trip to the Bahamas with her family to celebrate and hopes to see Harry Styles in concert again soon. Throughout her cancer journey, Alexandra credits her dedicated care team and positive attitude for helping her get through it.





# YOGA

**Fun Fact:** The first sense that puppies begin to use is their sense of touch!

## Wine & Puppies

The New York Cancer Foundation was thrilled to join forces with Inhales Wellness for a unique and fun fundraiser event, Yoga, Wine & Puppies. The yoga studio was filled with positive energy and laughter as attendees practiced yoga and socialized with adorable puppies. This event brought the community together to take a moment to relax, breathe, and support a great cause. We are delighted to announce that the event was a success, with five applications for the puppies from Pawsitive Possibilities. We are also excited to announce that Inhales Wellness will be partnering with us again in March, so stay tuned for the next Yoga, Wine & Puppies event! Sign-up information will be available soon.









# WORLD Cancer Day

On World Cancer Day, we want to emphasize the importance of cancer screenings in early detection and improved survival rates. Taking care of your body is always important, but when it comes to preventing and diagnosing cancer, you always want to be one step ahead. Cancer screenings can be life-changing when it comes to the prevention and diagnosis of disease. Cancer screenings are used to find cancer before you exhibit symptoms. By finding cancer at its earliest stages, treatment is more effective, and the chances of a positive outcome are greatly increased.

## What are the guidelines for determining when someone should have a cancer screening when they are not showing any symptoms?

The guidelines are different for every type of cancer, and it is best to ask your doctor about your individual risk factors and the appropriate cancer screenings for you. Although not all types of cancer have screening options, it is crucial to be aware of your potential risk and take steps to prevent a cancer diagnosis whenever possible.

Medical screening guidelines often vary based on the type of cancer and individual risk factors. For example, annual breast cancer screenings are typically recommended for individuals with average risk starting at age 50. Individuals with the BRCA gene mutation may be advised to begin screenings at age 25. It is important to consider both your genetics and lifestyle when determining your individual cancer risk and the appropriate screening recommendations.

It is important to be aware of your cancer risk, even if no screening options are available. Knowing your risk can help you take proactive steps to cancer prevention. Cancer screenings are an essential preventative step in the battle against cancer. Early detection can greatly improve treatment outcomes and increase the chances of survival. Don't wait. Schedule a cancer screening today!



**Dr. Krystal Airola**  
Radiologist



**Dr. Esther Coronel**  
Radiologist



**Dr. Dinko Francheschi**  
Radiologist



**Joseph Ferreri**  
Radiology Practitioner Assistant

**Radiologists Dr. Francheschi and Dr. Coronel have joined the team, in addition to Radiology Practitioner Assistant Joseph Ferreri. These highly qualified professionals bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the practice, ensuring that patients receive the best care possible.**

## Dr. Jagmohan Kalra Joins NYCBS in Bethpage



Board-certified hematologist-oncologist Jagmohan Kalra, MD joined NYCBS at 1055 Stewart Ave, Bethpage, NY 11714.

"We are very excited to welcome Dr. Kalra to NYCBS," said Jeff Vacirca, MD, CEO of NYCBS. "We look forward to offering our patients the special care Dr. Kalra will bring to our group."

Dr. Kalra is committed to providing the best care to her patients and spreading happiness to others. Her mission is to help others, having been inspired to pursue medicine at the age of six.

After graduating with an MBBS degree from India, Dr. Kalra came to the USA and completed her residency and Hematology-Oncology Fellowship at Long Island Jewish Hospital. Dr. Kalra was the physician in charge of oncology at Queens General Hospital, training fellows, and supervising all activities. She was also in charge of the cancer program and cancer committee. She became the Director of the Inpatient Oncology Unit at Long Island Jewish Hospital for two years. Then she went into private practice and has cared for patients for the past 25 years.

"I'm very excited to join NYCBS," Dr. Kalra said. "NYCBS is very organized and geared towards taking great care of patients with wonderful staff."

**To make an appointment with Dr. Kalra, please call 718-732-4049.**



# Randomization and Bias in Cancer Clinical Trials

In some phase 2 and all phase 3 clinical trials, patients are assigned to groups that receive different treatments. The process of assigning patients to these groups by chance is called randomization. In the simplest trial design, one group receives the new treatment. This is the investigational group. The other group receives standard therapy. This is the control group. At several points during and at the end of the clinical trial, researchers compare the groups to see which treatment is more effective or has fewer side effects. A computer is usually used to assign patients to groups.

Randomization, in which people are assigned to groups by chance alone, helps prevent bias. Bias occurs when a trial's results are affected by human choices or other factors not related to the treatment being tested. For example, if doctors could choose which patients to assign to which groups, some might assign healthier patients to the treatment group and sicker patients to the control group, without meaning to. This might affect trial results. Randomization helps ensure that this does not happen.

If you are thinking about joining a clinical trial that includes randomization, it is important to understand that neither you nor your doctor can choose which treatment you will receive.

To further reduce the chance of bias, trials that include randomization are sometimes "blinded."

- **Single-blinded** trials are those in which you do not know which group you are in and which intervention you are receiving until the trial is over.
- **Double-blinded** trials are those in which neither you nor the researchers know which group you are in until the end of the trial.

Blinding helps prevent bias. For instance, if patients or doctors knew the patient's treatment group, it might affect the way they report different health changes. However, not all treatment trials can be blinded. For example, the unusual side effects of a new treatment or the way in which it is given may make it clear who is getting it and who is not.



*A partnership between New York Cancer & Blood Specialists (NYCBS)  
and The Brooklyn Hospital Center (TBHC)*



Exciting news for those in the Brooklyn area seeking imaging services. Brooklyn Imaging, a partnership between New York Cancer & Blood Specialists (NYCBS), one of the leading oncology practices in the nation, and The Brooklyn Hospital Center (TBHC), a community hospital in Fort Greene/Downtown Brooklyn, is proud to announce the spring opening of its new community-based imaging facility at 172 Myrtle Ave in Brooklyn, NY 11201.

Board-certified breast radiologist Dr. Stacey Gandhi will serve as Breast Imaging Director for the new site. Dr. Gandhi is passionate about technology and hands-on patient care. She is proficient in all aspects of breast imaging, including mammography, breast ultrasound, and breast MRI, as well as breast interventional procedures such as stereotactic, ultrasound, MRI-guided breast biopsy, ultrasound-guided aspiration, and pre-surgical breast localization.

The new site is equipped with the latest state-of-the-art imaging equipment and technology, including MRI, PET/CT, and CT, allowing patients to receive the best care without the need to travel out of the borough. This new imaging center will offer convenience and accessibility to the Brooklyn community, providing a comprehensive range of imaging services that are essential for diagnosis and treatment planning.



# National Cancer Prevention Month

By MaryAnn Fragola, DNP, ANPC, ACHPN

February is recognized as National Cancer Prevention Month, a time to share the importance of cancer prevention.

Research has shown that more than 40 percent of all cancers and nearly half of all deaths from cancer in the United States can be attributed to preventable causes, including factors such as smoking, excess body weight, physical inactivity, and excessive sun exposure. Acknowledgment of cancer prevention gives us an opportunity to spread awareness and take action to live healthier, happier, and longer lives. Simple lifestyle changes can help to reduce a person's risk. Smoking cessation, wearing sunscreen, dietary modifications, maintaining a healthy weight, increasing physical activity, routine wellness check-ups, and cancer screenings are key elements in staying healthy. Cancer screening regularly may detect some cancers early when treatment is likely to work best.

Palliative care can be seen as a preventative aspect of early management of symptoms and side effects in our patients. Palliative care in general is care meant to improve the quality of life in patients who have a serious or life-threatening disease, such as cancer. It can be given with or without curative care. Palliative care is an approach to care that addresses the person as a whole, not just their disease. The goal is to prevent or treat, as early as possible, the symptoms and side effects of the disease and its treatment, in addition to any related psychological, social, and spiritual problems.

The American Society of Clinical Oncology recommends that all patients with advanced cancer receive palliative care alongside their current treatment. Research shows that palliative care and its many components are beneficial to patient and family health and well-being. In recent years, some studies have shown that integrating palliative care into a patient's usual cancer care soon after a diagnosis of advanced cancer can improve their quality of life and mood and may even prolong survival. In a sense, we can shape palliative care as a preventative measure in allowing patients to live to the best health they can in preventing or minimizing treatment side effects. So this February, let's bring awareness to wellness, prevention, and early integration of palliation and symptom support to all of us.



## Take Control of Your Heart Health: Schedule a Heart-to-Heart with Your Primary Care Provider During American Heart Month

By Dr. Michael J. DiGiovanna  
Family Medicine



February is American Heart Month, and there's no better time to schedule a heart-to-heart with your primary care provider to discuss your cardiovascular health.

At New York Health (NY Health), we are dedicated to preventing and treating cardiovascular disease, the leading killer in the United States. By understanding the risk factors for heart disease and how to live a heart-healthy lifestyle, we can practice self-care for our hearts and prevent heart disease from developing in the first place.

One of the major risk factors for cardiovascular disease is obesity, which is why NY Health offers medically supervised diets to help patients lose weight and lower their risk of obesity-related cardiovascular disease. They also take into account family history and perform regular screenings, such as EKGs and echocardiograms, to identify and address risk factors.

"One of the most important markers we look at is LDL cholesterol, also known as "bad" cholesterol, as it has the highest predictive value for future heart disease and can be modified through medication and lifestyle changes," said Family Practice Physician Dr. Michael DiGiovanna. In addition to lifestyle modifications, there are a host of medications, including many new medications that have come out recently for the treatment and prevention of cardiovascular disease.

Dr. DiGiovanna emphasizes the importance of identifying and modifying risk factors for heart disease. "If you're diabetic, we want to get your diabetes under good control. If you're overweight, we want to get your weight under good control. When we focus on LDL cholesterol and modify that, we see that the risk goes down significantly. Lower is better."

It's important to remember that lifestyle modification is very important, but not everyone can get their LDL down to target. In some cases, medication may be required, so it's important to continue to work on lifestyle changes, even if medication is necessary.

**To make an appointment with Dr. DiGiovanna, call 631-758-7003. For more information, visit [nyhealth.com](http://nyhealth.com). Don't wait until it's too late; take control of your heart health today.**

## February is National Cancer Prevention Month

Incorporating a healthy diet and lifestyle changes can lessen your risk of cancer, cancer recurrence, and other chronic diseases. Research studies show a decreased risk of cancer with the following diet and lifestyle components:



- Don't smoke
- Eat a healthy diet
- Be physically active
- Limit alcohol consumption

*Even small changes can make a big difference in your overall risk. Here are a few examples of small changes you can make:*

- Swap cinnamon or nutmeg for sugar squirts of syrup in your coffee.
- Substitute water, seltzer, or green tea for sugar-sweetened beverages.
- Add 10 minutes of power-walking, dancing, or stair-climbing to your daily routine.
- Opt for a fancy mocktail instead of a cocktail.
- Substitute whole grains for white bread, pasta, or cereal. Start by using a mixture of "half and half" if you feel you need to ease into it!

## February is Gallbladder/Bile Duct Cancer Awareness Month

Gallbladder Cancer (GBC) is the most common of the biliary tract tumors. As per the World Cancer Research Fund Report International, there is strong evidence that "Body Fatness" increases the risk for GBC.

### Other risk factors include:



- Gallstones
- Female Gender
- Ethnicity and race (Mexican Americans & Native Americans)
- Diabetes
- Biliary abnormalities
- Parasitic infection (i.e., salmonella)
- Industrial and environmental chemicals

Taking steps towards a healthier diet and lifestyle can help with prevention and recurrence.



# Now Open on Nostrand Avenue Brooklyn Medical Oncology

The nearly 39,000- square-foot facility, which was recently renovated to welcome new patients, will increase access to a wide range of health services for the community at large. Care will be provided by a multidisciplinary team of specialists who utilize a collaborative patient care model resulting in personalized care with the goal of delivering the best possible outcomes.

The space will also house a physician practice operated by Memorial Medical Care, PC (MMC), a practice of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSK) physicians. Through this unique collaboration and deepening of engagement with the Brooklyn community, people who require more complex cancer care, such as surgery, will also have access to care at MSK's main hospital in Manhattan and through MSK's network of outpatient locations, including in Downtown Brooklyn. MMC's physician practice opened on January 23, 2023.

Conveniently located at 2236 Nostrand Avenue, at the intersection of Flatbush and Nostrand Avenues (near Brooklyn College), the location will include physician practice offices, the most advanced imaging capabilities and provide patients with access to state-of-the-art therapies and cutting-edge cancer clinical trials.

"Our innovative collaboration will give area residents the best of both worlds — world-class cancer care overseen by some of the best cancer centers in the country, all available closer to home in a comfortable setting," said Jeff Vacirca, MD, CEO of NYCBS. "We are excited to open our doors in this community which has such great culture and diversity, as well as opportunities to make a positive impact."

NYCBS physicians practicing in Brooklyn include Medical Oncologists Dr. Maxim Shulimovich, Dr. Ramsey Asmar, Dr. Adam Hines, and Dr. Vernon Wu, Radiation Oncologists Dr. Talha Shaikh, Dr. Joseph Safdieh, and Radiologist Dr. Stacey Gandhi.

## Services

- Hematology / Oncology
- Surgery
- Imaging
- Radiation Oncology

**To make an appointment with an NYCBS provider, please call 718-406-9454.**



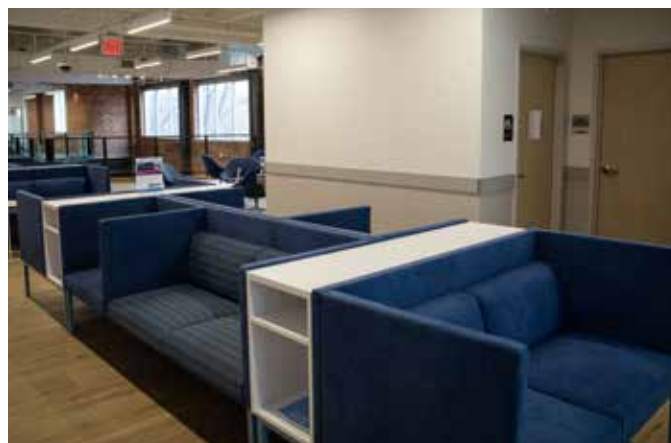
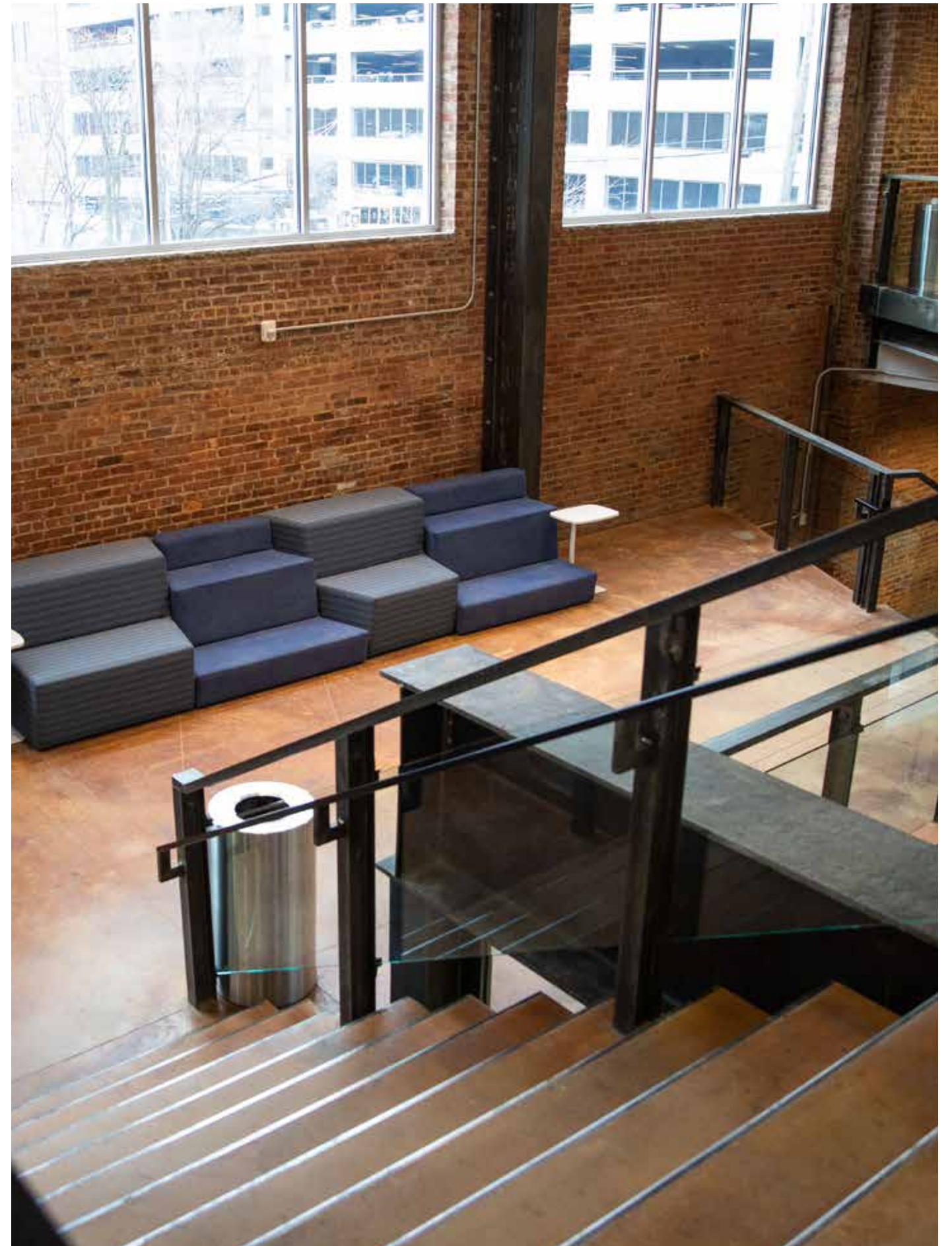




## MODERN CANCER CARE CENTER

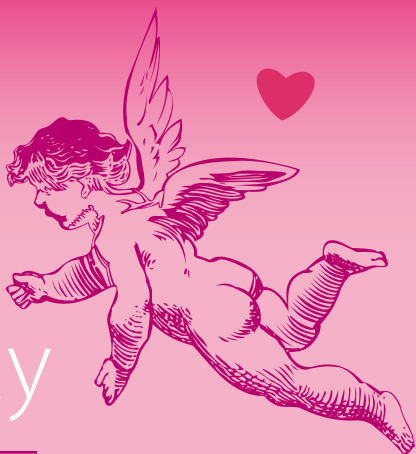
OUR NORDSTRAND LOCATION IS UNLIKE ANY FACILITY IN THE AREA. FROM THE EQUIPMENT TO THE AMENITIES, NO EXPENSE WAS SPARED IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF CARE FOR THOSE LIVING IN BROOKLYN.







# Creative Date Ideas for a Healthy Valentine's Day



*Valentine's Day is usually filled with chocolate and candy galore. While some may opt for a fancy dinner or just stay home and eat all the snacks, it is important to recognize that you could make a more thoughtful decision for your health! This Valentines Day, choose a healthier alternative.*

Creative date night ideas, or even spending the day with your gal pals, can be difficult to come up with, especially when an entire holiday is centered around chocolate. Instead of the typical dinner and movie date, you could suggest some more active or healthy date ideas for this Valentine's Day.

## Cooking a healthy meal together

Since so much of Valentine's Day revolves around food, this would be an amazing opportunity to try and cook something new and healthy with someone you love. Cooking healthy may seem intimidating, but you could make it a fun challenge for you and your partner. Whether that be seeing who can make a better dish or just making one together to enjoy with a movie, cooking is always a fun date night idea!



## Trying a new fitness class

Another way to make this Valentine's Day as healthy as possible is by trying out a new workout class together! Try out a fun new class like hot yoga, barre, or rock climbing.



## Going for a hike

Weather permitting, obviously, but going for a hike and getting fresh air is always an amazing idea. Getting outside with someone you care about allows for a new flow of conversation and even may create a fun new hobby to experience together. If you don't live near anywhere that you can hike, even just going on a walk can be a great way to get outside and spend time with someone you love.



## Book a class together

Last but not least, try a new activity together! Book a class focused on something that you have always wanted to try but have not gotten around to yet. Some fun ideas include a pottery class, a cooking class, or even woodworking.

Valentine's Day can be stressful, especially when trying to make it as healthy as possible. But, this Valentine's Day, you have many opportunities to do something fun and different with your partner while keeping your body healthy. What's not to love about that?



## Nutrition Update

The Nutrition team is starting the year strong and looking forward to an amazing 2023. Thank you to Registered Dietician Nutritionist Lauren McGarty for volunteering at the Mondays at Racine pop-up event this month at our Lake Ronkonkoma site.

The weeks are passing quickly so we are already planning some events for National Nutrition Month in March. The team will have a few surprises, including special shake tastings in infusion!

If you are interested in joining or have any questions about our monthly women's cancer support group, please email Director of Nutritional Services Wendy Kaplan at [wkaplan@nycancer.com](mailto:wkaplan@nycancer.com) and for any nutritional questions please reach out to [nutrition@nycancer.com](mailto:nutrition@nycancer.com).

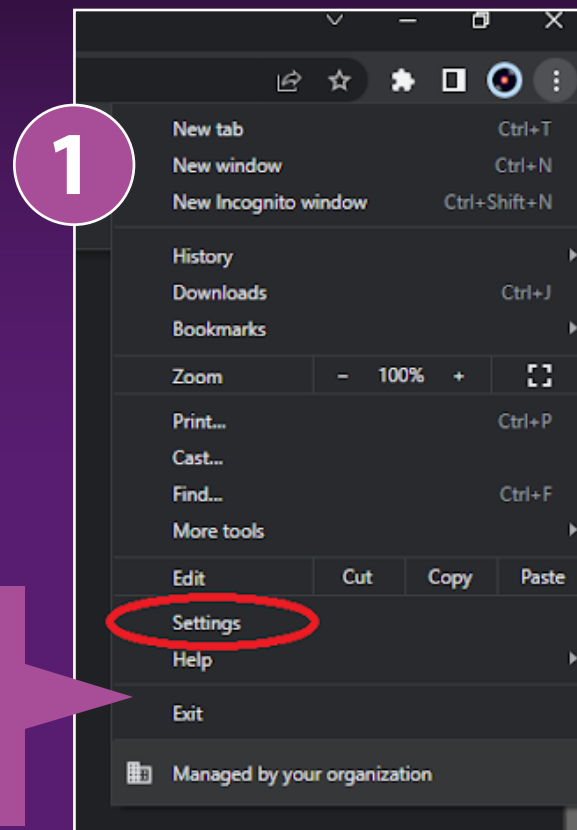
## IT Update

The days are getting longer...and so should your passwords. While we recommend that employees use a password manager, such as Dashlane, to save and create passwords, Google Chrome also has the ability to save passwords.

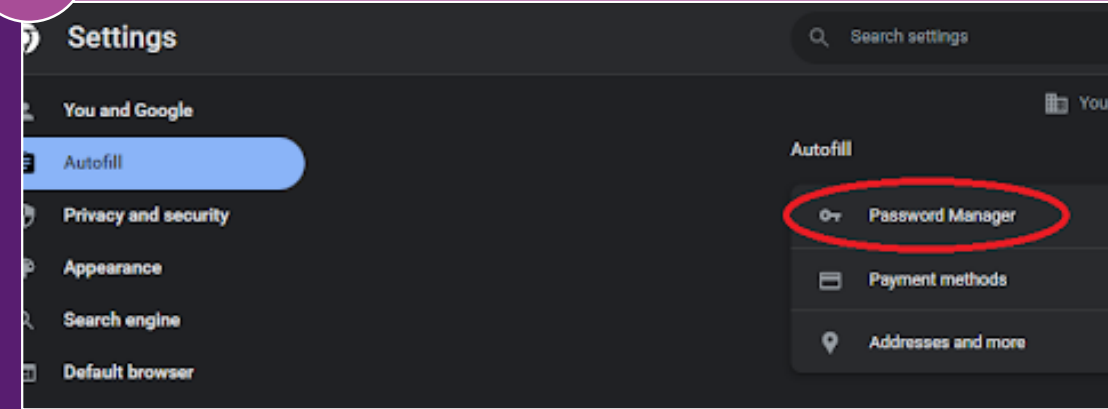
If you currently use Chrome to save passwords, you can also check those passwords to discover if any of them are weak or have been compromised by following the steps to the right and on the following page.

### Chrome Password Checker

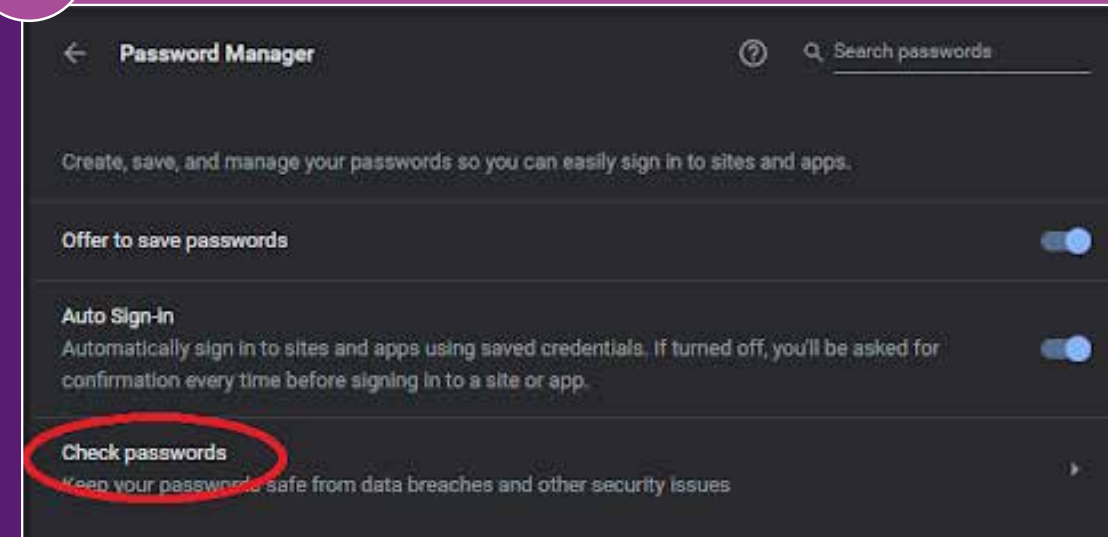
In Google Chrome, open the settings by clicking on the 3 vertical dots in the top right corner of the browser and click on "Settings."



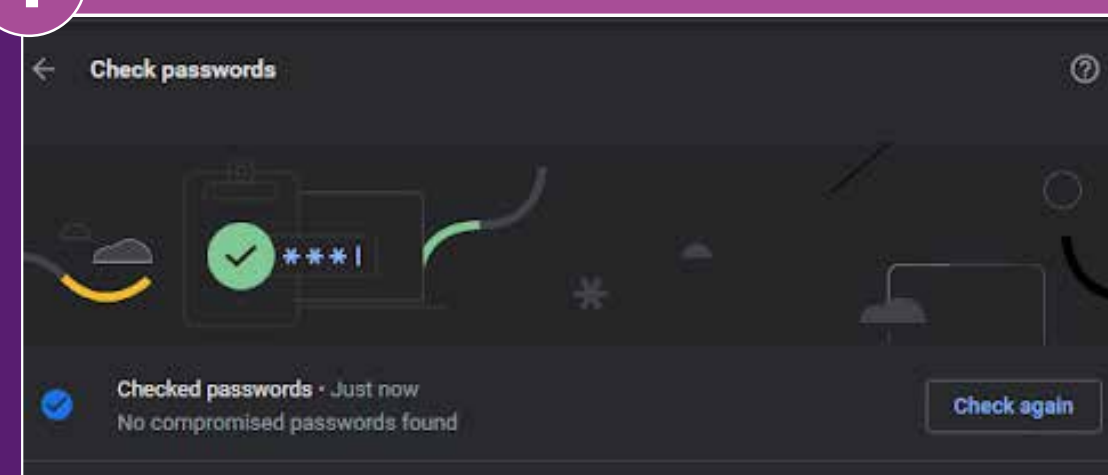
2 On the left side, click on "Autofill" and then "Password Manager."



3 Click "Check passwords."



4 This will let you know if any passwords are weak or have been compromised.





# CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

## LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES (LPN'S)

Contact: Robert Nicoletti - Chief People Officer  
[careers@nycancer.com](mailto:careers@nycancer.com)

## RADIOLOGIST

Contact: Robert Nicoletti - Chief People Officer  
[careers@nycancer.com](mailto:careers@nycancer.com)

## STAFF HEMATOLOGIST / MEDICAL ONCOLOGIST

**Brooklyn, NY at our Brooklyn Hospital Location**  
Contact: Eric Jackson  
By Email: [eric.jackson@oneoncology.com](mailto:eric.jackson@oneoncology.com)

## HEMATOLOGIST / ONCOLOGISTS

Contact: Eric Jackson  
By Email: [eric.jackson@oneoncology.com](mailto:eric.jackson@oneoncology.com)

## Nurse Practitioner (NP) / Physician Assistant (PA)

Contact: Robert Nicoletti - Chief People Officer  
By Email: [apprecruitment@nycancer.com](mailto:apprecruitment@nycancer.com)

## POST DOC PSYCHOLOGIST

Contact: Robert Nicoletti - Chief People Officer  
[jschomber@nycancer.com](mailto:jschomber@nycancer.com)

## INFUSION LPN

**Ronkonkoma Medical Oncology**  
Contact: Robert Nicoletti - Chief People Officer  
[careers@nycancer.com](mailto:careers@nycancer.com)

## DIRECTOR OF ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT & STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Contact: Robert Nicoletti - Chief People Officer  
[careers@nycancer.com](mailto:careers@nycancer.com)

## LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER-QUEENS

Contact: Robert Nicoletti - Chief People Officer  
[Dyoungs@nycancer.com](mailto:Dyoungs@nycancer.com)

## MEDICAL FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST

Contact: Robert Nicoletti - Chief People Officer  
[Dyoungs@nycancer.com](mailto:Dyoungs@nycancer.com)

## MEDICAL FRONT DESK RECEPTIONIST

Contact: Robert Nicoletti - Chief People Officer  
[careers@nycancer.com](mailto:careers@nycancer.com)

# NEW HIRES

## Aaron Yavelberg (LCSW)

Alexa Uher (Patient Communications Operator)  
Alexandra Cea (Patient Communications Operator)  
Alida Colon (Care Coordinator LPN)  
Alison Moran (Care Coordination LPN)  
Alyssa Zangari (RN)  
Amanda Ribeiro (Call center)  
Andrea Johnson (OB/GYN LPN)  
Andrea Peralta (Lab Tech)  
Andrew DaRold (LIS associate)  
Angela Carr (MA)  
Angela Lopez (Scribe)  
Antionette Buckley (MA)  
Asmita Lama (Receptionist)  
Beatriz Velasquez (Lab MA)  
Beth Lampa (Ultrasound Tech)  
Bianca Rodriguez (NP)  
Brianna Hickey (Ultrasound Tech)  
Bridget Montwill (Patient Communications Operator)  
Brittany Steffanus (RN)  
Carin Harkins  
Care Coordination (LPN)  
Catherine Arriola (Front Desk Receptionist)  
Catherine Schiavone (Call center)  
Chelsea Mims (Lab MA)  
Christina Pettit (LPN Care Coordinator)  
Coral Rodriguez (MA)  
Danielle Penna (Patient Communications Operator)  
Danna Guan (RN)  
Dene' McCarthy (Triage RN)  
Edward Burtom (Patient Communications Operator)  
Edward Burtom (Patient Communications Operator)  
Emery De La Cruz (Lab MA)  
Erin Ratanaburi (RN)  
Gloria Roberts (Infusion RN)  
Halle Wias (RN)  
Holly Melichar (Mammography Tech)  
James Yim (MA)  
Jessica Epstein (Breast Ultrasound Technologist)

Joseph Ferreri (Radiology Assistant)  
Kathleen Nelson (CT Technologist)  
Katie Seminario (RN)  
Katie Seminario (RN)  
Kori Dempsey (Radiology Coordinator)  
Krysta Johnson (Quality Support Specialist)  
Lauren Doroski (Mammography Tech)  
Louise Monitto (Qa/QC coordinator)  
Lyudmila Emag (NP)  
Maricsa Ayala (Lab MA)  
Mary Ann Markle (Mammography Tech)  
Maryann Nunez-Estrada (Intake LPN)  
Megan Ortiz (Lab MA)  
Meryl Schultz (MA)  
Michael D'Agosta (MRI Technologist)  
Michele Chadrijan (NP)  
Michelle Viola (RN)  
Milena Fradelakis (Executive Assistant)  
Nancy Vazquez (Imaging Priors Coordinator)  
Nerissa Gopaul (Float Receptionist)  
Nevidita Singh (MA)  
Nia Gentry (Hospital Scheduling Coordinator)  
Nicole McFarlane (LPN)  
Nijin Mathew (Ultrasound Technologist)  
Pilar Sanchez (MA)  
Rachel Dumay (Ultrasound Technologist)  
Robert Bork (Lab MA)  
Roxanne Neman (Ultrasound Technologist)  
Shannon McNinney (Infusion RN)  
Shaquanda Rivens (Lab MA)  
Sophia Partsinevelos (NP)  
Stephanie Kane (Intake LPN)  
Susan Georges (Radiology RN)  
Suzanne Carlton (Mammography Tech)  
Theresa Garcia (Medical Technologist)  
Xiara Richmond (Intake LPN)  
Yahaira Flatts (Office Manager)  
Yunkyoung Kim (Nurse Practitioner)





# OUR PATIENTS & THEIR FAMILIES

Our patients and their families tell the story of conquering cancer like no other. They help us connect, inspire, and empower. If you know a patient or have a family member who would like to make an impact and share their experience with us, please have them contact [marketing@nycancer.com](mailto:marketing@nycancer.com).