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## Message from Our President



Happy New Year! I love new beginnings! Although each New Year is not truly a new beginning, it is a time to re-evaluate what is working and what is not, and to make adjustments accordingly. I find that, when I do this in my private life, it tends to spill over into my professional life; I am a big believer in emotional and spiritual self-care. In my experience, when I “fill myself up” with activities which make me feel stronger and more grounded (such as singing in my church choir, or getting out into nature), I am better able to perform duties that tend to be emotionally draining. I hope that, in 2018, you will explore those activities which “fill you up” and make you feel stronger. Best Wishes for a happy and healthy New Year!

Molly Sutton

Our Officers are list on Nursing Network under [About Us](#).

## Cancer Awareness

January is **Cervical Cancer** awareness month. Go to the National Cervical Cancer Coalition to get the facts about cervical cancer: [www.nccc-online.org/hpvcervical-cancer/cervical-health-awareness-month/](http://www.nccc-online.org/hpvcervical-cancer/cervical-health-awareness-month/)

The **2018 Cancer Awareness and Professional Recognition Calendar** is posted on Nursing Network under [Newsletters and Awareness](#).

## Resource of the Month

### Preventing Infections in Cancer Patients

**3 Steps Toward Preventing Infections During Cancer Treatment** is an evidence-based, interactive online program designed to help assess a cancer patient’s risk for developing both a low white blood cell count during chemotherapy and subsequent infections. After completing a short questionnaire, cancer patients and caregivers will receive messages designed to educate them about keeping themselves healthy while receiving chemotherapy.

## Member Spotlight

JaLisa Boyd has been an amazing part of the Sarah Cannon/Medical City Healthcare team. She has contributed volumes in her 3 years as a Navigator. She’s been a Survivorship Nurse Navigator as well as a speaker, motivator, friend, coworker, teammate and comic relief. She was also the president of the North Texas AONN+ chapter (2016-17). She and her survivorship partner, Katie Navarte, have organized and participated in countless community and support events. She will be

leaving at the end of this week and we all wish her well. She will be truly missed!



JaLisa Boyd RN, BSN, MS  
Survivorship Navigator  
Medical City Healthcare;  
Sarah Cannon (Cancer Service  
Line for HCA)

### **Being a Navigator means...**

You hold a responsibility to assist and support patients, families, and caregivers to help overcome their individual barriers, as well as help find resources as they journey through and beyond their cancer treatments.

**What do you enjoy most about your job as Navigator?** What I enjoy the most is getting to know my patients and their families. I love to reflect on where they were when I met them, and then where they are a few months to years later once they have completed their treatments and are living life post a cancer diagnosis.

**What special skills do you bring to your job, including hidden or visible talents and past work/life experience?** I am very flexible, multi-task oriented, and an organized person which is great for this position.

**Are there any tips, resources, and/or words of inspiration or advice you would like to share with other Navigators?** Being a navigator is a very rewarding role for you get to help patients and their caregivers through the puzzle of chaos called cancer. Most patients tend to view our role as one of an anchor of support and comfort.

**Have there been any events that you participated in related to Navigation that you would like to share?**

Academy of Oncology Nurse and Patient Navigator (AONN) National conference in Las Vegas, Nevada on November 19, 2016

**Your role in this event:** Co-Presenter for approximately 400 attendees on the topic of our

North Texas Sarah Cannon Cancer Survivorship Program.

**Highlights of what you did at this event:** My colleague Katie Narvarte and I spoke on the evolution and program overview of the Medical City Healthcare/Sarah Cannon Cancer Survivorship Program in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

## **Certifications**

These Navigators received new certifications:

### **Oncology Nurse Navigator-Certified Generalist (ONN-CG)**

#### **2016:**

- ★ Jane Reeves RN, BS, CBCN, ONN-CG, Methodist Richardson Cancer Center
- ★ Audrey Thompson BSN, RN, OCN, ONN-CG, Baylor Scott and White Medical Center McKinney

#### **2017:**

- ★ Kristi M Griffith ONN-CG, Baylor Sammons Cancer Center at Dallas
- ★ Sue Johnson, RN, BS, MBA, CPHQ, CN-BN, ONN-CG, Sarah Cannon Cancer Institute at Medical City Healthcare
- ★ Stacey L. Webb, MPA-HCA, BSN, RN, ONN-CG, Baylor Sammons Cancer Center at Dallas

### **Oncology Patient Navigator - Certified Generalist (ONN-PG)**

- ★ Katie Brown, OPN-CG, Lungevity
- ★ Kristi Garrison, MS, CHES, CHW, OPN-CG, Baylor Sammons Cancer Center at Dallas



Congratulations to everyone who achieved a new certification! Several nurses were also recertified for Oncology Nursing and Breast Cancer Navigation. A big round of applause for all!

## Last Meeting:

Kathy Pratt, BSN, RN, OCN®, CBCN® and Jillian Huang, MS, MPH, CGC from UT Southwestern Simmons Comprehensive Cancer Center Cancer Genetics Program presented ***Cancer Genetics: Past, Present, and Future***. This was an excellent, easy to understand and much needed program.

Thank you to this wonderful Nurse Navigator and Genetics Counselor team! Thank you as well to Jeff Purl from CVS and Peggy Schroeder from Genomic Healthcare for sponsoring this wonderful dinner meeting.

An additional special thank you to Laurie Tauriainen RN, Breast Cancer Nurse Navigator for the Sarah Cannon Cancer Institute at Medical City Healthcare, for introducing us to [Runcie Chidebe](#), Runcie was visiting the U.S. from Nigeria and spoke to us about patient navigation and cancer care in his country. He is an inspirational and compassionate man who is a social worker and the Executive Director for [Project Pink Blue](#) in Nigeria. This organization started a new Patient Navigation Program in 2016, the first of its kind. Laurie was instrumental in teaching the navigators there. Read her story about [Patient Navigation in Nigeria](#) and her amazing experience.

## Save the Date

[World Cancer Day](#) is February 4<sup>th</sup>.



The next AONN meeting will be **Tuesday March 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm**. Details to be announced at a later date.

[Cowtown Oncology Nursing Symposium](#) is March 9-10 at TCU in Ft. Worth

- ★ **The New Frontier: Updates in Hematological Cancers** March 9, 2018
- ★ **8th Annual Cowtown Oncology Nursing Symposium** Saturday, March 10, 2018

[The 28th Annual Interdisciplinary Breast Center Conference](#)

March 9-14  
Las Vegas, NV

[Advanced Practice Oncology Summit](#)

April 6-7  
Ft. Worth, TX

[AONN+ Mid-year Conference](#)

May 4-6  
Boston, MA

[The Oncology Nursing Society's Annual Conference](#)

May 17-20  
Washington, DC

[ONA Navigation Summit](#)

June 14-16  
Chicago, IL


















[AONN+ Ninth Annual Navigation & Survivorship Conference](#)

Dallas, TX  
Details TBA

## Additional resources:

- [Conferences](#)
- [Oncology Live Education](#)

## Need Online Continuing Ed?

-  [Academy of Oncology Nurse and Patient Navigators \(AONN\)](#)
-  [ASCO University: Cancer topics CME](#)
-  [Abbott Nutrition Health Institute Cancer and Careers](#)
-  [CDC Learning Connection](#)
-  [Coram](#) CEs for RN, RD and SW
-  [InPractice](#) (Partnered with ONS)
-  [Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Professional Education](#)
-  [MD Anderson Oncology Professional Education](#)
-  [Medscape Oncology CME](#)
-  [My CME: Oncology Nurse Advisor article](#)
-  [National Comprehensive Cancer Network \(NCCN\)](#)
-  [Nurse.com](#)
-  [Nurse CEU.com](#)
-  [OncoLink](#)
-  [Oncology Nurse Advisor](#)
-  [Oncology Nursing Society \(ONS\)](#)
-  [Pearls Review](#)
-  [Philips Learning Center](#)
-  [Radiation Oncology](#)
-  [Texas Board of Nurse Examiners](#)



*Some of these may require you to be a member or may have a fee*

## Don't forget...

If you haven't already:

**Like** us on Facebook  
@dfwoncologynavigators



**AND...**

Sign up for our website, [DFW Oncology Navigators](#), on [Nursing Network](#). It's easy, costs nothing and will only take a few minutes:

1. First join Nursing Network at [www.nursingnetwork.com](http://www.nursingnetwork.com) Please include your specialties and where you are employed.
2. Then "follow **DFW Oncology Navigators**."

By signing up you help us keep track of our local community of Navigators. Not sure if you signed up already? Go to our site [membership](#) and check. If you are not a member but getting correspondence from us it's because you are on a list that was created when you were sent an invitation to join.

## Message from the Webmaster

I am starting a monthly/bimonthly newsletter to communicate to you. The intent is to reduce e-mails and to have information in one location. Please use the "[contact us](#)" section to let us know of any errors, additions or deletions. This includes news of certifications, awards, new roles and new Navigators to invite to our site.

Thank you! I hope all of you have a wonderful new year!



Gwen Spector RN, BSN, COCN  
Webmaster for North Texas Navigator  
Network and DFW Oncology  
Navigators.