

15th ANNIVERSARY • 1993—2008

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**THE WELLNESS COMMUNITY OF PHILADELPHIA'S 10TH ANNUAL
"CELEBRATION OF HOPE" EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE,
FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2008 FROM 8:45 A.M. – 2:45 P.M.**

Conference Presenting Partner GlaxoSmithKline Oncology, Community Partner AstraZeneca, Program Partner Merck Oncology Welcome Dan Gottlieb, PhD, James Metz, MD, Kelly Corrigan, Maria Mercader and Linda Goss

(PHILADELPHIA, PA) – **The Wellness Community of Philadelphia (TWCP)** is recognizing National Cancer Survivors' Day (June 1) by providing six hours of activities certain to touch the lives of people with cancer and their loved ones across greater Philadelphia and beyond: its 10th annual *Celebration of Hope*. On Friday, June 6, between 8:45 a.m. and 2:45 p.m., the West Fairmount Park-based cancer support organization will be holding a free educational conference for people with cancer and their loved ones at the Hyatt Regency Philadelphia at Penn's Landing's Grand Ballroom, 201 South Columbus Boulevard, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19106. This year's conference will focus on the art of storytelling.

The *Celebration of Hope* conference's highlights include presentations by family therapist, author, columnist and radio host, Dan Gottlieb,* PhD, best-selling author and cancer survivor, Kelly Corrigan,* assistant professor, chief of clinical operations, Department of Radiation Oncology, editor-in-chief, OncoLink, Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania, James Metz, MD, CBS news producer and cancer survivor, Maria Mercader* and storyteller, Linda Goss.* The conference presenting partner is GlaxoSmithKline Oncology, the community partner is AstraZeneca, the program partner is Merck Oncology, the print sponsor is *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and *Daily News* and the radio sponsor is B101 FM. Cancer survivors, health care professionals, and interested others are welcome to attend; complimentary continental breakfast and lunch will be served and complimentary self-parking will be provided. **Please call (215) 879-7733 by May 30, 2008 for more information and/or to register, or do so on-line at twcp.org.**

Registration and complimentary breakfast for the *Celebration of Hope* conference begin at 8:45 a.m. TWCP executive director Kim Hinkelman, program director Kathleen Coyne, and **Wellness Community** participants will welcome all conference attendees at 9:30 a.m.

Then, at 9:45 a.m. CBS News producer and two-time cancer survivor Maria Mercader will present "Editing . . . The Stories of our Cancer Experience." She has been in the newsroom for all stories big and small for over two decades. She is a passionate advocate for cancer issues and cancer survivorship. Over the years she has volunteered for Gilda's Club NYC, the

Survivorship Program at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and has lobbied on Capitol Hill with the Lance Armstrong Foundation. She became acquainted with **The Wellness Community of Philadelphia** when she produced a piece on cancer survivors for CBS Sunday Morning in 2005. She will share her unique perspective on telling the story of a cancer experience through the eyes of a survivor.

James M. Metz, ED, assistant professor, chief of clinical operations, Department of Radiation Oncology, editor-in-chief, OncoLink, Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania, will follow with "The Story of Information and the Cancer Patient" at 10:45 a.m. He will explain in what ways the evolution of web-based information has changed cancer care and how people affected by cancer can evaluate Internet resources and discuss information with their treatment team.

After lunch, at 12:45 p.m. best-selling author and cancer survivor, Kelly Corrigan presents "The Middle Place." She will tell how she balanced her role as a mother dealing with cancer, while she cared for her father with cancer and how she grew through this challenging circumstance.

Dan Gottlieb, PhD, is a family therapist in private practice and a nationally recognized lecturer in the field of mental health. He has been the host of the WHYY radio show, "Voices in the Family," for over 20 years and since 1993 he has written a bimonthly column for the *Philadelphia Inquirer* titled "Inside Out." He is the author of several books, "Voices in the Family," "Voices of Conflict," "Voices of Healing," the bestseller, "Letters to Sam," and "Learning from the Heart: Lessons on Living, Loving & Listening" which was the focus of a recent PBS television show. He has been quadriplegic as a result of a near fatal automobile accident over 20 years ago. His story of life through disability and loss and his many years of listening to the stories of others have shaped his unique perspective of what it means to be human. He will give his own insights about the value of sharing stories when he presents "Tell Me Your Story" at 1:15 p.m.

Finally, at 2:15 p.m. Linda Goss leads "Gather Round My People." Join the "Official Storyteller" of the City of Philadelphia as she relays traditional stories of hope and healing.

The Wellness Community of Philadelphia's 10th annual "Celebration of Hope" educational conference will help people with cancer by providing helpful information to improve the quality of their lives, emotional support, and hope as they are inspired by the day's stories of survival. Most importantly, it is a celebration of survivorship for hundreds of people with cancer and their loved ones as they join together to recognize National Cancer Survivors' Day.

Note to editors: If you are interested in a remote television broadcast and/or (advance) interview with any of the speakers, please call Scott D. Bluebond at (215) 879-7733, or email him at sbluebond@twcp.org. Thanks!

The mission of **The Wellness Community of Philadelphia (TWCP)** is to help people affected by cancer enhance their health and well-being through participation in a free professional program of emotional support, education, and hope. **TWCP** offers programs at Ridgeland in Fairmount Park and limited off-site programs in Chester County, the Bux-Mont area, Hahnemann University Hospital, and throughout Philadelphia. Please call **The Wellness Community of Philadelphia** at (215) 879-7733, (888) 819-3553, or visit **TWCP's** website at twcp.org for more information. Reminder: **The Wellness Community of Philadelphia's** grounds and buildings are smoke-free.