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**THE WELLNESS COMMUNITY OF PHILADELPHIA'S 11TH ANNUAL
CELEBRATION OF HOPE EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE,
FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 2009 FROM 9:30 A.M. – 2:15 P.M.**

**Conference Presenting Partner GlaxoSmithKline Oncology, Community Partners
AstraZeneca and Merck Oncology Welcome Speakers
Sharon W. Goodill, Evelyn González, Diana Dyer and Dan Shapiro**

(PHILADELPHIA, PA) – **The Wellness Community of Philadelphia (TWCP)** is recognizing National Cancer Survivors' Day (June 1) by providing a robust program certain to touch the lives of people with cancer and their loved ones across Greater Philadelphia and beyond: its 11th annual *Celebration of Hope*. On Friday, June 5, between 9:30 a.m. and 2:15 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.

The *Celebration of Hope* conference's highlights include presentations by associate professor and director at the Hahnemann Creative Arts in Therapy Program at Drexel University, Sharon W. Goodill,* PhD, ADTR, LPC, program director of NCI's Cancer Information Service for the Atlantic Region, Evelyn González,* MA, registered dietitian and author Diana Dyer,* MS, RD, and psychologist, author, cancer survivor and chair of the department of humanities at Penn State's College of Medicine Dan Shapiro,* PhD. The conference presenting partner is GlaxoSmithKline Oncology, the community partners are AstraZeneca and Merck Oncology, the print sponsors are *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 lunch and self-parking will be provided. **Please call (215) 879-7733 for more information and/or to register, or do so on-line at twcp.org.**

Registration for the *Celebration of Hope* conference begins at 9:30 a.m. **TWCP** program director Kathleen Coyne and **Wellness Community** participants will welcome all conference attendees at 10:00 a.m.

Sharon W. Goodill, PhD will lead attendees in a movement choir, a form for expressing and creating community using simple actions and basic patterns, during "Moving in Connection, Gathering in Hope" beginning at 10:15 a.m. Attendees will experience the power of shared expression and common purpose. A seasoned educator and avid researcher, she has taught dance/movement, art and music therapy graduate students for 15 years.

Evelyn González, MA, program director of the National Cancer Institutes' Cancer Information Service for the Atlantic Region, will explain why individuals may be reluctant to participate in clinical trials as she presents, "Lessons Learned about Clinical Trial Participation" at 11:00 a.m. In addition, Connie Williams, cancer survivor, will share her personal experiences of enrolling in a trial.

After lunch, at 12:45 p.m. Diana Dyer, MS, RD, registered dietitian and author, will present "Feeding Body and Soul: A Dietitian's Journey of Cancer Survivorship." She will describe her "healing recipe" that has included conventional cancer treatment, diet and lifestyle changes, plus many complementary therapies designed to optimize her cancer recovery and survivorship. Her personal and professional story will offer both information and inspiration to promote wellness and wholeness for people affected by cancer during and after treatment.

Dan Shapiro, PhD, psychologist, author, cancer survivor and chair of the department of humanities at Penn State's College of Medicine, is also a consultant to the hit television shows, "Grey's Anatomy" and "Private Practice." His writings have appeared in the *New York Times*, *JAMA*, *Salon.com*, *Academic Medicine*, and he has had commentaries on *National Public Radio's All Things Considered*. He has written two books, *Mom's Marijuana*, about his personal cancer experience, and a second memoir, *Delivering Doctor Amelia*, which focuses on his psychological treatment of a physician and is now required reading at a number of medical schools. During "A Funny Thing Happened on My Way to Chemotherapy" at 1:30 p.m., he will describe the importance of connecting to others and maintaining hope when challenged.

Also on that afternoon, **The Wellness Community of Philadelphia** will present a program for healthcare professionals including nurses and social workers, and continuing education credits will be available. This will take place from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. but separate registration is required. Keynote conference speaker Dan Shapiro will lead this professional luncheon which is sponsored by The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Please call Karen Neyer at (215) 879-7733 ext. 213 to learn more or visit **twcp.org** to register. Space is limited for this professional program.

The Wellness Community of Philadelphia's 11th annual *Celebration of Hope* educational conference will help people with cancer by providing 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 an 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.