

Presenter Biographies

Debra Lynn Alt - is a songstress/writer who received attention early in her career as the lead singer for Rolling Stone Magazine's house band. She has performed in musical theater and continues to sing at events and fundraisers. Prior to her latest CD, "Each Moment We're Alive," she released two CDs: "A Spirited Mother" and "In Broad Daylight." Her recent book and CD compilation "Each Moment We're Alive", inspired by cancer survivors, was launched in October 2015.

Stephanie Beck - is the Executive Director for On Belay, a non-profit that builds community among kids who love someone that has cancer. She is an experienced facilitator and dedicated to finding and using the collective wisdom that lives in communities.

Carol Becker - is a Physical Therapist and Fitness Hula Hooping Instructor. She has worked in many rehabilitation venues throughout the country. She is a Physical Therapist by day and a Hooper by night.

Margie Bekoff - is a Certified Therapeutic Harp Practitioner (CTHP) employing the joy and power of harp music and healing sound to help people dealing with medical challenges. She has been working in hospitals and other medical care facilities in Vermont since 2006. Prior to this work, Margie was a homeschooling mom and a biomedical researcher.

Anne Berkowitz - is a nurse practitioner in hematology oncology at the University of Vermont Medical Center. She received her BSN and MSN from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. She moved to Burlington in June, and has worked in the oncology setting since 2008.

Jennifer Brown - is a Board-Certified Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility Specialist at Northeastern Reproductive Medicine in Colchester, Vermont. While specializing in all aspects of infertility, Dr. Brown focuses on educating the community about the option of Fertility Preservation for patients diagnosed with cancer and preparing for chemotherapy.

Karen Carey - is a life and business support coach. Having thrived through breast cancer in 2009, she is focused on balance, health and wellbeing as a way to success in all areas of life. She challenges you to live your greatness with directness and heart.

Kevin Carey - is a life and business coach specializing in innovation and forward momentum. He is committed to your ultimate success. He survived both thyroid and bladder cancer with his witty and quirky sense of humor in tact.

Mary D. Chamberlin, M.D. - works in the Breast Oncology Program at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center. Her specialties include: Breast Cancer, Molecularly Targeted Therapies, and Global Health Hematology / Oncology.

Laura Colello, MS - specializes in Genetic Counseling, at The University of Vermont Medical Center.

David Dorfman - is a Certified Cancer Exercise Trainer, USA Triathlon Certified Coach and Certified Personal Trainer. David had trouble walking and getting out of bed during treatment but by sticking with rehabilitation, diet and fitness he now runs ultramarathons and IronMan triathlons.

Leora Dowling - teaches practical communication skills, emotional intelligence and public speaking through her coaching and consulting business. She is also a professor at Community College of Vermont and a cancer survivor.

J. Andrew Dreslin, M.D. - attended Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine in Chicago and completed his urology residency at Harvard University School of Medicine in Boston, where he was the chief resident in the division of urology. He currently practices at UVM Health Network-Central Vermont Medical Center Urology. Dr. Dreslin's interest in people and the human condition fueled his desire to become a physician. As a doctor, he sees his role as an educator, using his knowledge to help patients better understand their bodies. He lives in Stowe with his wife and 3 daughters.

Christopher Ellinger/True Story Theater - True Story Theater performs and teaches a style of improvisation theater called Playback in which audience or group members tell stories from their lives and watch them enacted on the spot. By inviting people to share their stories and transforming them spontaneously into theater, True Story Theater mission promotes social healing. Our events create a respectful atmosphere where every voice can be heard and any story told — however ordinary or extraordinary, difficult or joyful. True Story Theater offers audiences fresh perspectives, deeper connections, and a renewed appreciation for our common humanity.

Sidney Falthzik - is a two time cancer survivor/thriver (throat – 2008; prostate – 2011) Sid uses his cancer experiences and 40+ years of successful career management coaching, and innovative sales and marketing experience to deliver insights, support and resources to cancer patients, survivors/thrivers and caregivers who want to move beyond their cancer experiences and find new meaning and purpose in Life.

Daniel Fram, M.D. - is a Radiation Oncologist and Director of Radiation Oncology at the Central Vermont Medical Center. He is also Assistant Professor in the College of Medicine at The University of Vermont.

Jeff Gallahue - is Founder and CEO of We Beat Cancer, a non-profit organization that works with cancer patients during and after treatment. His organization sponsors the Boston Medical Center trip to Stowe. He was the Keynote speaker, at the 2014 Stowe Weekend of Hope. He is married to the love of his life, Pat, for 35 years and they have three fabulous children and two wonderful grandchildren. Jeff is a throat cancer survivor, diagnosed 2009.

Garth Garrison, M.D. - is assistant professor of medicine at the UVM College of Medicine and pulmonary disease specialist at the UVM Medical Center. He also leads the UVM Cancer Center's lung cancer transdisciplinary team, the goal of which is an innovative, team approach to prevention, detection, treatment and survivorship of lung cancer.

Jonna Goulding, M.D. - is the Director of Palliative and Spiritual Care at The University of Vermont Health Network – Central Vermont Medical Center. She attended medical school at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. Dr. Goulding is certified by the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, and the American Academy of Family Physicians.

Roz Grossman, MA - provides a safe, caring atmosphere in her workshops and brings compassion from her own journey of healing from cancer. Roz has taught Mindfulness Tools for Health and Wellness at the University of Vermont Medical Center since 2010. She offers meditation instruction through her business, The Neshamah Center, www.mindfulstressrelief.net

Kyle Jacoby - is the Program Director for On Belay. He is a seasoned experiential and environmental educator. He is passionate about using the outdoors and play to connect kids to their inner strength.

Ted James, M.D., MS - is a surgical oncologist at the University of Vermont Cancer Center. He has been involved in the multidisciplinary care of cancer patients including the management of long-term issues related to survivorship. He is actively involved in national and regional organizations addressing patient advocacy issues and quality improvement in cancer care delivery.

Sue Johansen, RD - is a registered dietician who has worked in Central Vermont for over 35 years. She worked at the University of Vermont Medical Center for 15

years, providing nutrition care for patients hospitalized for treatment of their cancers. Presently she is the Dietician at the National Life Cancer Treatment Center Radiology Clinic at Central Vermont Medical Center.

George Kansas - has been speaking professionally for nearly 30 years. An author, a former lawyer, single dad and cancer survivor, he brings hard-won wisdom to the survivorship experience. Through it all, George has learned how to teach you how to transcend challenging circumstances and find joy in the journey. In the 11 years since his harrowing brush with a rare Leukemia, he's spoken to and worked with tens of thousands of survivors across the globe. He's the founder and curator of TheSurvivorsNetwork.com, a free virtual community dedicated to supporting Survivors, Caregivers and Second-chancers in making the most of life, no matter what!

Karen Lounsbury, Ph.D. - is a Professor of Pharmacology at The University of Vermont College of Medicine.

Rick Lovett, M.D. - is a 1985 graduate of the University of Vermont College of Medicine, where he currently serves as Associate Professor. A radiation oncologist for over 25 years, he is certified by the American Board of Radiology.

Jessica Miller/bodhi & mind - Bodhi & mind yoga offers physical, mental and emotional support to women in every stage of cancer diagnosis, treatment, and recovery. Each program participant, or bodhi, is paired with a local yoga instructor who commits to provide one-on-one yoga and meditation practice for one hour each week over eight-week sessions, free of charge. One-on-one practices occur at local studios, hospitals, and at the bodhi's home.

Lynn Morgan, BSN - is certified in Hospice / Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing, is a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC) and Nationally Certified Counselor (NCC). Her specialty is in dealing with loss and grief.

Kevin L. Murphy - is proud to be attending his third Stowe Weekend of Hope! A lawyer for 35 years, he is the author of *Surviving Cancer After Surviving Cancer*, available on Amazon and winner of numerous awards, including: Winner International Book Awards--Health-Cancer; Mom's Choice Award Gold Honoree Adult Books-Life's Transitions; Indie Book Awards Finalist Best Health/Wellness; Indie Book Awards Finalist Best Self Help; New York Book Festival Honorable Mention; and, USA News Best Book Award Finalist-Best in Health-Cancer.

Patti O'Brien, M.D. - is a 20-year cancer survivor. She works at the University of Vermont Medical Center in the Lymphedema Clinic and in the Oncology Rehabilitation Program. Her medical practice focuses on the needs of cancer survivors. She is on the faculty at the UVM College of Medicine. She has been a part of SWOH since it started and enjoys the community spirit of this unique event.

David Ospina, M.D. - has been a hematologist/medical oncologist at UVM Health Network -Central Vermont Medical Center since 1998. He is passionate about new developments in cancer care and enjoys sharing his knowledge--and enthusiasm—with his patients and the community.

Betsy Perez, M.D. - is a board-certified urologist at Copley Hospital. She went to medical school at The University of Vermont and graduated in 1995. Dr. Perez did her residency at Albany Medical Center, and has been a Copley Staff Urologist for 15 years.

Julie Rossignol - graduated with a degree in Occupational Therapy from University of Montreal in 1992. She's a certified Lymphedema Therapist and CLT-LANA certified.

Cindy Sheridan Murphy - is a Women's Empowerment Coach and cancer survivor. Cindy's mission is to empower women through life's challenges. She uses her experience as a sports coach and a weight management coach to assist women in bridging the gap between getting a cancer diagnosis, and creating an even more purposeful life after cancer.

Joshua Singer - is a licensed acupuncturist in Montpelier who also sees patients at National Life Cancer Treatment Center in Berlin, VT. He understands the value of using complementary therapies in integrative oncology to help his patients move more easily through their treatment.

Yujing Sun, Ph.D. - is a cancer researcher working as an Assistant Professor in The University of Vermont Cancer Center with expertise on Cancer Immunotherapy. She received Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) teacher training through Center of Mindfulness, UMSS Medical School. Since 2014, she has worked as a teacher assistant for Mindfulness Tool program taught by Roz Grossman in UVM Medical Center, and has taught various Mindfulness based workshops and sessions in Burlington area.

Beatriz Tendler - is a Board Certified Endocrinologist in the Endocrine Neoplasia Clinic at the University of Connecticut. She is

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president, Connecticut Endocrine Society 2012- present; and Ethics Committee American Thyroid Association 2012-2015.

Vanessa Underwood - is a Survivor, Cancer Exercise Specialist, Fitness Trainer, Wellness Consultant, Motivational Speaker, and owner of Underwood Sports and Fitness. She has sustained three kidney transplants, anal cancer, and skin cancer. She believes her greatest secret to success is fitness of mind, body and soul. She also attributes her ability to stay strong to her family and to her faith. As a result of positive thinking, a daily prescription of exercise, a never give up attitude

and a healthy lifestyle, she has continued to defy the odds.

Julia A. Wick, MS, LCMHC - is a licensed clinical mental health counselor at The University of Vermont Cancer Center. She has experience working with cancer patients to provide them tools to address emotional and psychosocial issues related to cancer and to support themselves and family members in the setting of cancer.

Claire Willis, LICSW - is the author of Lasting Words: A Guide to Finding Meaning Toward the Close of Life has been working with people living with cancer for over 25 years. She is co-founder of Facing Cancer Together in Newton, MA

where she leads support and educational groups and is adjunct faculty at Andover Newton Theological School. Claire's forthcoming book is the Grieving Heart: Paths to Living with Loss.

Cheung Wong, M.D. - is Director of the Gynecologic Oncology Division in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences at the University of Vermont Health Center.

Ed Ziedins, M.D. - General Surgeon, Assistant Professor at The University of Vermont College of Medicine. His areas of expertise include breast disease, endoscopy, laparoscopy, minimally invasive surgery and vein surgery.



STOWE WEEKEND OF HOPE 2015



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