

# Andrea Olin Feldmar M.A., L.M.H.C.

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## **Program Director, Center for Building Hope | 2010-2016**

Responsible for developing and implementing a dynamic set of educational and support programs for cancer patients, and their caregivers and families. Provide oversight for all programs and projects ensuring that each meets the Center's for Building Hope standards. Provide supervision for five licensed clinicians and 14 program facilitators. Directly oversee 150 monthly programs, scheduling of groups, and resources. Leads and participates in educational programs along with program staff. Responsible for website design, creating content and launching Health Support Network, an online collection of videos and other resources relevant to cancer patients and their caregivers and families. In 2015-2016, responsible for transitioning all CBH educational and support programs to Jewish Family & Children's Services.

## **Project Developer | 2010**

Designed and implemented pilot program to increase awareness of available patient resource materials in six Chicago Stem Cell Transplant Centers through *Be the Match*, the National Marrow Donor Program.

## **Medical Support Counseling | 2008-2010**

Private psychological counseling practice focused on addressing the emotional needs of patients, family and caregivers who are dealing with life-threatening medical conditions.

## **Counselor, Chicago CF Care Specialists | 2008 - 2010**

Provided counseling services to newly diagnosed and existing cystic fibrosis patients and families, and offered guidance to identify available resources that address their needs. Guest speaker at annual educational retreat. Participated in administration of cutting-edge CF clinical trials.

## **Director, Educational Symposia | 2005 - 2007**

### **Blood and Marrow Transplant Information Network, Inc.**

Designed, organized and implemented ongoing program of Survivors' Symposia for bone marrow transplant patients. Responsible for overseeing all aspects of the symposia, including selection and recruitment of physicians, researchers and other speakers, review and coordination of presentations, site selection, program design, site preparation, and Symposium logistics. 300 registrants represented 14 states and 30 different hospitals attended the inaugural symposium. Presentations from 15 nationally-renowned medical, legal, insurance, and psycho-social experts; 22 additional sponsoring organizations involved. Advised other service organizations on the creation and implementation of patient education programs and symposia for stem cell transplant survivors.

## **Consultant, CHESS Project | 2005 -2007**

### **The Health Institute, Institute for Clinical Research and Health Policy Studies**

Worked with the principal physician investigator on federally-funded \$3,000,000 study, Comprehensive Health Enhancement Support System (CHESS) project identifying and evaluating the bone marrow transplant process through the perspective of parents of pediatric patients. Oversaw website design, which was based on the path parents typically navigate before and after transplant; while educating IT team about parents' emotional issues and needs. The goal of the study is to reduce the negative impact of the child's bone marrow transplant through education and proactive support services.

## **Committee Co-Chair**

### **Center for International Blood & Marrow Transplant Research (CIBMTR) | 2006-2008**

One of only three non-physicians selected to serve on CIBMTR's 50-member Transitional Advisory Committee, which was charged with overseeing all aspects of the creation and organization of the CIBMTR. CIBMTR was founded in July 2004 to provide a single point of focus for the development and support of blood and marrow transplant related clinical research. The CIBMTR defines key areas for blood and

marrow transplantation research in collaboration with leading scientists and physicians, performs retrospective studies utilizing the world's largest blood and marrow transplant database and tissue sample repository, and organizes prospective, multi-center clinical trials to improve the safety and effectiveness of stem cell transplants.

Co-authored "Guide to Protecting Your Health After Transplantation" a consumer-oriented summary of a technical document on research advances in transplant science.

#### **Board Member and Committee Member, National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) | 2004 – 2010**

Member of the Board of Directors of the world-wide registry of over 7 million individuals willing to donate marrow or peripheral blood stem cells to patients with leukemia and other blood diseases. Work with physician, scientific and lay board members to ensure effective and appropriate governance, strategic planning and fiscal responsibility of the NMDP, its staff of 600 employees and \$150M + budget. Work in partnership with CEO to secure and strengthen government and other organizational partner relationships and ensure continuity of \$45M in annual federal appropriations. As a member of the NMDP's Strategic Planning Committee, played a key role in devising an aggressive growth plan to radically increase the number of stem cell transplants facilitated by NMDP.

#### **Co-chair, Patient-focused Initiatives Committee - National Marrow Donor Program (NMDP) | 2007- 2009**

Recommend and monitor major initiatives and activities designed to address the needs of patients during all the stages of transplantation, from diagnosis through survivorship, in partnership with Transplant Centers and other organizations when appropriate. Assess current NMDP patient focused initiatives and recommend appropriate actions. Explored opportunities for NMDP to become the sponsor of a network of patient focused service organizations.

#### **Consultant – SuperSibs, Inc. | 2003 - 2005**

Advised Executive Director and Board of Directors on all aspects of organizational formation and strategy, business planning, fundraising, marketing for growth and networking. SuperSibs was a first-of-its kind charity dedicated to addressing the needs of siblings of pediatric cancer patients. Also served as Advisory Board Member.

#### **Director Patient Services – Leukemia Research Foundation | 1996-2005**

Provided 24/7 counseling and resource support to leukemia and lymphoma patients, families, and caregivers. Designed and produced community-wide forums for patients to interact with leading physicians and medical professionals in addition to developing events to support young patients and their families. Effectively networked with other organizations to create a full spectrum of information for patients and families including the creation of specific support resources within LRF.

#### **Fundraiser – Leukemia Research Foundation | 1996 - 2004**

Developed novel fundraising concept which raised over \$200,000 and provided LRF with a widely recognized mascot.

Coordinated the "Alternative Hair Show" raising over \$1,000,000.

### **Education**

**Indiana University: B. A. Sociology | 1983**

**Adler School of Professional Psychology: M.A. Counseling Psychology | 1998**

### **Certification**

**Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor, State of Illinois | Inactive**

**Licensed Mental Health Counselor, State of Florida | 2010-present**

**Qualified Supervisor, State of Florida | 2015-present**