

CLAIRE GRAINGER-VALVANO, LCSW

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LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER

Dedicated, quality-focused senior clinical professional with hands-on and leadership experience in care management for clients who require sensitive, individually-focused services and support.

- Background includes developing and overseeing staff, with a record of creating engaging, innovative programs that provide information, hope, assistance and respond compassionately to needs and concerns of clients.
- Support client empowerment by teaching ways to enhance communication with doctors, treatment teams, and family, while developing pathways to mindfulness and self-care.

Areas of Expertise:

Staff Management & Development | Program Planning & Management | Quality Assurance | Relationship Management
Patient Support | Client Assessments | Needs/Gap Analysis | Individual & Group Counseling | Performance Evaluations
Case Management | Treatment Planning | Community Relations | Documentation & Reporting

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CancerCare | Paramus, NJ

2010-Present

CLINICAL SUPERVISOR - LCSW (July 2018 - to Present)

Oversee social-work staff providing compassionate, culturally-sensitive services to cancer patients and their families; mentor and deliver performance appraisals to employees to support professional development and growth. Identify gaps and offer ideas to meet program needs and fulfill organizational mission. Monitor and answer calls to Hopeline, with focus on quality assurance and ensuring accuracy of all records. Coordinate work schedules, as well as team meetings. Contribute to workshops and panels, as well as fundraising events.

Participate in planning and goal-setting, as well as efforts to develop, implement, and monitor quality initiatives. Manage special projects and provide emergency coverage for clients as needed. Work with senior leaders to compile surveys and reports, prepare for/facilitate funding site visits, and cultivate relationships with health professionals and community organizations to enhance service delivery to clients.

- Ensured efficiency while preserving excellence through use of effective time management skills in working with supervisees and clients.
- Instrumental in engaging and providing outlets for clients to share stories by helping create vibrant support groups.
- Earned strong satisfaction ratings from clients, shown through positive responses on patient surveys.

ONCOLOGY SOCIAL WORKER (2010 - 2018)

Delivered in-person, telephone, and online counseling for caseload of 25 - 40 clients, as well as information for resources such as United Way, Patient Advocate Foundation, Family Reach, and Social Security. Additionally, provided support and information to 100+ diagnosed patients and caregivers each week on Hope line.

- As Coordinator of Healing Hearts Family Bereavement Camp—interviewed/selected families and oversaw activities for adults, teens, and young children. Incorporated interactive, therapeutic and fun programming to provide hope and healing to bereaved families.
- Created Healing Hearts Resilience Panel to reflect examples of those who have lost a loved one to cancer and gone on to create different yet vibrant lives, illustrating the possibilities of a wonderful life in spite of loss and trauma and planting seeds for post-traumatic growth.
- Brought the first breast cancer support group to a local NJ hospital; created dynamic programming to maximize impact.
- Created mandala support group that had a ripple effect of mindfulness spread to family and friends.

Care Plus NJ | Paramus, NJ

2010

Haledon Manchester Regional High School | Haledon, NJ

2009-2010

Whittier Elementary School | Teaneck, NJ

2008 -2009

CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK INTERN/SOCIAL WORK INTERN

Haledon (became paid position) - performed biopsychosocial assessments for caseload of high-school students; developed diagnoses and personalized treatment plans for students and families. Consulted with school staffs to evaluate and support students, participating in team meetings. Counseled students using cognitive behavioral and solution focused short term therapy.

CLAIRE GRANGER - PAGE TWO

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CLINICAL SOCIAL WORK INTERN/SOCIAL WORK INTERN | continued

Whittier Elementary School - co-facilitated groups focused on social skills and for children of separated/divorced parents in grades 1 through 4. For same age group, taught anti-bullying classes and 8-week course on character education.

- Supported young women in building social skills, empowerment, and decision making through development and leadership of weekly socialization group for freshman females.
- Engaged and challenged students through art through creation and implementation of "Movies that Matter" program that introduced them to compelling, socially-sensitive movies.
- Co-led group for 6 first-grade students with selective mutism, employing stimulus-fading technique.

Vantage Health System | Dumont, NJ

1990-2007

SOCIAL SERVICES COUNSELOR/BENEFITS COORDINATOR

Provided case management for clients, including conducting home visits and facilitating support groups. Assisted with determining eligibility and securing government benefits. Counseled clients on benefits, including Social Security Disability, SSI, Medicare, Medicaid, JerseyCare, PAAD, Home Energy Assistance, Donated Dental Services, and General Assistance.

- Achieved strong success rate for clients looking to secure benefits, with only one case found ineligible.
- Played key role in assisting clients navigating system when Medicaid moved to HMO model, serving as an advocate and troubleshooter.

ADDITIONAL HISTORY

Don Imus/WNBC-WFAN Radio | New York, NY

ASSISTANT

- Delivered support to radio personality for morning-drive radio program, including pre-production assistance.
- Served as substitute producer on as-needed basis.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Master of Social Work | Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service, New York, NY

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology | Rosemont College, Rosemont, PA

Meaning Centered Psychotherapy Training (2016) | Memorial Sloan Kettering

Complicated Grief Training (2018) | Columbia University, New York, NY

LICENSES/CERTIFICATIONS

Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), New Jersey and New York (R certification held in NY state)

Licensed New Jersey School Social Worker

Certified Oncology Social Worker

Certified Clinical Trauma Professional

SIFI certified instructor

AFPA Certified Nutrition and Wellness Consultant

PUBLICATIONS

Author: *The Role of Positive Psychology in Oncology Practice* CancerCare (online) March 2019:
www.oncnursingnews.com/contributor/cancer-care/2019/03/the-role-of-positive-psychology-in-oncology-practice/

Author: *The Art of Coping: Creating an Activity Based Support Group* Oncology Nurse Advisor March/April 2016

Author: *My Daddy Sits upon a Star*, a bereavement book published by Tate Publishing 2014

Author: *Disclosing a Diagnosis to Children: Tell or Not Tell?* Oncology Nurse Advisor February 2014

Author: *I've lost my employer sponsored health insurance. What now?* Cancer Today, Vol. 10 Issue 04, Winder 2020/2021

PRESENTATIONS

Melanoma Research Foundation Children's Pediatric Summit September 2016, Concord, NC Topic: Courage and Resilience

Fisher House Foundation Tampa, Florida April 2019: Topic: CancerCare

Spiritual Care Association Myrtle Beach, SC May 2019 Topic: Self-Care and Happiness

AOSW National Convention Seattle, WA, May 2015 Topic: Poster presentation - Healing Hearts Family Bereavement Camp - An Innovative Approach to Healing

