Dedicated to our patients and their Cancer Journeys on the East End

FIGHTING CHANCE
Counseling and Resource Center for Cancer Patients
Serving the East End ... free of charge since 2002

ANNUAL REPORT
2008
Heartfelt Thanks to all of our 2008 Donors

FIGHTING CHANCE
To Friends of Fighting Chance . . . Old and New:

Each year approximately 1,000 residents of the East End of Long Island are stricken with cancer and 40% of them call Fighting Chance -- seeking our unique combination of crisis counseling and assistance in navigating the healthcare system, all of it provided free-of-charge from our Sag Harbor store-front offices.

These patients display a grace under pressure that is remarkable, and so we dedicate the 2008 Annual Report to all the patients we have served since our beginnings in 2002.

Some of their stories about their cancer journeys on the East End are excerpted in the pages that follow. And please remember, there are new patients with new stories coming through our doors every day. Please help us help them . . .

Sincerely,

Duncan N. Darrow
Chairman of the Board

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We Believe...
that everyone who battles cancer deserves a FIGHTING CHANCE

Duncan Darrow
Chairman of the Board
Fighting Chance
Our Patients & Their Voices . . .

“Hearing I had cancer felt like a ton of bricks . . . the disease is like your worst flu combined with your worst hangover.

If you have cancer you don’t want to get out of bed because you know something bad is going to happen. But Fighting Chance is out of bed, making calls and describing options to you . . . by going there I felt better and I recovered better and felt part of a cancer community.”

“After diagnosis . . . I was just out there . . . hardly any idea where to turn or who to talk to. Just nothing. You could say I was “at sea” and Fighting Chance came along and was my lifeboat.

After I got cancer people would say, ‘I’m so sorry, I know how you feel,’ but they didn’t know how I felt. It was so great talking to people in the Fighting Chance support groups who did have cancer because they really did know what I mean.”

“After I was told I had cancer I went back to my car and cried. It was like being kicked in the stomach.

If you’re diagnosed, get a hold of Fighting Chance. They’re someone with experience, and it’s an incredible place. Don’t do it alone. I can’t stress that enough . . . doing it alone will kill you.”

1) JOHN from Montauk, Survivor - Cancer of the Tonsils
2) ANNE from Sagaponack, Survivor - Cancer of the Lung and Brain
3) LONNIE from Southampton, Survivor - Lung Cancer
“Fighting Chance gave us so many things. They went to the hospital, told me about massage, hypnosis, worked with me on stress relief, arranged acupuncture, which I still do for my neuropathy . . . the list goes on.”

“When you have an organization like Fighting Chance, if I was thinking about stopping my treatment or just having a bad day, I could pick up the phone and call Karrie or Heather . . . or I could go to the office and talk to them one-on-one.”

“They didn’t say it was pancreatic cancer, they just said ‘have this taken care of quickly.’ There was a sense of bewilderment . . . am I going to die?”

Fighting Chance has been a terrific part of my journey. Karrie Robinson (the oncology Social Worker) was like the rudder of a ship. She really helped me navigate the river.”

“Doctors are not trained in one of the arts of healing, which is you kind of need someone to hold your hand, you need to have a chat. That is where I think our medical system is underdeveloped, and that is where Fighting Chance comes in.”

4) LORNA from East Hampton, Survivor - Colon Cancer
5) SUZEE from East Hampton, Survivor - Breast Cancer
6) BOB from Amagansett, Survivor - Pancreatic Cancer
7) RICHARD from Sag Harbor, Survivor - Rectal Cancer
Duncan Darrow, Esq.

Founder and Chairman . . . and also a partner in the global law firm Sidley Austin LLP . . . mother died of lung cancer, inspiring him to establish Fighting Chance in 2002.

Ben Gillikin

Vice-Chairman of FIGHTING CHANCE who lives in East Hampton after distinguished career in fashion/fragrance business . . . his sister died of cancer.

Carolyn Snyder

Matriarch of a 13th – generation family farm in East Hampton and community activist . . . father died of cancer.

Dr. Peter Bach

Physician in the department of medicine at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and a member of the Institute of Medicines’ “National Cancer Policy Forum.”

Betsy Battle

Prominent Wall Street investor for decades . . . part-time resident of Wainscott . . . and cancer survivor.

Dr. Renu Hausen

Founder and Director of the leading radiation oncology clinic on the East End of Long Island.

Dr. Martin Karpeh, Jr.

Beloved as frequent hostess for our Annual Summer Gala . . . mother died of cancer.

Ed Tirrell

Deal-maker in the public power sector for over 30 years . . . both parents died of cancer.

Sue Davies

Formerly head of The Society of Memorial Sloan-Kettering, which is the chief fund-raising arm of that cancer center . . . splits her time (with husband and kids) between Sag Harbor and New York City.

Anthony Brandt

Well known author of over ten books and community activist on the East End . . . brother died of cancer.

Barbara McLaughlin

Formerly head of the Cancer Center at Stony Brook University Hospital in Suffolk County . . . recently relocated to Beth Israel Medical Center in New York as Chairman of the Department of Surgery.

Richard Perlman

Legendary entrepreneur and former Chairman of Turbochef . . . with his wife, Ellen, they are weekend residents of Sag Harbor.

Lisa Matlin, Sister Anne Marino and Cathy Peacock.

Directors not pictured here:
FINANCIAL CONDITION

The audited financial statements for Fighting Chance, Inc. (which are available to anyone by calling our office) have been prepared by our certified public accountants, and for the year ended December 31, 2008, include (1) statement of cash flows, (2) statement of activities, (3) statement of financial condition, and (4) footnotes.

As indicated in the statement of activities, our charitable donations for 2008 totaled just over $500,000 which is the amount of annual fundraising for the organization.

Fighting Chance, Inc. is a New York Non-profit corporation and also has qualified as a charitable organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. “Fighting Chance” is a US registered trademark owned by Fighting Chance, Inc. which also is proprietor of the domain name fightingchance.org.