

## **Media Advisory**

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### **Smith Center for Healing and the Arts Announces Its 2012 Patient Navigation Training in Integrative Cancer Care**

**Program Dates:** April 19-24, 2012

**Application Deadline:** January 10, 2012

**Location:** Hallowood Retreat and Conference Center, Comus, MD

Smith Center for Healing and the Arts' will hold its 4<sup>th</sup> annual Patient Navigation Training for licensed healthcare professionals, integrative practitioners, and lay navigators. The training provides a comprehensive learning experience in the practice of *integrative cancer care navigation*, providing participants with the knowledge and resources to establish a navigation practice that offers each client individualized, holistic support throughout the entire cancer experience.

#### **Course Topics and Experiential Sessions Include:**

Client Assessment, Stress Reduction Techniques, Survivorship Issues, The Art of Healing, Spiritual Support, Nutrition, Oncology 101, Yoga, Client Resources, Education and Outreach in Navigation, and Communication Skills.

#### **Program Faculty:**

This training provides a student/faculty ration of 2:1; faculty are recognized leaders in oncology, cancer survivorship, palliative care, nutrition, stress reduction, and the healing arts, and includes physicians, nurse educators, psychotherapists, social workers, and integrative practitioners. Nursing Contact Hours and CECs are provided.

#### **About Patient Navigation:**

A Patient Navigator works with cancer patients to ensure timely diagnosis and treatment for cancer, working through barriers such as financial challenges, issues with communication and transportation, and insurance. Smith Center has expanded on the traditional concept of patient navigation; we have developed a unique, groundbreaking *integrative navigation model* that contains elements of psychosocial support, and information on and exposure to complementary supportive therapies and holistic practices, while including more traditional navigational strategies.

#### **About Smith Center for Healing and the Arts:**

Founded in 1996, Smith Center for Healing and the Arts is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization located in the heart of Washington DC. Smith Center offers a variety of educational and creative resources and programs to enhance health and wholeness, with a special focus on serving those affected by cancer. Now in its 15<sup>th</sup> year of service, Smith Center has expanded its program offerings to serve more than 10,000 people each year in the DC community through weeklong Cancer Retreats, classes and workshops, community outreach events, Hospital-Based Artist-In-Residence programs, and Integrative Patient Navigation Services. Smith Center also operates the Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery, a space dedicated to showcasing art that serves to educate, enlighten, empower, and cultivate healing.