

Meet our Dedicated and Caring Team



Shannon D'Acquisto, Director, Cancer Survivor

A two-time cancer survivor, Shannon was first diagnosed with cancer in 2005 and has since then spent much of her career working with and advocating for patient resources and services in San Luis Obispo County. Shannon was born and raised on the Central Coast and is proud to call this home. She believes in creating programs that support each patient where they are on their own journey. Every cancer story is unique, so finding new and improved ways to touch and support the lives of cancer patients and families is a passion of hers.



Julie Neiggemann, RN, MSN, OCN, Oncology Nurse Navigator

Julie brings much experience in both oncology and education to her duties as an oncology nurse navigator. Julie is grateful to serve the patients at HCRC by providing education, emotional support, and connection with resources. She values delivering health care with compassion and empathy with a commitment to whole-person care—qualities she exemplifies as a nurse navigator. Julie's scope of work includes facilitating access to services before diagnosis, through treatment and survivorship as she provides information regarding cancer diagnosis, treatment, genetic testing, and local cancer care. Julie offers personal assistance to help patients identify their concerns to address with their doctor as well as access to financial and social services.



Lauren Jermstad, LCSW, Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Lauren has tremendous passion to contribute positively to the wellbeing of others and wholeheartedly believes that every person deserves to feel supported as they navigate significant life changes. Lauren has training in trauma, life adjustments and the impact of change and loss—all of which are true for the cancer journey. Her work includes supporting patients with psychosocial, social, emotional and spiritual issues as she works with the health care team to maximize care. In addition, she provides referrals to counseling services in the community, information and referrals to useful resources. Lauren also facilitates support groups and educational programs and arranges access to financial and social services.



Dignity Health™

French Hospital Medical Center

Hearst Cancer Resource Center

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Hearst Cancer Resource Center Team, continued



Eloisa F. Medina, Certified Patient Navigator

Eloisa is a bilingual (English/Spanish) certified patient navigator and is highly knowledgeable in the education, support and resources available for patients. She has also participated in the Promotores Collaborative of San Luis Obispo. The purpose of the patient navigator is to help guide and support those who find themselves undergoing a complicated diagnostic process, and act as an advocate between community members and the health care system. Additionally, Eloisa strives to help promote early cancer awareness in the Hispanic population.



Teresa Fernandez, Lay Patient Navigator, Cancer Survivor

Teresa has worked in health care for over ten years including as a Certified Grief Counselor. She is licensed through Stanford University's Chronic Disease Self-Management Program and conducts outreach and education in English and Spanish. She maintains an attitude of sincerity, tolerance, consideration, and assistance towards everyone she works with. A cancer survivor herself, she is excited to bring her experience to her new role as lay patient navigator.



Angela Fissell, MS, RD, Clinical Registered Dietitian

Angela is a clinical registered dietitian with over 20 years of experience helping clients with a variety of health related conditions. In the past 14 years, she has increased her focus in the area of oncology nutrition providing customized nutritional counseling to cancer patients as she helps them to plan and maintain a nutritious, healthful diet through treatment and survival. Angela works closely with each client to share her expertise in oncology nutrition as well as helpful tips on the management of side effects of cancer treatment. She also teaches at various community programs.



Lisa Steinbeck, Certified Cancer Registrar

Cancer registrars are data information specialists that capture a complete history, diagnosis, treatment, and health status for every cancer patient in the U.S. The data provide essential information to researchers, healthcare providers, and public health officials to better monitor and advance cancer treatments, conduct research, and improve cancer prevention and screening programs. At French Hospital, the cancer registrar assists in maintaining Commission on Cancer accreditation for excellence in cancer care and reporting newly-diagnosed cancer cases to the State of California.



Ramie Castilleja, Support Services Coordinator

Ramie has a great depth of passion when it comes to helping support members of this community and being a part of something larger than herself. Ramie has had extensive training working with diverse demographics through non-profit, government, and healthcare sectors to have a great understanding of the needs of the organization's participants. She provides assistance with members and staff of the Hearst Cancer Resource Center—another wonderful resource with Dignity Health.