The purpose of this guide is to help you find information and support on cancer survivorship. This guide provides links and references to reliable and current information sources for patients, families, and caregivers.

Many of these materials are available to purchase through online resources, or to borrow at your public library.

**Brochures and Fact Sheets**

**For Children and Teens**

- American Cancer Society. *It Helps to Have Friends: When Mom or Dad Has Cancer*. Request a free copy by calling: 1-800-227-2345.


**For Parents**


- CancerCare. *Helping Children When a Family Member has Cancer*. Available online at: [http://goo.gl/ wdy6qU](http:// goo.gl/ wdy6qU)

  - Scroll down under “Cancer Topics”
  - Talking About Cancer
  - Click on “What Do I Tell the Kids”

**Activity Books**

- American Cancer Society. *Because... Someone I Love Has Cancer: Kids' Activity Book*
Michigan Medicine

- Van Dernoot, Peter. *Talking with my Treehouse Friends About Cancer.*

**Books**

**For Adults**


**For Kids**

*Ages 3 – 6*

- Clark, Julie Aigner. *You are the Best Medicine.* New York, NY: Balzer & Bray, 2010. This book delivers a soothing message from a mother with cancer to her young daughter. Reassuring and tactful, it affirms that love and kindness are the best medicine for anyone who is ill.


Greenfield, Nancy Reuben. When Mommy Had a Mastectomy. Silver Spring, MD: Bartleby Press, 2005; Reprint 2016. This book helps to explain breast cancer and mastectomy simply and sensitively for the very young child.


Makekau, Maryann. When Your Mom Has Cancer: Helping Children Cope at Home and Beyond. Makekau, 2010. This book is an excellent resource to help explain breast cancer to their children in such a way that they not only understand cancer but can also approach the subject with less fear and anxiety.

Makekau, Maryann. When Your Teacher Has Cancer: Coping in the Classroom and Beyond. Makekau, 2009. This book explains to a young child what cancer is and what is happening while their teacher is being treated.

Moore-Mallinos, Jennifer. Mom Has Cancer! Hauppauge, NY: Barron’s Educational Series, 2008. This book focuses on a young boy’s anxiety prior to learning his mother’s cancer diagnosis and his ability to adapt once provided with honest information and reassurance.


Perry, Hannah. A New Hat for Mommy: Helping Children Express Their Concerns on Cancer. Charleston, SC: BookSurge, 2005. This book is about a young girl whose mother has cancer. It asks questions along the way to encourage children to talk about their feelings in a relaxed manner.
• Schick, Eleanor. *When Mama Wore a Hat*. Wyeth Pharmaceuticals, 2007. Two children see the effects of their mother’s chemotherapy after they learn she has cancer.


• Thomas, Christine. *Can I Catch Cancer?* Brittany’s Books, 2007. This book explains cancer in terms and illustrations a child can relate to. Gently and playfully guides the reader through the process of a cell to a tumor.

• Tinkham, Kelly A. *Hair for Mama*. New York, NY: Dial Press, 2007. When Marcus’s mother has chemotherapy for her cancer and loses her hair, he tries to find new hair for her.

*Ages 6 – 10*


• Fead, Beverlye Hyman. *Nana, What’s Cancer?* Atlanta, GA: American Cancer Society, 2009. Nana answers 10-year-old Tessa’s questions about cancer. Nana’s answers are designed to both ease children’s fears and provide them with factual information.


• McVicker, Ellen; Hersh, Nanci. *Butterfly Kisses and Wishes on Wings: When Someone You Love Has Cancer – A Hopeful, Helpful Book for Kids*. [S.l.: s.n.], 2006. This book is about a Mom with breast cancer. The story is told through the eyes of a child and lends itself to a simple and clear understanding of cancer.


An 8-year-old girl keeps a journal that describes the medical treatments her mother undergoes for breast cancer, her family's experiences, and her own feelings and concerns.


- Silver, Alex. *Our Mom is Getting Better* and *Our Dad is Getting Better.* Atlanta, GA: American Cancer Society, 2007. These books focus on a parent recovering from cancer. The children in the book celebrate the milestones their family has reached and reflect on the different ways their parent’s illness, treatment, and recovery impacted their lives.

**Pre-Teens**


**Teenagers**


- Gillie, Oliver. *Just the Facts: Cancer.* Heinemann Library, 2004. This book provides an overview of cancer, describing what it is, what the various forms are that it takes, what it is like to live with this disease, and some of the available treatments.

• Silver, Maya. **My Parent Has Cancer and It Really Sucks.** Napierville, IL: Sourcebooks Fire, 2013. Author Maya Silver was 15 when her mom was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2001. She and her dad, Marc, have combined their family’s personal experience with advice from dozens of medical professionals and real stories from 100 teens.

**Audiovisual Resources**

• CancerCare. **Helping Children and Teens Understand When a Parent or Loved One Has Cancer** Podcast by Lori Wiener, PhD, Paula K. Rauch, MD, Cindy Moore, PhD.
  Available online at: [http://goo.gl/q1CvDN](http://goo.gl/q1CvDN)

**Web Resources**

• **American Cancer Society: Dealing with a Cancer Diagnosis in the Family** [http://cancer.org](http://cancer.org)
  o Click the Search in the top right.
  o Type “dealing with a cancer diagnosis in the family”
  o Search

  This site, by the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), provides information on talking to your children or grandchildren about your cancer.

• **GroupLoop** [http://cancersupportcommunity.org/group-loop](http://cancersupportcommunity.org/group-loop)
  This site for teens is offered by the Cancer Support Community and is both for teens who have cancer and those who have someone close to them diagnosed with cancer.

• **Kids Konnected** [http://kidskonncetd.org](http://kidskonncetd.org)
  Provides understanding, education, and support for kids and teens who have a parent with cancer or have lost a parent with cancer.

  Provides guidance for parents facing cancer.
• Someone I Love is Sick  
   http://someoneiloveissick.com  
   This site is run by The Gathering Place, a non-profit committed to caring for those 
touched by cancer.

University of Michigan Resources

• The University of Michigan Rogel Cancer Center Families Facing Cancer Program 
   https://www.mcancer.org/support/managing-emotions/complementary- 
   therapies/families-facing-cancer  
   This program focuses on resources and programs for children who have a parent or 
other adult family member confronting cancer.

Organizations

• Community Programs for Children and Teens Who Have a Family Member with 
  Cancer (Michigan)  
  Cancer Support Community of Greater Ann Arbor  
  http://cancersupportannarbor.org 
  2010 Hogback Road  
  Ann Arbor, MI 48105  
  (734) 975-2500

• Gilda's Club of Grand Rapids  
  http://gildasclubgr.org 
  1806 Bridge St NW  
  Grand Rapids, MI 49504  
  (616) 453-8300

• Gilda's Club of Greater Detroit  
  http://gildasclubdetroit.org 
  3517 Rochester Road  
  Royal Oak, MI 48073  
  (248) 577-0800