GNBCC Board Members: (left to right) Colette Thaw, Mindy Gordon, Gloria Gersman, Pamela Fogel, Laura Weinberg, Maria Rudman, Lisa Levine. GNBCC Alumni Students: (left to right) Rick Mathews, Sean Liu, Prasanth Kurup (Board Members missing from the photo: Randa Maher, Karen Glaser)

Our Mission

Since 1992, the Great Neck Breast Cancer Coalition has been dedicated to the battle against breast cancer through education and advocacy of breast cancer research. To further protect future generations, we also advocate breast cancer prevention research and we educate the public on ways to avoid toxic environmental exposures. To round out our mission, our coalition offers support to women who are newly diagnosed.
Lend a Helping Hand Program

A community coming together to support women diagnosed with breast cancer

Under the guidance of our Lend a Helping Hand (LAHH) Program Director, Pamela Fogel, and Assistant Director, Karen Glaser, GNBCC continues to assist newly diagnosed women by providing funding for services after surgery and during treatment for house cleaning, agency home care assistance, transportation to/from medical appointments, child care, post-mastectomy accessory bras, wigs, and groceries. We have enhanced the LAHH Program by collaborating with several other Breast Cancer Coalitions through a Long Island-wide “Round Robin” program. When individual coalitions meet their maximum funding capacity for a client, we can reach out to other coalitions for funding assistance and they can reach out to GNBCC. GNBCC also partners with the American Cancer Society (ACS) who has referred several local LAHH clients to our coalition. Here is a recent quote from one of our LAHH clients:

“Breast cancer can paralyze the whole family emotionally and financially. Only modified life style and positive attitude or hope can help you overcome this devastating course with the help of family and a support group like the GNBCC Lend a Helping Hand Program.”

If you know anyone locally who may need this service, please contact us at info@greatneckbcc.org.

Thank You to Our Grant Providers and Donors!

NYS Department of Health

Nassau County Women’s Bar Foundation

Temple Beth El of Great Neck

Sisterhood of Temple Israel of Great Neck

Havapassion by Janine Phillips

Lonny’s Wardrobe of Great Neck

Linda Silver Designs of Great Neck

Laura Auerbach, Graphic Design

Nightingale-Bamford School

Donations may be made on our website cover page @ www.greatneckbcc.org
Three of GNBCC’s research students, Sayo Ogunleye, Amrita Shah and Zainab Mian, traveled with Laura Weinberg and Lisa Levine to the Breast Cancer & Environmental Research Program Conference (BCERP) in November 2017 where they displayed posters of their summer research. The Conference took place in Monrovia, California and was attended by several hundred national participants, including researchers, breast cancer advocates and students.

“Windows of Susceptibility (Pregnancy & Puberty) for Environmental Exposures”, “Impact of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals and Breast Cancer, and “Breast Density and Breast Cancer Risk” were among the many topics addressed at the BCERP Conference. Dr. Linda Birnbaum, Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and National Toxicology Program was the keynote speaker who gave an overview of Breast Cancer and the Environment Research at the NIEHS. Dr. Birnbaum stated that environmental factors accounts for 2/3 of cancer incidence with an interaction between genes and environment.

Photos of GNBCC at the BCERP Conference:

Zainab Mian, Amrita Shah (GNBCC), Subhana Zafar (HBCAC) proudly present posters of their summer research. Back row, left to right: Karen Miller (HBCAC), Laura Weinberg (GNBCC)

Lisa Levine and Laura Weinberg of GNBCC present a poster of the student research program.

Zainab, Amrita, and Laura Vandenberg, PhD of University of Massachusetts/Amherst
Haley Klein presents at North Shore Hebrew Academy High School about their summer internship at the Soto/Sonnenschein Laboratory at Tufts University School of Medicine. She and Ophir Sabbah addressed endocrine disrupting chemicals, such as BPA, and breast cancer risk, and why these chemicals are still in the marketplace.

Congratulations to Isabelle Sarraf, who presented at Great Neck North High School’s Senior Symposium Night on her 2017 summer research internship at Dr. Gross’s Green Chemistry laboratory at RPI, sponsored by GNBCC’s Students and Scientists Research Program. Isabelle and her colleague’s experiment aimed to create a free-base, naturally-derived polylysine in order to eliminate the risk of cancer development in patients exposed to medical devices that incorporate a toxic version of polylysine.
**Fall/Winter presentations**

Laura Weinberg spoke to Rabbi Elle Muhlbaum’s high school class at Temple Beth El of Great Neck and Jennifer Di Palo and Ellen Goltzer’s health classes at the Great Neck South Middle School about how to avoid toxins in cosmetics by identifying them on labels.

February 22nd: Nightingale-Bamford School in New York City, presentation on how to identify and avoid toxins linked to breast cancer for the school’s faculty

March 6th: Temple Israel of Great Neck presentation on breast cancer risk reduction, how to identify and avoid toxins linked to breast cancer

**Upcoming spring presentations**

March 23th: Temple Beth El presentation to the Congregation on Friday evening

April 16th, 6:00 – 8:00 PM: Adelphi’s Breast Cancer Hotline, Environmental Impact and Breast Cancer, Adelphi Alumni House, Presenters: Laura Vandenberg PhD, University of Massachusetts, Laura Weinberg, President, Great Neck Breast Cancer Coalition, Karen Miller, President, Huntington Breast Cancer Action Coalition

>> Register for this forum
Breast Cancer Coalitions Received Generous Donations at the Nassau County Women’s Bar Foundation Holiday Dinner!

The Great Neck Breast Cancer Coalition (GNBCC), Huntington Breast Cancer Action Coalition (HBCAC), Adelphi Breast Cancer Hotline, Long Beach Breast Cancer Coalition and other Long Island breast cancer coalitions received generous donations at the Nassau County Women's Bar Foundation Holiday Dinner!

(Left to right, top row): Laura Weinberg (GNBCC), Lynn Dobrin (Adelphi), Karen Miller (HBCAC), Melanie Gabrell (HBCAC), (Bottom row): Reyna Machado (Adelphi), Alida Rubenstein (Adelphi), Jodi Hollingshead (Long Beach)

Quick Risk Reduction Tips

Avoid BPA, an estrogen mimicker: Purchase fresh food instead of canned since many food cans are lined with BPA, including infant formula. Avoid handling receipts, since thermal paper is often coated with BPA. Avoid plastics marked with a “PC,” for polycarbonate, or recycling label #7.

“BPA-Free” doesn’t always mean “estrogen free” since BPA is often replaced with the estrogenic chemical “BPS”. Call the manufacturer of the product and ask if the product is both BPA and BPS-free! When possible ask for receipts to be emailed to you.

Read labels on cosmetics to avoid endocrine disrupting chemicals (estrogen mimickers) such as triclosan, methylparaben, ethylparaben, butylparaben, propylparaben. Artificial “fragrance” in cosmetics may contain phthalates which are also endocrine disruptors (estrogen mimickers).
**Spotlight on our Interns**

**Anna Glasman**

My name is Anna Glasman and I am a junior at North Shore Hebrew Academy High School. Writing this newsletter has been an eye-opening experience for me because I learned so much about this incredible organization. My interests include tennis and creative writing. I am the captain of the tennis team and the president of the creative writing club. Both of those leadership positions do not compare to the knowledge I have gained whilst writing this newsletter with my friend, Halli Fein. The two of us worked on it day and night. I learned about how many people are involved in the battle against breast cancer and I am inspired by the many contributions, donations, and events in honor of the Great Neck Breast Cancer Coalition.

**Halli Fein**

My name is Halli Fein and I am a junior at North Shore Hebrew Academy High School. When I’m not in school, which is quite rare, you can find me on the tennis courts or tripping my way through a Zumba class. On Sundays, I enjoy volunteering for a program called Friendship Circle, during which I shadow special needs children throughout recreational activities such as art, sports, and music. In school my favorite class is trigonometry, but lunch is a close second. I am captain of the soccer team and founder of the Yachad club, which helps create programs to bring inclusion into the school. As much as I love school, I look forward to a summer of science and volunteering. Working on this newsletter with my friend Anna Glasman gave me a whole new perspective on awareness, prevention, and research regarding breast cancer and this important organization.

This newsletter was designed by Anna Glasman and Halli Fein.