

Meet Your Oncology Social Worker

Cancer can be an overwhelming diagnosis. It can affect how you cope with daily life, things such as work or school, finances, family, or how you plan for the future. Erlanger's oncology social worker is here to help with practical and emotional support to help you adjust to life with cancer.



We're Here to Help

If you are in distress and need assistance, don't hesitate to contact your Oncology Social Worker. The following factors may indicate your need for help:

- Symptoms of anxiety or depression
- History of mental health treatment
- History of substance use/abuse
- Prolonged or terminal illness
- Uncertainty or refusal of treatment
- Lack of adequate support system
- Indications of abuse or neglect
- Challenging family dynamics
- Having difficulty coping

Social work services include:

- Assessment of psychosocial factors impacting patient
- Facilitation of family discussions regarding treatment decisions
- Teaching positive coping strategies
- Teaching relaxation and stress management techniques
- Referral to support groups
- Referral to community based counseling
- Referral to Governmental agency and program information such as the Social Security Administration, Food Stamps, Veteran Administration Services, etc.
- Linkage to community/financial assistance
- Address barriers to transportation
- Assistance locating long term care services and referrals
- Offer information and paperwork for advanced care planning including power of attorney and living wills

"Our role is to support the medical team by providing psychosocial care through emotional and practical support to patients and their families on their cancer journey."

– Stephanie Alfaro, LMSW

Oncology Social Worker
Office: 423-778-3253

Email: Stephanie.Alfaro@erlanger.org

– Amanda Kindred, LMSW

Oncology Social Worker
Office: 423-778-3638

Email: Amanda.Kindred@erlanger.org

24/7 CRISIS NUMBERS

American Cancer Society

1-800-227-2345

24 hour support and patient information

Crisis Counseling Line

423-499-2300

National Suicide Hotline

1-800-273-8255