MIND-BODY CHALLENGE IN CANCER SURVIVORSHIP



Wendy Baer MD
Psychiatry at the Winship Cancer Institute
Emory University

How is the mind influencing the body? And vise versa

Mind

- It may come back
- It won't ever be gone
- What is that?

- I can't
- Worn out

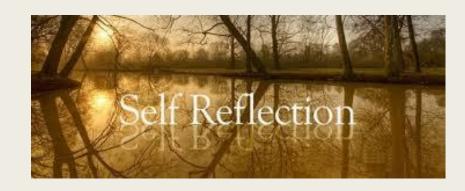
Body

- Tired
- Achy
- Slowed

- Still too often
- Nourish



What is going on with me?



Stress

- Snappy
- Short fused
- Slowed down
- Tense
- Pre occupied

- Enjoyed movie last weekend
- Walk in the woods wonderful

Clinical Depression & Anxiety

- Nothing is pleasurable
- Don't go anywhere
- Can't think straight at all
- I am worthless
- Can't do anything because worry
- My family says I am not myself

Stress Reduction



- Diet
 - Anti inflammatory
 - Environment
- Sleep
 - Habits are powerful
 - Check caffeine
- Exercise
 - Slow, gradual increase
 - Mind has memory of pre-cancer





Clinical Depression & Anxiety

FEEL BETTER NOW!

- Medications
 - SSRI
 - SNRI
 - Bupropion
 - Mirtazapine
- Physical Symptoms
 - Neuropathy
 - Fatigue

- Benzos
- Talking therapy
 - Group
 - Individual
 - MD, PhD, LCSW
 - Check insurance
- Streamline meds after treatment

Resources







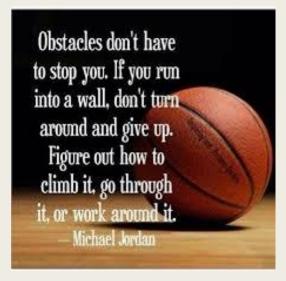
- Cancer specific programs
 - Cancer community, Cancer Wellness, Peer Partners, Support Groups
- Local
 - Church, Y, classes, volunteer

Mind-Body Challenge

- Reflect on what is going on
- Helpful thoughts & behaviors
 - Enhance quality of life
 - Kindness
 - Serving you
- Recognize the ripple effect
 - Relationships
- Sense of control



Yeah but.....Yeah because.....



- I had cancer, it is not all gone, it could come back, I have pain, I am broke, my husband left me, my kids never helped me, I can't drive, I love Snickers, my job takes up all my time, I have no energy....
- Now I know....today really does matter....I get this one life....can't do it all....taking care of myself one day at a time is the best I can do....nobody is perfect....nobody does this alone....not all people are able to help....I know how to help....

FIND YOUR THING





Keep your eyes on the road

