



Gilda's Club Madison Wisconsin – An Affiliate of the Cancer Support Community
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NEW LEADER IN CANCER COMMUNITY ANNOUNCED AT SUMMIT

The Wellness Community and Gilda's Club Unify to Provide Support to All People Affected By Cancer

Middleton, WI – Nov. 17, 2009 — The Headquarters offices of The Wellness Community and Gilda's Club Worldwide unveiled their new, combined identity – Cancer Support Community – at a landmark Cancer Summit on Saturday, November 7, in Washington, DC.

As the number of cancer survivors in the United States surpasses 12 million, the demand for support services throughout the continuum of care is increasing. The Cancer Support Community is poised to help meet these needs through their innovative and comprehensive offerings to those affected by cancer. An affiliate of the Cancer Support Community, Gilda's Club Madison, will continue to offer its renowned education and support services without any disruption.

“We are the same great organization dedicated to ensuring that no one in the Madison area faces cancer alone,” said Gail Nichols, Executive Director of Gilda's Club Madison. “We look forward to being a part of what will likely be the largest professionally-led network of cancer support in the world, and to bringing our members the new and improved resources we are committed to developing.”

This union creates a strong, vital, global network that will bring the highest quality cancer support for the millions of people touched by cancer. These offerings include a comprehensive menu of personalized and essential services, including support groups, counseling, education and healthy lifestyle programs. To ensure no one has to face cancer alone, these support services will soon be available to people in all 50 U.S. states and internationally through The Cancer Support Community's network of community-based centers and at hospitals, community oncology practices and other non-profits, as well as online. The Cancer Support Community is also exploring the use of novel technologies, including mobile, to help extend the reach of these meaningful resources.

“As a cancer survivor, I understand the emotional and social impact of this disease,” said Ted Kennedy, Jr., Chair of Cancer Support Community's Honorary Board, “So does the Cancer Support Community. The organization's work is critical as it helps optimize patient care by providing essential but often overlooked services that complete the cancer care plan.”

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“From my perspective, the marriage of these two respected organizations marks one of the most significant events in the cancer nonprofit community this year,” continued Kennedy.

The Cancer Support Community is now the largest employer of psychosocial oncology mental health professionals in the United States. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the organization includes a network of nearly 50 local Gilda’s Clubs and Wellness Community centers worldwide, more than 100 satellite locations and online support services that extend around the world. For more information about the Cancer Support Community, visit www.cancersupportcommunity.org.

ABOUT GILDA’S CLUB MADISON

Gilda's Club Madison is a free, non-profit support community for anyone touched by any kind of cancer as well as their families and friends. It's a warm and welcoming, non-residential clubhouse where men, women, and children come together to build social and emotional support as a supplement to medical care.

Gilda’s Club was founded by Saturday Night Live comedian Gilda Radner, who was inspired to create a gathering place for people touched by cancer, including family and friends. She felt life should be lived to the fullest, even while facing cancer. Gilda died in 1989, but her legacy continues through Gilda’s Clubs, which offer support groups, education and social events. For more information on the organization, visit online at www.gildas-clubmadison.org.

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