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“Sharing the Pain Together”: UMD research team recruits breast cancer survivors for a support program

A University of Maryland School of Public Health research team is recruiting participants for the second cohort of a support program for Korean breast cancer survivors (the TOGETHER program).

The program will begin the first week of this upcoming September and is open to Korean breast cancer survivors aged 25-70, who live in Maryland, Virginia, and the Washington D.C. area. Breast cancer survivors who have been diagnosed with stage 0 to 3 and have finished treatment in the past 2 years or are still under treatment are eligible to participate.

The TOGETHER program is conducted by Dr. Lee’s research team from the University of Maryland School of Public Health and is the first program offered in Korean for breast cancer survivors. This program is funded by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The participants from the TOGETHER program’s first cohort groups have formed their own support groups and continue to have regular meetings. The Virginia group had their first meeting on July 26th at Burke Lake Park.

“It is uplifting for me to see participants not only learn the necessary information but also get encouraged and comforted by each other through the TOGETHER program,” said Dr. Lee.

Ms. Lee, who is currently on chemotherapy said, “I felt relieved learning about things that I once didn’t know and made me anxious. Other participants have had the same suffering as I have, and it was good that we could sympathize with one another.”

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