



- **Ambulatory Care Center Social Work Services**
- **VOICES Medicaid Managed Care Education Program**
- **VOICES 60+ Senior Advocacy Program**
- **LupusLine®**
- **Charla de Lupus (Lupus Chat)®**
- **The SLE Workshop**
- **LANtern® (Lupus Asian Network)**
- **Myositis Support and Education Group**
- **Early RA Support and Education Program**
- **Living with RA: Lecture, Lunch & Conversation**

## LupusLine®

LupusLine is the only national telephone peer counseling service staffed by trained volunteers who are lupus veterans, or family members. Callers are screened and matched by the program's social work manager for those who want one-to-one support by telephone appointment from home.

**CONTACT: Priscilla Toral, LCSW**  
Senior Manager  
212.774.2108  
[toralp@hss.edu](mailto:toralp@hss.edu)

## Charla de Lupus (Lupus Chat)®

Charla de Lupus (Lupus Chat) a "sister" program to LupusLine, provides peer health education by trained volunteers, with an emphasis on reaching Spanish speaking communities. Charla is available on-site at several area hospitals including HSS, by phone, and for community presentations. The program also coordinates monthly Teen and Parent Chat Groups, offering lupus-related informal support, guest speakers, group activities, and celebrations. Also offered is the free booklet, "For Inquiring Teens With Lupus: Our Thoughts, Issues, & Concerns."

**CONTACT: Giselle Rodriguez, LCSW**  
Social Work Program Coordinator at  
646.797.8746 or 866.812.4494  
(toll free outside of NYC)  
[rodriguezgi@hss.edu](mailto:rodriguezgi@hss.edu)

## SLE Workshop

The SLE Workshop is a monthly support and education program for people with lupus and their family members and friends, ongoing since 1985. Lectures by health care professionals are followed by informal discussion facilitated by a social work intern.

**CONTACT: SLE Workshop Coordinator**  
212.774.7654

## LANtern® (Lupus Asian Network)

LANtern serves as the only national program to provide lupus peer support and education for the Asian American community. Culturally relevant bilingual (Chinese/English) resources developed by the program are available. LANtern participates in national conferences and health events to create networks of hope and understanding. LANtern's work is made possible with the guidance of its Advisory Board and our many collaborating community partners.

**CONTACT: Eliza Ngan, BA**  
Program Supervisor  
646.797.8338 or 866.505.2253  
(toll-free outside of NYC)  
[lantern@hss.edu](mailto:lantern@hss.edu)

## Myositis Support & Education Program

The Myositis Support and Education Group's mission is to enhance coping, reduce isolation, and increase understanding of the inflammatory myopathies (polymyositis, dermatomyositis, and inclusion body myositis) through creating a community for those affected by this rare illness. Monthly meetings include lectures by medical professionals and informal discussions facilitated by a social worker. Family and friends are welcome.

**CONTACT: Suzan Fischbein, LCSW**  
Senior Social Work Coordinator II  
212.774.7623  
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The Department of Social Work Programs' mission is to support, empower, and enhance the quality of life for people with rheumatology and orthopedic conditions, and their loved ones. For more information please visit [hss.edu/social-work-programs](https://hss.edu/social-work-programs) - *Roberta Horton, LCSW, ACSW, Assistant VP*

## Living with RA: Lecture, Lunch and Conversation

Living with RA: Lecture, Lunch and Conversation is a monthly support and education program for people with severe RA and their family members and friends. Lectures by experts in RA treatment are followed by discussion facilitated by a social worker and rheumatology nurse. The program is offered as part of the Early Arthritis Initiatives of the Inflammatory Arthritis Center at HSS, and made possible by the generous support of CKEW Fund, Middle Road Foundation, Ian and Manon Slome, The Joseph and Arlene Taub Foundation and Mr. Stephen Goldberg.

### CONTACT:

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## Early RA Support and Education Program

The Early RA Support and Education Program is developed for people recently diagnosed with RA, to provide support and education for participants and their family members. Participants meet for a 4 session series which presents essential information about RA and RA treatment. Following the lectures, discussion with others also coping with a new RA

diagnosis is facilitated by a social worker and a rheumatology nurse. The program is offered as part of the Early Arthritis Initiatives of the Inflammatory Arthritis Center at HSS, and is made possible by the generous support of CKEW Fund, Middle Road Foundation, Ian and Manon Slome, The Joseph and Arlene Taub Foundation and Mr. Stephen Goldberg.

**CONTACT: Joan Westreich, LCSW-R**  
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Early Arthritis Initiative  
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## Ambulatory Care Center Social Work Services

Social Work Services are available to Division of Rheumatology patients, in all pediatric clinics, and in targeted orthopedic clinics. Social workers assess patient/family needs related to the impact and understanding of illness and treatment, provide emotional support, and assist with accessing mental health services, support groups, homecare, and other community resources.

**CONTACT: Mavis Seehaus, MS, LCSW**  
Director  
212.774.2467  
[seehausm@hss.edu](mailto:seehausm@hss.edu)

## VOICES Medicaid Managed Care Education Program

The VOICES Program assists Ambulatory Care Center patients in accessing HSS's specialty care through helping them understand their options under Medicaid managed care. Information, education and advocacy are provided to help patients obtain and maintain care whenever possible.

**CONTACT: VOICES Medicaid Managed Care Education Program**  
212.774.2011

## VOICES 60+ Senior Advocacy Program

VOICES 60+ assists HSS rheumatology outpatients 60 and older with services and support to improve their quality of life and enhance their medical care experience. Program staff and volunteers help patients with access to government programs and the healthcare system, and assist with emotional and family concerns.

**CONTACT: Alexandra Jurenko, LCSW**  
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## CONTACTS

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**Living with RA: Lecture, Lunch & Conversation**  
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**Early RA Support and Education Program**  
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