

# Pediatric Oncology Social Workers Help children and families every day

A pediatric oncology social worker can have many roles: provide support, counseling, education, and referrals to community resources, as well as act as case manager for children with cancer and their families. Pediatric oncology social workers help families manage day-to-day challenges associated with a cancer diagnosis and its treatment

When should you ask to meet with a pediatric oncology social worker? Pediatric oncology social workers can:

- ✓ help a child and his/her family cope from the moment of diagnosis through to the end of treatment, whether survivorship or palliative care
- ✓ help the family adjust to the diagnosis and the changes created in how they live their lives
- ✓ help family members by providing emotional support and emotional interventions
- ✓ help the child and the family maintain a 'new normal' way of living
- ✓ help families navigate through the medical system, bridging the connections between the family and the medical team
- ✓ help identify resources - emotional, supportive and/or financial - for families and children
- ✓ help families and children by advocating for their needs



If you think you might want help in any of these areas, tell your doctor or nurse that you would like to meet with a pediatric oncology social worker.



Association of Pediatric Oncology Social Workers  
www.aposw.org  
Advancing Pediatric Psychosocial Care