

SIBSPlace is a free program serving well children ages 5–17, who are living with a sibling with cancer or another devastating medical illness, a parent with a cancer diagnosis and/or children coping with the death of a sibling or parent.



SIBSPlace provides guided therapeutic peer support to help well children develop skills to cope with the traumatic and emotional impact of a loved one's medical diagnosis and/or loss. Family support is also offered.

“SIBSPlace must be experienced to understand the impact it can have on a child. Truly amazing.”

SIBSPlace School Year Groups

SIBSPlace School Year Groups:

- Monday: Bereavement Group
- Tuesday: SIBSPlace Group, 3:00 – 8:00 pm
- Wednesday: Bereavement Group
- Thursday: SIBSPlace Group, 3:00 – 8:00 pm
Parent Group, 7:00 – 8:00 pm
- Friday: Tween/Teen Group, 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Online Groups are offered, please call for virtual group schedule.



an affiliate of Mount Sinai South Nassau

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All photos were taken during the COVID pandemic. Our practitioners and participants are required to wear appropriate PPE at all times.

06/2022



an affiliate of Mount Sinai South Nassau

Survivorship In Brothers and Sisters

A Place Where a Child Matters Most



SIBSPlace Model

SIBSPlace provides support and attention to the unique experiences and needs of the well children, as they face the issues and conflicts related to the illness or death of a family member. Resiliency is fostered through peer support and multi-dimensional activities that increase self-awareness and expression of feelings. These historically underserved children participate in creative, therapeutic activities that teach them the coping skills that will help them lead more effective lives today, and in the future. Our door is open to all children no matter what hospital is treating their loved one. In-person and virtual groups are available, which allows us to expand our demographic reach.

Why SIBS

SIBSPlace provides a consistent and safe space for the well child in a family to come together to share and process the impact of a loved one's serious medical illness or death. The families served are in transition. Family patterns and traditions lose their structure. It is necessary for much attention to be focused on the needs of the ill family member. However, the well child is struggling to grow up through a family trauma and also has needs. As a result of this crisis, they are coping with feelings of:

- Fear
- Sadness
- Confusion
- Jealousy
- Loss of power and control
- Guilt
- Isolation
- Abandonment
- Anger



Program Activities

- Therapeutic expressive arts activities
- Age based peer support groups
- Anticipatory grief support
- Socialization opportunities
- Parent support group
- Monthly tween and teen night
- Homework support
- Dinner and nutritional support
- Services are offered in-person and virtually

Other Support Services

- Peer empowerment events
- Family engagement events
- Pet therapy
- Birthday celebrations
- Camp SIBS
- Bereavement services



A Place Where a Child MATTERS Most

Mastery and Development of coping and empowerment skills helps increase a child's self-expression

Attention is paid to the unique experience and needs of the well child

Therapeutic creative arts activities increase self-awareness and emotional vocabulary

Traumatic reactions are processed, feelings validated, and a sense of consistency is restored

Education is geared toward decreasing confusion/misperceptions

Resiliency is fostered through group work facilitated by skilled professionals

Support through peer interactions normalizes the well child's experience

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