



**TO:** *The Michael Magro Foundation*

**FROM:** *Brianne Gruber, Kim Krupa, Nancy Morreale, Cathy Schimmel, Dianna Trogel*

**DATE:** *June 2019*

**SUBJECT:** *SOAR & General Stewardship: 2018*

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### **SOAR**

*Thanks to the Michael Magro Foundation's ongoing philanthropic support, the CCFK's SOAR Program continues to meet the critical academic needs of our pediatric hematology and cancer patients. As a result, the Center's psychosocial team has embraced our school-age population in the following ways: they have discussed individual patient needs with school personnel; analyzed neurocognitive skills; and made recommendations based on their assessment. Additionally, their visits to different school locations have positively impacted on several patient returns to the classroom.*

### **THE PSYCHOLOGIST**

*The Staff Psychologist dedicates a critical amount of professional time to evaluating, accommodating and anticipating present and future patient needs.*

*In 2018, Dr. Brianne Gruber's hours for school re-entry, patient and special education meetings, and neuropsychological testing are reported below:*

	<u>Number</u>
<i>School Re-Entry Meetings</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Patient Meetings</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Patient Evaluations</i>	<i>8</i>



### **THE SOCIAL WORKER**

*As the CCFK Social Worker, Nancy Morreale's work includes (but is not limited to) normalizing academic and tutorial needs for all CCFK patients. The Center continues to foster the belief that, pending physician approval, the natural place for every student is in school. As each CCFK school visit is accomplished, it is Ms. Morreale's hope that SOAR will successfully bring a clear, concise understanding of cancer and its treatment into the classroom, and profoundly impact the future life of every child with the disease. School issues don't always present during the beginning of discussions. Therefore, Ms. Morreale frequently checks in with families throughout treatment (usually 2 ½ -3 ½ years) to ensure that each patient's educational needs are being met.*

*The Social Worker continues to be a critical part of communications (i.e., phone calls, texts, e-mails and other documentation) as they relate to specific children with complicated issues. These also include school coordination and addressing HIPPA issues for the Center's new 2018 oncology diagnoses.*

*Complicated medical issues often leave children anxious about school and advancing to the next grade. It is critical for Ms. Morreale to work with patients and families, stabilizing their situation within the context of school expectations, minimum requirements, and patient rights.*

*Ms. Morreale has logged **four** school visits for a total of **eight** hours.*

### **THE NURSE MANAGER**

*Cathy Shimmel's SOAR activities include office prep hours, chart review and general consultations with the Center's school re-entry team, as well as general correspondence as needed.*

	<u>Number</u>
School Re-Entry Meetings	7



**THE CHILD LIFE SPECIALISTS**

*Before a patient can comfortably return to the classroom, The Center’s Child Life Specialists, Kim Krupa and Dianna Trogel, often spend time addressing complex issues that require a substantial amount of effort, and collaborating with the Center’s SOAR staff and school administrative and academic personnel.*

*In their integral roles preparing children for school re-entry, the Child Life Specialists engage in classroom visits, create customized classroom re-entry presentations for patients, and produce tip sheets for teachers who may have post-visit questions.*

*The hours specified below represent the following: patient preparation; time allotted for writing each presentation; and time conducting classroom meetings.*

	<u>Number</u>
School Re-Entry Meetings (Kim)	7
School Re-Entry Meetings (Diana)	6

**Additional 2018 Foundation Donations to the CCFK**

*The Michael Magro Foundation has supported the CCFK during this year as part of its multi-faceted mission on behalf of children with cancer. The Center has benefitted from MMF’s underwriting the following areas of its programming and services, and for specific patient and family needs:*

- *Medical Expenses*
- *Utilities/Rent*
- *Adopt-a-Family*
- *Gift Card Purchases*
- *Car Payments*
- *Pharmacy*
- *Lunches*
- *Transportation*
- *Winter holiday wrapping items*