

# WE ARE TB SUPPORT SPACE

NYC World TB Day

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## WE ARE TB

- We Are TB offers comprehensive peer support for current TB patients and TB clinics. We Are TB is a growing survivor network that is fighting to achieve change in TB diagnostics, treatment regimens, and funding to support US-based public health programs. The group specializes in connecting medical professionals and current TB patients to TB survivors. We bring an unparalleled depth of knowledge and provide compassionate support while using personal stories to empower survivors to break the stigma.

## HOW DOES TB IMPACT US?

- Social justice & human rights issue
- Stigma
- Personal relationships
- Financial challenges/employment
- Mental health
- Physical health and long-term impact of medication
- Health, social, & economic disparities

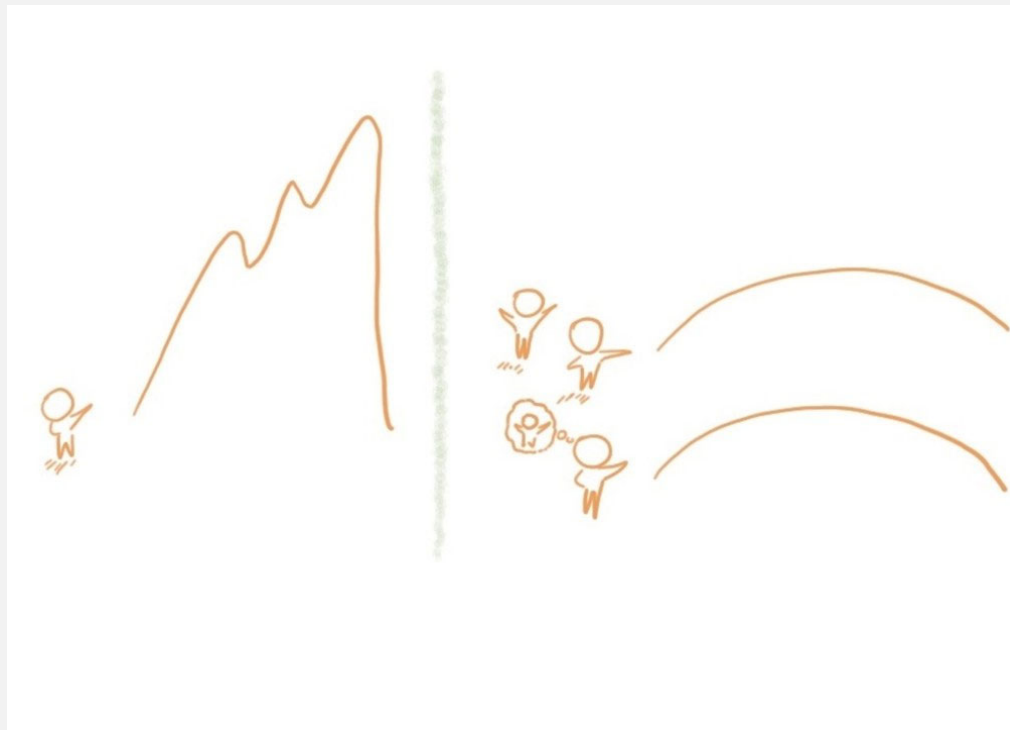


artwork by Günseli  
Sepici

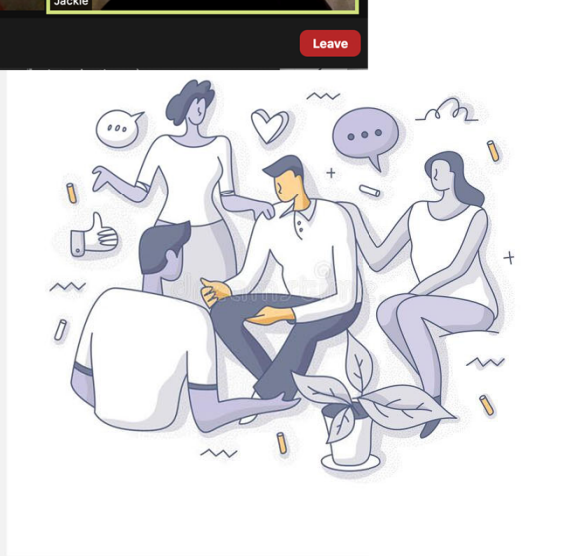
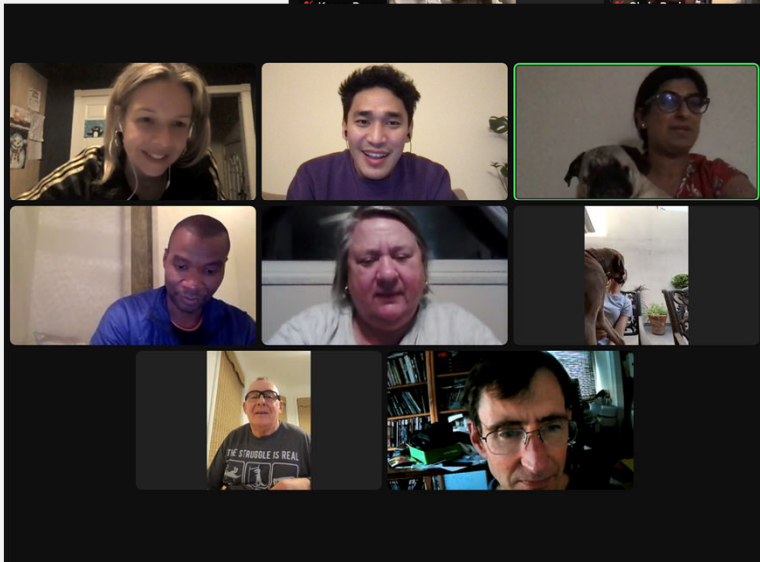
## SUPPORT SPACE

- Weekly sessions every Monday moderated and coordinated by a volunteer TB-survivor to create a network and community of support for those going through TB/LTBI treatment. These gatherings currently cover a wide range of topics from understanding treatment, building resiliency, and unpacking stigma to opening a critical space for TB patients to share their experience and seek support from peers.

# SOCIAL SUPPORT & PEER MENTORING



Social Support & the Perception of a  
Geographical Slant (Schnall, Harber, Stefanucci,  
Proffitt (2008))



## WORDS FROM OUR PARTICIPANTS & MENTORS

- “I joined We Are TB this past year during the pandemic and am a MDR TB survivor who went through treatment in 2002-2003. As a TB survivor, being a part of support space has personally helped me to realize that I am not alone. Hearing other's journeys with TB, how they have overcome obstacles, how they have successfully completed treatment, and how TB has impacted their lives long term has been both comforting and eye-opening.”
- “The support received by this group has been very helpful for me. Sharing my experience with others TB survivors is another way to ease the pain and suffering carried out for so many years. The empathy, compassion and desire to help others is the motor that moves this marvelous group.”
- “I think that the support space is wonderful and I only wish that it was available when I was ill with TB in 2014. It has been meaningful to me