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News Release
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UMaine Hutchinson Center offers program on the power of group work

Belfast, Maine — A professional development program, “The Power of Group Work,” will be offered Oct. 11, 8:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center, 80 Belmont Ave., in Belfast.

The program benefits professionals interested in maximizing group work skills, including educators, healthcare workers, clergy, social workers and mental health professionals.

“Group work is alive and well,” says program presenter Wendy Satin Rapaport, “and so is your sense of humor — a serious coping mechanism and facilitating skill in creating group cohesiveness.”

The program will focus on gaining insight into therapeutic or curative factors that make groups work; appreciating the power of group work; predicting, normalizing and handling any challenges in running groups; and experiencing the effectiveness of groups as a group leader, group member and group observer. The value of humor in group work also will be a focus.

Rapaport is a licensed clinical psychologist on the faculty at the University of Miami School of Medicine Diabetes Research Institute and the UMaine School of Social Work. She also is in private practice in Boca Raton, Florida, and has specialized in individual, marital, family and group therapy for 40 years. A professional writer, Rapaport has published more than 65 articles and lectures around the country. She was awarded the National Health Information Award for her book, “When Diabetes Hits Home: The Whole Family’s Guide to Emotional Health.” Additional books authored by Rapaport include “Approaches to Behavior: Changing the Dynamic Between Patients and Professionals in Care and Education,” “On the Couch with the ‘Good Enough’ Poet” and “Friendship Matters: memoir, life lessons, laughter.”

A fee of $95 per person; $50 for UMaine students, is required at the time of registration for the program. Need-based scholarships are available.

For more information, to register or to request a scholarship application or a reasonable accommodation, visit hutchinsoncenter.umaine.edu or contact Diana McSorley, diana.mcsorley@maine.edu, 338.8093.

The Hutchinson Center, an outreach center of the University of Maine, is committed to offering high-quality professional development programs to the greater midcoast Maine community.

About the University of Maine:
The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state’s land grant and sea grant university. As Maine’s flagship public university, UMaine has a statewide mission of teaching, research and economic development, and community service. UMaine is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from Maine and 49 other states, and 67 countries. It currently enrolls 11,240 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. The University of Maine offers 35 doctoral programs and master’s degrees in 85 fields; more than 90 undergraduate majors and academic programs; and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental
stewardship, with substantial efforts campuswide aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, visit umaine.edu.
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