

Chapter Support Group Meetings: Houston Update

To our Houston & surrounding area Scleroderma brothers & sisters:

As you all know, Jacob Vidal Davila and I (Kathy Baker) are on the Board and hold Chair positions for the Scleroderma Foundation - Texas Blue Chapter. As you also know, we not long ago, merged our Pasadena and Conroe support groups and moved the new meetings to a central location in Humble, Tx.

Since then, we have made the decision to make yet another change that we feel will better benefit our growing number of Houston Scleroderma patients, friends, and family members. **Here is what we are going to do:**

1. We are going to **re-start a Scleroderma Support group in Pasadena** that will cover the **South East side**.
2. Jacob is going to then **move his support group from the Humble location to our new Scleroderma office** which will cover the **North side**.

That address is [110 Cypress Station Dr. Suite 117. Houston, TX 77090](https://www.google.com/maps/place/110+Cypress+Station+Dr.+Suite+117,+Houston,+TX+77090/@29.758587,-95.368587,15z).

Houston is too big of a city to only have only one SSc support group that covers this area, so I plan to talk to Bayshore Hospital here in Pasadena about securing facilities that will allow us begin holding a separate meeting specifically for the SE side, thus allowing for an increase of member numbers for both groups.

Right now, we are anticipating that all changes can be finalized and new groups begin meeting around the beginning of August (pending confirmation of the new SE meeting location), but **until these changes are finalized we will continue to hold the joined group in Humble.**

As for meeting times, the plan for both the SE Pasadena group and the North Side group is to continue meeting on Sundays from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE: These groups WILL NOT continue to meet on the same days! I am **changing the SE side to the 4th Sunday of every month. The North side group meetings will continue meeting on the 2nd Sunday of the month.**

New flyers will be created and posted at the time of change to help each group keep track of when and where meetings will be taking place.

Further, we would like to ask that anyone interested in co-leading one of these groups (in the event Jacob or I have something come up that would prevent us from facilitating our group on a particular meeting day) to contact us.

The need for co-leaders is a very high one, as co-leaders can be utilized for so many important tasks, such as:

- **Helping plan up-coming speakers**
- **Brainstorming and keeping ideas/topics for meetings fresh and relevant**

- **Helping to aggressively promote these new groups in the Houston Metropolitan areas**

This is only to list a few, but as of now we currently have support groups located in Dallas/Ft Worth, El Paso, and San Antonio that have both leader(s) and co-leader(s) working side by side with one another to strengthen and grow their groups and find it works very well.

That being said, if you are interested in a Co-Leader position, please let me know. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Kathy Baker,

Support Group Services & Programs

email: KBaker@scleroderma.org or JDavila@scleroderma.org