

The Cancer Patient Help Fund

Providing Help and Hope in a Time of Need

The Cancer Patient Help Fund, established by the Gettysburg Hospital Foundation, provides financial assistance for cancer patients who live in Adams County and Northern Maryland.

Cancer patients face so much more than just their diagnosis. Patients often deal with:

- Loss of a job or insurance.
- Difficulty paying high cost co-pays and medications.
- Missed paychecks due to sickness.
- Reduced job hours for caregiver spouses.

For cancer patients like Kristy, a cancer diagnosis turned her world upside down. Contracting COVID added another layer of complexity and worry.

Though her journey has not been easy, Kristy says her WellSpan Adams Cancer Center team of doctors, nurses, and staff, in addition to financial assistance from the **Cancer Patient Help Fund**, has carried her through every step of the way.

“The Cancer Patient Help Fund is just an incredible program. We have received grocery gift cards to purchase nutritious food, so I can maintain a healthy diet — which is just so important for beating cancer. We’ve also received assistance with our monthly electric bills. It has relieved a great deal of stress and I am so grateful.”

—Kristy, a grateful patient



A self-exam in 2020 led to Kristy’s eventual diagnosis of breast cancer. She began 12 weeks of chemotherapy, but her treatment came to a halt when she contracted COVID-19.

“I was hospitalized for three days to receive intensive antibiotics and an infusion of antibodies,” recalls Kristy. “It was a tough time.”

After several weeks off to recover from COVID, Kristy resumed and completed her chemotherapy.

Kristy's challenges over the past year have encompassed more than just her health.

Because of her compromised immunity, Kristy could not continue working throughout her treatment. After six months on leave, she lost her job. She and her husband were soon living on a single income and faced with mounting bills and expenses. That's when Kristy's social worker informed her about the **Cancer Patient Help Fund**.

Research shows a patient's ability to heal is significantly affected by the stability of their environment.

Gifts to the **Cancer Patient Help Fund** make a direct and immediate impact on patients, like Kristy, who are struggling with basic needs as they undergo cancer treatments.

- A \$50 donation provides gift cards to help patients and their families with grocery bills.
- A gift of \$75 provides financial assistance for monthly utility bills to ensure a safe, stable environment for our patients.
- A contribution of \$100 provides 25 bus rides or four \$25 gas cards to help patients get to and from their doctor appointments.

Every penny of every gift is directed locally to help patients and their families in Adams County and northern Maryland, allowing them to focus on their health and treatments.

For more information about the **Cancer Patient Help Fund** and other vital community programs, please contact:

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WellSpan.org



The impact in 2022

This special source of funding is supported entirely through the generosity of our donors. Funding offers vital assistance for WellSpan's most vulnerable patients with support for basic needs, such as food security, shelter and utilities, transportation, and medication assistance. For patients, this fund can be a lifeline for them and their family.

The Cancer Patient Help Fund provided



\$155,000

of support to help

75 patients

and their families in our community relieve their financial burdens so they could focus on fighting cancer.

