

2022

New York
Cancer Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT



**NYCF
Grant
Recipients**

9

**9th Annual
Patient Celebration
Day**

14

**4th Annual
Raising Hope
Golf Classic**

20

**2nd Annual
Raising Hope
Gala**

32

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

My Friends,

The New York Cancer Foundation is excited to report that the 2022 year has been a tremendous success. We have been able to provide \$935,973 in grants to help cancer patients with their non-medical expenses and assist 427 patients—almost triple the number from the previous year.

We are pleased to have added four new partners to our organization - Pawsitive Possibilities, Energy Fitness, Unique Fitness, and Angels of Long Island. We are grateful for their ongoing support and commitment to our cause.

Our 2nd Annual Raising Hope Gala was a great success and raised almost \$600,000. We are already looking forward to hosting this event again next year, as well as our golf outing and a variety of new events, such as a Beauty and the Beast gallery and a live music event featuring one of our own physicians.

One of the things that make our Foundation so special is that New York Cancer & Blood Specialists' employees are at the heart of what we do. They contribute directly through payroll deductions and are actively involved as volunteers.

Thank you to everyone who has donated or volunteered their time during the past year. Our combined efforts really are making a difference.

Warm regards,
Dr. Jeff Vacirca
Chair of the Foundation



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends!

What an amazing year it's been! In my first year here as Executive Director, we have grown in more ways than I can list! We have helped so many more families, raised more money than we ever projected and had events that brought us all together for one reason: helping cancer patients that are struggling with their household bills.

In trying to pick one thing that has touched me the most, I realized it's really several things:

- Our Grant Recipients – their incredible journeys are all different and difficult - yet they push on with courage and bravery.
- Our Foundation team – their tireless dedication is unmatched. No phone call goes unanswered, and each person with their super strength finds a way to help, whether it be a new event to raise money, or just lending an ear on a bad day for a grant recipient.
- Our devoted Board – their altruism and attendance at all events, as well as consistently finding ways to maximize what we do and how we do it – we are so grateful.
- Our generous Sponsors – some of our sponsors have been with us since inception, and it is with their continued support we have helped so many. And in the past year many new people and companies have raised their hands to assist us and join the cause.

As we move to 2023, we are thrilled to not only carry on with our top hits of last year, but we have added a few new events to the roster! Yoga, Wine and Puppies is on tap to combine three things we can't get enough of – who needs goat yoga when there are rescue puppies to be saved! Our Beauty and the Beast Gallery will feature powerful portraits of our cancer patients and will surely be impactful. Our 2nd Annual Raising Hope Gala was a night to remember with heartfelt speakers, incredible music and off the charts giving so this year's Gala will be epic...stay tuned for more details!

At the Gala this year, we continued our "Be the Light" theme, encouraging the attendees – and each other – that we are all capable of helping in some way, even in the smallest gesture. That's it...one dollar at a time, one patient at a time.

Gratefully,
Tina Toulon

*"For there is always light.
If only we're brave enough to see it.
If only we're brave enough to be it."*
Amanda Gorman



Meet Our Pioneering Board of Directors



Dr. Jeffrey Vacirca
PRESIDENT



Nicole Flores
VICE PRESIDENT



Todd O'Connell
TREASURER



Robert Nicoletti
SECRETARY



Mark Santos
BOARD MEMBER



Jim Condron
BOARD MEMBER



William Peragine III
BOARD MEMBER

Meet Our Caring Staff



Tina Toulon
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Kiely Hagland
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



Kimberly Grossman
GRANTS & EVENTS MANAGER



Victoria Lucido
FOUNDATION SUPERVISOR

Meet Our Dedicated Volunteers



Adam Datkun
Volunteer since 2021

Adam Datkun is a Marketing Project Supervisor at New York Cancer and Blood Specialists. "I volunteer at the New York Cancer Foundation because when my father had cancer, my neighborhood raised money for our family through Christmas caroling during the holiday season and let my father focus on his treatment and recovery. The New York Cancer Foundation provides this freedom to other families going through difficult times, so volunteering with them feels like an excellent opportunity to give back."



Lisa Arbucci
Volunteer since 2021

Lisa Arbucci is the Research Finance Manager at New York Cancer and Blood Specialists. "I volunteer because I like to give back. I am a breast cancer survivor and feel that it's important to be supportive for fellow patients. Knowing that I am giving my time to a good cause and helping other people makes me feel good! I love everyone that works at the foundation and I also love meeting new people so volunteering is a great way to share that love! Time is precious so it feels great knowing that volunteering at this organization impacts patients with cancer that are struggling financially in our own community. Stay positive and never give up the fight!"



Helen Tucker
Volunteer since 2022

"My husband had cancer and was a patient of New York Cancer and Blood Specialists. I absolutely love what the New York Cancer Foundation does in terms of helping the patient with their non medical bills which ultimately helps the family as well. I love to keep busy as I am in a bowling league with friends and I love to golf. I am a mother of 6 and I have 9 grandchildren. I worked for the town of Huntington for many years and did a lot of work in my church. Volunteering gives me something to do to feel worthwhile. My favorite part about volunteering is the people that work at the Foundation. We are always laughing and everyone is so friendly, it feels good to help people! Volunteering adds to having a wonderful life!"

Thank You Dr. Roy Chen

The Foundation would like to extend gratitude to Dr. Roy Chen for his continued support of our organization. Dr. Chen is one of the foundation's top referring physicians that we work with. We had asked Dr. Chen to discuss the importance of referring patients to the foundation.

"As a physician, taking care of patients is challenging enough to diagnose and treat with the appropriate therapy. We often encounter resistance from insurance companies to get the best care. Luckily our financial counselors work with certain programs to help with these instances, but unfortunately it is often not enough.

At New York Cancer and Blood Specialists, we pride ourselves in giving access to patients regardless of insurance status. One of the other ways we can help patients is through the New York Cancer Foundation. Since its establishment, they have helped so many patients by taking care of other expenses such as non-medical bills, transportation, or even groceries. Sometimes patients can even receive grants more than one time.

It is important to recognize when talking to patients the burden that they may endure depending on their social situation. Every little bit helps and for some patients it can make a world of difference. While focusing on patient care, it is important to be aware of any hardships they may or may not open up about. Offering the Foundation's help is never met with resistance, and they are always thankful for the effort, no matter how much aid they end up getting.

I would ask not only physicians, but also other staff members, and even patients and their families to reach out to the New York Cancer Foundation. It truly is a wonderful organization run by generous people who are always wanting to help!"



Our Mission & Who We Help

Our mission is to help relieve the financial stresses experienced by patients who are under care for a cancer diagnosis.

The New York Cancer Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization which offers financial assistance grants for non-medical expenses to qualifying patients who are under care for a cancer diagnosis in the Greater Metro Area (within the counties of New York City, as well as Nassau & Suffolk). The Foundation strives to relieve some of the financial burden patients face so they may focus on their treatment and healing.

Eligibility

To be eligible patients must meet the following criteria:

- Be living or receiving cancer care in the Greater Metro Area (Manhattan, Staten Island, Bronx, Queens, Brooklyn, Long Island)
- Be 18 years of age or older
- Have no more than \$10,000 total in liquid assets for patients and their household members combined
- Have an annual income at or below 400% of the national poverty level

Once approved, the New York Cancer Foundation may assist with day-to-day living expenses such as:

- Rent or Mortgage payments
- Utility payments (water, sewer, electric)
- Telephone payments (landline or mobile)
- Grocery store gift card



Meet Our Grant Recipients



Ellen K. Cervical Cancer Survivor

"I was introduced to Tina Toulon. I immediately felt safe with her. I immediately trust her with my whole story. We cried together. And the next thing I know, I receive a grant to help pay some of my non-medical bills and take some pressure off of me. Working with Tina, and her staff, Kiely was incredible. They weren't just nice to me. They were caring, understanding, helpful and amazing. Over and above expectations." After being diagnosed with cervical cancer, Ellen turned to Dr. DaCosta at New York Cancer and Blood Specialists after he treated her husband for Multiple Myeloma. Ellen has since been cancer free and continues to be an advocate for the foundation.



Ivelisse M. Breast Cancer Survivor

"I was diagnosed with stage four breast cancer on December 10, 2020. That day changed my whole life forever. During this time I was able to see who people were in my life during this difficult time. It showed me that I didn't have a strong support system as I originally thought I had. I became very distant and withdrawn. Through this time, I still got up and went to work as per diem, and picked up shifts where I could. It wasn't easy but I knew that with the will of God I can push through. As we all know things have become increasingly difficult to survive as a single person in NY. I'm scheduled to have surgery next month and I don't qualify for certain benefits working part time. I appreciate the foundation's existence to be able to assist those in need during tough times."



Dorothy H. Cancer Survivor

"I would like to thank the NY Cancer Foundation for giving me this opportunity to share my story. My daughter, Izabella, volunteered last summer at the foundation. She had the privilege of meeting Tina Toulon, Kiely Hagland, Victoria Lucido, and Kimberley Grossmann who worked tirelessly and endlessly helping cancer patients like me overcome their financial obstacles. When I was asked to speak tonight, I couldn't help to think to myself why and what makes me so special or inspiring? just because I have cancer? Then shortly thereafter I realized I am strong, I am resilient and I have overcome so much throughout my journey. I have so much to be grateful for and feel very fortunate to be surrounded by people who love and support me..."



Grants Reached 427 Recipients!

PRACTICE/HOSPITAL

NYCBS	201
Cayuga	1
Catholic Health	7
Columbia	3
Maimonides	2
Montefiore	2
MSK	69
Mount Sinai	49
Presbyterian	4
Northwell	11
NYC Health	14
NYU Langone	38
Ocean Rad	1
Pinnacle Breast	1
Dr. Gardith Joseph	1
Stony Brook	4
Weill Cornell	1
WetMed	1

GENDER

Female	297
Male	130



Foundation By The Numbers

Impact	
•	427 Patients Assisted
•	2,272 Uber Rides Provided
GRANT BREAKDOWN	
Q1	\$161,989
Q2	\$255,285
Q3	\$279,712
Q4	\$238,988
Total Grants Paid	\$935,973

Grants Paid by Region	
Suffolk County	135
Nassau County	17
Manhattan	55
Brooklyn	60
Queens	66
Bronx	70
Staten Island	11
Out of Metro Area	13

PEOPLE HELPED BY MONTH	
January	21
February	27
March	33
April	36
May	41
June	32
July	44
August	40
September	43
October	31
November	39
December	40

Patient Cancer Types	
Anal	2
Appendix	3
B- Cell Lymphoma	3
Bladder	5
Blood	1
Brain	3
Breast	178
Cervical	2
Colorectal	34
Endometrial	7
Esophageal & Esophagogastric	6
Fallopian	1
Gastrointestinal	12
Head & Neck	2
Hodgkin's Lymphoma	7
Kidney	3
Larynx	1
Leukemia	15
Liver	2
Lung	34
Lymphoma	12
Multiple Myeloma	29
Ovarian	10
Pancreatic	7
Prostate	26
Skin	4
Stomach	5
Testicular	2
Throat	5
Uterine	2
Other	4



NYCBS 9TH ANNUAL PATIENT CELEBRATION DAY

One of our favorite days of the year has made a comeback for its 9th year! In partnership with New York Cancer and Blood Specialists, over 1,500 patients with their families joined us for our 9th Annual Patient Celebration Day on September 24th, 2022! This carnival themed event took place at Long Island Community Hospital Amphitheater in Farmingville and the music played all day. The weather was perfect on this beautiful fall day and included carnival games, raffles, face painting, puppies for adoption, bounce houses and catering from Felicos. The Suffolk County Sheriff's Office provided ID cards for children. The New York Cancer Foundation also launched its first Raising Hope Pop Up Store! The store provides donated clothes, shoes, and/or wigs for free to patients for their choosing! Thank you to all of the NYCBS volunteers who help make this day possible!





**PATIENT
CELEBRATION
DAY 22'**



1st Annual

RAISING HOPE TOP GOLF OUTING

The New York Cancer Foundation hosted its first Raising Hope Top Golf Classic. The event was held on April 7th, 2022 with raffle prizes, and music by Mike'd Up Entertainment all to benefit our grant recipients with their non-medical bills. We had over 175 attendees swinging their golf clubs! We are looking forward to our 2nd Annual Raising Hope Top Golf Classic in 2023.





4th Annual RAISING HOPE GOLF CLASSIC

On October 13th, 2022, the foundation hosted its 4th Annual Raising Hope Golf Classic! We were back for our 4th year at Nissequogue Golf Club in St. James, NY. 102 players joined us for an intense game of scramble on the course which also included a putting contest and Beat the Pro! A Casino area helped the non-golfers donate some added money, and during the evening cocktail reception, grant recipient Ellen Kushner shared her cervical cancer journey and how the Foundation was able to support her in her times of need. She is now cancer free! Thank you to our golfers, volunteers and sponsors for this event! And a special shout-out to all of our raffle winners!



Hockey For Hope

THE REMATCH FACING OFF TO FIGHT CANCER

On May 7th, 2022,

The New York Cancer Foundation's hockey team composed of Oncologists, nurses and staff faced off against Suffolk County Sheriff's Office, Suffolk's Boldest Hockey. In 2021, the two teams faced off and the Sheriff's office had taken the win. This year, the Foundation's team came back determined to take home the trophy! Dix Hills Ice Rink was packed with fans cheering on both teams! We had 6 time cancer survivor and 3 time grant recipient, Laura Stempkoski join us for the ceremonial puck drop. Thank you to all of our sponsors, our volunteers, guests and both teams for an awesome rematch! The New York Cancer Foundation team took home the win this year and celebrated with an afterparty at Miller's Ale House in Commack!





**HOCKEY
FOR
HOPE
2022**

5K Run the Vineyard at PINDAR VINEYARD

The event was a lot of fun. Attendees enjoyed a catered brunch with mimosas and refreshments, This year the New York Cancer Foundation established a partnership with Good Day for a Run LLC. We liked the first one so much we did it twice - July 24th and October 2nd! Both races were held at Pindar Vineyard in Peconic, NY. Drs Chu, Chen, Guigova, Mr. and Mrs. Dr. DaCosta, along with clinical and clerical staff, all came together to run this 5k and enjoy the vineyard.



SUSAN'S DAY

On Saturday June 25th, 2022 the New York Cancer Foundation was honored to be the beneficiary of an event hosted by Pure Mammography to honor and celebrate the life of Susan Elgar. All proceeds from the event went directly to the New York Cancer Foundation to continue helping cancer patients with their non-medical bills. The event was held at the Smithaven Mall in Lake Grove and included music and raffles! It was a beautiful day filled with love.



2nd Annual Living With Metastatic BREAST CANCER

On Saturday, April 30th, 2022 New York Cancer and Blood Specialists Physicians and Metastatic Breast Cancer patients gathered at the beautiful Port Jefferson Country Club for a day of love, support and education. The New York Cancer Foundation, with the support of Pfizer, joined together to provide education to patients, as well as some relaxation provided by Mondays at Racine. The day began with a live panel which included: Dr. Nouri, Dr. Mangiameli, Dr. Torres, Dr. Cirrone, Dr. Hardoon, Dr. Palleschi and MaryAnn Fragola which was hosted by the incredible Dr. Chu! The panel concluded with a Q&A, and the day continued with different segments on cutting edge research, interventional radiology, psycho-oncology, and financial counseling.





POWER WOMAN OF THE EAST END

On September 8th, New York Cancer Foundation's Executive Director, Tina Toulon was awarded Power Woman of the East End. Our team was thrilled to attend and show our support and we are extremely proud of Tina's accomplishments and contributions to the Foundation. The event was held at The Muses in Southampton and hosted by Dan's Papers and Schneps Media. 100% of the evening's raffle proceeds benefited the New York Cancer Foundation!



THE NEW YORK CANCER FOUNDATION

Hope is in the Air

2ND ANNUAL RAISING HOPE GALA

After 3 years, the New York Cancer Foundation was finally able to host its 2nd Annual Raising Hope Gala. The inaugural gala was hosted in 2019 and due to covid restrictions we were not able to host since. We were excited to finally welcome everyone to the beautiful Water's Edge in Centerport on December 1st, 2022. A cocktail reception had kicked off the night which included a viewing of silent auction items, psychic medium sessions, and networking with continuous Foundation supporters! Our Executive Director, Tina Toulon started the evening discussing how important it is to "be the light" to people in need and how important it is to make a difference. She introduced the CEO of New York Cancer and Blood Specialists and Chair of the Foundation, Dr. Jeff Vacirca. His passionate speech about the birth of the Foundation was so impactful -the importance of this organization and our tireless effort in providing financial relief to cancer patients in need. We welcomed our honoree, American Century, to speak on the importance of the company's mission and collaboration with the Stowers Institute. Dr. Chu presented an award to Dana Komorowski for her excellence in patient care and bravery. Dorothy Halkas, a grant recipient and Stage 4 cancer patient joined us to give a phenomenal speech on living life to the fullest and sharing her courageous story to the crowd of 275 guests. The New York Cancer Foundation raised almost \$600,000 to give back directly to cancer patients struggling with their non-medical bills. Thank you to our sponsors, guests, speakers and vendors for a fabulous night!



FITNESS EVENTS

New York Cancer Foundation partnered with Unique Fitness for three fitness events at different locations across Long Island throughout the month of October. On October 15th, attendees joined us for the “Let’s Kick It” kickboxing event at the Farmingville location. The Shirley location on October 22nd, continued with a “Wiggle for Awareness” Zumba class and we finished off this series with our final event at the Holbrook location on October 29th for an awesome spinning class! The Foundation raised \$2,500 which will go directly towards grants to help cancer patients with their household bills. Thank you to Unique Fitness and all participants at each event!



Serving Our Community... Adopt-A-Family Program

In partnership with New York Cancer & Blood Specialists, the Foundation delivered holiday gifts to 26 deserving cancer patients and their loved ones. To help alleviate the stress of the holidays, each family was given gifts hand-picked by the New York Cancer Foundation staff. Smiles, and tears, were shared when delivering these items - we are so grateful to have had the opportunity to provide holiday cheer during a difficult time.



A Look Toward the Future...

2023 EVENTS

2nd Annual Top Golf Event- April 26, 2023

Come Par Tee with us and raise money for a great cause!

Living with Metastatic Breast Cancer- April 15, 2023

A special day for patients to connect with others living with Metastatic Breast Cancer. Join us for a day of support and education!

3rd Annual Hockey for Hope / The Rubber Match - May 6, 2023

Come watch the New York Cancer Foundation face off against the Suffolk County Boldest Hockey team!

Beauty and The Beast Gallery- June 1, 2023

A brand new event we have created in collaboration with Leslie Simmons Photography. At a location in Southampton, we will be featuring stunning, impactful portraits of our grant recipients and cancer survivors. These one of a kind photos will show both the beauty and the fight for each one of our amazing models.

1st Annual Be the Light 5k Run- June, 2023

In Partnership with New York Cancer & Blood Specialists, join us for a glow in the dark 5k run!

5th Annual Raising Hope Golf Classic- August 7, 2023

Come enjoy a round of golf with breathtaking views at Nissequogue Golf Club followed by a silent auction, dinner and raffles!

10th Annual Patient Celebration Day with New York Cancer & Blood Specialists - September 9, 2023

Hosted by New York Cancer & Blood Specialists, help us celebrate our wonderful patients and their families with a day filled with fun!

Blue Point Brewery Fundraiser- October, 2023

Our 1st Annual Band and Brew event. Details to follow.

3rd Annual Raising Hope Gala- November 10, 2023

Ziegfeld Ballroom in NYC will be the destination for our Raising Hope Gala this year! Join us for a wonderful night of dinner and dancing while raising money for cancer patients! This one is sure to be the best one yet!

For more information visit: nycancerfoundation.org

& GOALS

- We seek to increase applications by 40% for a total of 600 grant recipients.
- Continue to host amazing events to increase funds by 50%
- Collaborate with national and community organizations to broaden our reach and raise awareness
- Continue to look for more wonderful volunteers and grow our "Be the Light" army
- Maximize social media to broaden our ability to share inspirational stories, boost events and involve the community to help us on our mission





Become Engaged in 2023

Donate

Support the work of the New York Cancer Foundation by making a donation! Scan QR Code to the right or visit: www.nycancerfoundation.org/donate



Scan to Donate

Volunteer

There are many volunteer opportunities at special events or in our Foundation office. Please fill out a volunteer inquiry form at: www.nycancerfoundation.org/volunteer



Scan to Volunteer

Become An Advocate

The "Advocate Circle" will be composed of individuals who can help broaden the reach of our Foundation through relationship building, as well as assist with the logistics of special fundraising events.

To Learn More

About becoming a member of our Advocate Circle, please email us at: hope@nycancerfoundation.org or call us at: **(833)588-6923**



Scan to Donate

HOW CAN I HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

1. Make a **Donation**
2. Raise **Awareness**
3. Become a **Volunteer**

nycancerfoundation.org

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