FINANCIAL AND MEDICAL RESOURCES FOR CANCER PATIENTS AND SURVIVORS

A PUBLICATION OF
THE CANCER ADVOCACY PROJECT OF
THE CITY BAR JUSTICE CENTER

This guide was created and produced with support from
Judges & Lawyers Breast Cancer Alert (JALBCA)
And
Greater New York City Affiliate of Susan G. Komen

© City Bar Justice Center (Updated 2023)
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## INTRODUCTION
INTRODUCTION ........................................................................................................................................... 1

## 1. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – BASIC LIVING EXPENSES
   I. Any/Multiple Cancer Diagnosis ........................................................................................................ 2
   II. SPECIFIC CANCERS ............................................................................................................................... 3
       III. Other Financial Assistance - Not Specific to Cancer ........................................................................ 7

## 2. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ....................................................................................................................... 10

## 3. YOUNG ADULTS
YOUNG ADULTS ......................................................................................................................................... 11

## 4. VETERANS
VETERANS .................................................................................................................................................. 12

## 5. MEDICAL CARE, SERVICES AND COSTS
MEDICAL CARE, SERVICES AND COSTS ................................................................................................. 13
   IV. Clinical Trials .................................................................................................................................... 15

## 6. MEDICAL INSURANCE AND CO-PAYMENTS
MEDICAL INSURANCE AND CO-PAYMENTS ......................................................................................... 16

## 7. PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ......................................................................................... 18
   VI. Drug Discount Cards ......................................................................................................................... 22

## 8. GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS
GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS ....................................................................................................................... 22

## 8. PERSONAL SERVICES
PERSONAL SERVICES .................................................................................................................................... 24

## 10. TRAVEL COSTS AND TRANSPORT
TRAVEL COSTS AND TRANSPORT ........................................................................................................... 26
   VII. Travel Expenses ................................................................................................................................ 26
   VIII. Flights .............................................................................................................................................. 27

## 11. TEMPORARY LODGING
TEMPORARY LODGING .............................................................................................................................. 28

## 12. CAMPS AND RETREATS
CAMPS AND RETREATS ............................................................................................................................ 29

## 13. IMMIGRANTS (NON U.S. CITIZEN/LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENT)
IMMIGRANTS (NON U.S. CITIZEN/LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENT) ....................................................... 30
   IX. Financial Assistance ............................................................................................................................ 31
   X. Medical Care and Insurance ................................................................................................................ 32

## 14. TIPS FOR MEDICAL CONSUMERS
TIPS FOR MEDICAL CONSUMERS ........................................................................................................... 34

## 15. INFORMATION, ADVICE AND ADVOCACY RESOURCES
INFORMATION, ADVICE AND ADVOCACY RESOURCES ........................................................................... 35
INTRODUCTION

The Cancer Advocacy Project is a legal services program of the City Bar Justice Center. The project provides cancer patients and survivors with no-cost legal information and advice in three areas: life (estate) planning, health law and cancer-related employment discrimination. Experienced volunteer attorneys provide advice and assistance with the preparation of simple wills, advance directives, denial of medical insurance coverage, federal legal rights related to employees with disabilities, leave, continuation of health insurance upon terminations; and workplace discrimination and employee rights.

As well as its physical and emotional impact, a cancer diagnosis can have a devastating financial impact on the lives of patients, survivors and their families. For the uninsured, a health issue requiring medical treatment or prescription medications is a frightening prospect. Even for those with medical insurance, out-of-pocket expenses can severely reduce the amount of money available for general living expenses, such as rent, food and utilities.

Through our work with individual clients and community groups, we speak to many people experiencing financial strain following their diagnosis. We developed this guide to help cancer patients, survivors, and their families to identify possible sources of assistance for household bills, medical care, prescriptions and other services at no- or low-cost. It provides an overview of some of the support that is available to cancer patients to help alleviate the financial burdens - but it is impossible to include every option. There are many sources of financial and other aid available, from large foundations and corporations, to smaller non-profits and charities – the key is to locate them and to submit a compelling application. While there is no guarantee that your request will succeed, since many other people are seeking the same help, it is certainly worth trying – more than once. Also, if your main concern is rent arrears, but your request for that form of aid is unsuccessful, perhaps a request for co-pay assistance will succeed, freeing up some of your money which can be used for rent. We hope this guide will be a useful resource to help you access beneficial financial and medical assistance. This guide is targeted at New York state residents.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This guide is not intended to serve as legal advice and the Cancer Advocacy Project is not responsible for the accuracy or adequacy of any of the information contained in the guide, or your reliance on this information. Also, the resources in this guide are not an endorsement of the organizations, their claims or actions. The guide is intended to serve as a starting point from which users can begin to fully research the resources provided.
1. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – BASIC LIVING EXPENSES

There are more resources available than can be included in this guide and their availability may be affected for many reasons, both temporary and permanent. Regularly checking the websites of these and other organizations will keep you aware of any updates to their resources that could be beneficial to you.

Many programs claim to provide help for people diagnosed with cancer, but it is important to recognize that organizations that offer financial assistance are especially likely to receive more requests for help than can be granted. If you apply and are turned down, consider trying again at a later date. The organization may be experiencing a shortage of funds and have to reduce the number of grants they approve. Perhaps trying again a few months later will succeed if they have more funds available at that time. Similarly, you may be refused because your circumstances do not meet their criteria; if your circumstances subsequently change, apply again.

I. Any/Multiple Cancer Diagnosis

CancerCare Financial Assistance

CancerCare offers assistance with cancer-related costs including transportation, child care, home care, and pet care. It does not assist with general living expenses, e.g. rent or utilities. Its team of professional oncology social workers can help patients find additional resources. To qualify you must:

- Live in the U.S. or Puerto Rico
- have a documented cancer diagnosis
- be in active treatment
- meet income eligibility requirements (income limit of 250% of the Federal Poverty Level)

For more information, visit www.cancercare.org/financial or call 1-800-813-4673 between the hours of 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. (ET) Monday-Thursday, or 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (ET) on Friday.

New York Cancer Foundation

The New York Cancer Foundation 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 provides grants to support rent or mortgage payments, utilities, phone, cable or internet, car insurance, storage units, life insurance, homeowners’ insurance, renter’s insurance, or property taxes. An applicant may qualify for consideration if they are 18 years of age or older, a legal resident of the United States, and have an annual income at or below 400% of the federal poverty level. The maximum amount of a grant per patient is up to $2,500 annually for debts while undergoing cancer care. To view more eligibility criteria or apply, go to https://nycancerfoundation.org/apply/ or call 833-588-6923.

The COC
The Dollars Allocated to Assist (DATA) project provides financial assistance to those in active cancer treatment across the country. It does not discriminate on the basis of religion. Their services are available to men, women, and children in active cancer treatment.

For more information, visit their webpage at www.thecoccares.org/. An application can be obtained by choosing the To Receive Support button on the website’s Home Page and following the instructions for the Dollars Allocated to Assist (DATA) program.

**STOMP The Monster**

STOMP provides financial and other support to cancer patients, their families, and caregivers for patients battling cancer. STOMP provides funding for a one-time grant to cancer patients in need in New Jersey and New York City. The organization can help pay rent (with a signed copy of a legal lease), or assist with up to two of the following bills: utilities, cable, phone, medical, insurance, auto expenses, childcare, food gift cards, gas gift cards, or transportation.

For more information, and to download their application form, visit and scroll down and click on “Apply for Assistance” at the button.

**Team Continuum**

Team Continuum has a number of different programs that provide support to pediatric cancer patients and their families. The services they offer include help with non-medical needs such as rent, mortgage, utilities, transportation, out-of-town accommodations, theatre tickets, reunion-related expenses, holiday gifts, birthday treats, schoolbooks and nutritional cooking classes. Financial support from Team Continuum is limited to families affected by childhood cancers, only (ages 0–18). Applications must be submitted by a licensed social worker who is working on your behalf.

For more information, visit www.teamcontinuum.net or call (845)-200-7904.

**II. Specific Cancers**

Many cancer organizations have their own ‘dedicated’ foundations, organizations and support groups that provide information, guidance and, sometimes, financial or other assistance for patients with a specific cancer-type. This guide cannot encompass the full range of cancer-specific organizations and the options they offer. However, a sample of such resources is provided here. For help with locating other cancer-specific resources, visit the Cancer Financial Assistance Coalition’s website at: www.cancerfac.org. Alternatively, contact the American Cancer Society at 1-800-227-2345 for help with locating dedicated foundations and organizations.

**Breast Cancer**

**Babylon Breast Cancer Coalition**

BBCC provides support, referrals, and financial assistance to breast or gynecological cancer patients in Babylon Township, Long Island. The coalition’s Lend a Helping Hand program offers various services, including housecleaning, transportation to and from appointments, child care, financial assistance, massage therapy, meal preparation, and more. Its scholarships program offers
scholarships to Babylon Township high school seniors who have had a parent or legal guardian with a personal breast and/or gynecological cancer history.

For more information, visit or call 631-893-4110. You may also email info@babylonbreastcancer.org.

**Linking A.R.M.S. Program**

The program is a partnership between CancerCare and Susan G. Komen ®. It provides financial assistance, education and support services to low-income, under or uninsured women across the country who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. Financial assistance grants are made for women with limited income who are in need of oral medication for cancer treatment, pain and anti-nausea medication, lymphedema support and supplies, and durable medical equipment ordered by their physician. Financial assistance is not available for daily living expenses such as rent, utilities, food, doctor and hospital bills, diagnostic testing, non-oral cancer therapies, and insurance premiums. Grants are available on a once-per-year basis. No citizenship or residency requirements.

For more information, call 1-800-813-4673.

**North Fork Breast Health Coalition**

Provides one-time $1,000 "Lend A Helping Hand" grants for breast cancer patients who live in the North Fork of Long Island and are currently undergoing chemotherapy or radiation. These grants may be used for services such as housecleaning, meal preparation, and transportation. *(North Fork, LI residents only)*. If you have already received a “Lend a Helping Hand Grant” and you have been diagnosed with Stave IV breast cancer, you are eligible for an additional grant of up to $2,500, which also may be used for services such as house cleaning, meal preparation, or transportation expenses.

For more information, visit [www.northforkbreasthealth.org](http://www.northforkbreasthealth.org), or call 631-208-8889 for more information.

**The Pink Fund**

The Pink Fund provides 90-day non-medical cost-of-living expenses on behalf of breast cancer patients in active treatment so that they can focus on healing, raising their families, and returning to the workplace. Applicants must have been employed at the time of their diagnosis, in active treatment, and experiencing a loss or reduction in income as a result. Payments are made directly to creditors.

For more information or to apply for assistance, visit [www.thepinkfund.org/get-help/](http://www.thepinkfund.org/get-help/).

**Sisters Network**

Addresses the needs of African American women. Their Breast Cancer Assistance Program (BCAP) provides up to $350 in financial assistance for utilities (electric, gas, water), or rent/mortgage payments. Funds may not be used for cable, cell phone, transportation, or medical bills. Payments are made directly to the provider.

For more information, visit [http://www.sistersnetworkinc.org](http://www.sistersnetworkinc.org). To apply, go to [www.sistersnetworkinc.org/programs.html](http://www.sistersnetworkinc.org/programs.html) and download an application. Save the application and
email it with the required supporting documents to bcap@sistersnetworkinc.org. For questions about BCAP, email bcap@sistersnetworkinc.org.

**Tigerlily Foundation**

The Tigerlily Foundation’s Funds for Families COVID-19 Relief Program provides financial assistance to families with a member who has breast cancer. Applicants must have a documented diagnosis of breast cancer and be between the ages of 15 and 45 years old. Financial assistance is limited to a one-time grant of between $250-500 per applicant. To apply, go to www.tigerlilyfoundation.org/programs/support/funds-for-families/.

The Tigerlily Foundation’s RAISE Program provides financial and non-financial support to patients. Patients who sign up on the RAISE platform can create a registry-style list of their unique individual needs such as financial support for rent payments or medication costs, as well as assistance with daily tasks like childcare, groceries, or basic home maintenance. After this list is created, patients can share a special link with friends, family, neighbors, etc. Other individuals that the patient does not know can also donate through the online platform. Donated funds are securely transferred to the patient. To create a list, go to raise.tigerlilyfoundation.org.

**Cervical Cancer**

**Family Reach**

Family Reach’s cervical cancer funding program supports cervical cancer patients and caregivers with up to $1,000 towards nonmedical expenses. These funds can’t be used to cover transportation-related costs. To be eligible, you must have a cervical cancer diagnosis, currently be in active treatment in the US or a US territory, and be at 300% or less of the federal poverty level. For more information or to apply, go to https://familyreach.org/gethelp/.

**Colon Cancer**

**Colorectal Cancer Alliance**

The Colorectal Cancer Alliance’s Blue Hope Treatment Awards program provides patients with a one-time check of up to $200 to help with daily expenses that add to the burden during treatment, such as household bills, childcare, transportation costs, or food.

Patients must be in treatment for colorectal cancer and a section of the application must be completed by your doctor, nurse or social worker. Other eligibility requirements include:

Applicants must:

- Have a family income of less than three times the federal poverty level;
- Not have received financial support from the Blue Hope program within the last year

To get more information or apply, go to www.ccalliance.org/patient-family-support/financial-assistance-programs. You can also call 877-422-2030 for help with your application.

**Leukemia/Lymphoma**

**Leukemia & Lymphoma Society – Patient Aid Program**
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society offers a variety of different programs for non-medical expenses. The Patient Aid Program provides a one-time stipend to eligible blood cancer patients to help offset non-medical expenses. To be eligible for the program, you must reside in the U.S. or U.S. territories, be in active treatment for blood cancer (or scheduled to begin treatment/in follow-up care), and have not received a Patient Aid Program award in the past. For more information on eligibility or to apply, go to Patient Aid Program | Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (lls.org). You may also call 877-557-2672.

**Leukemia & Lymphoma Society – Local Financial Assistance Program**

The Local Financial Assistance Programs provide $500 grants for assistance for non-medical expenses including transportation, housing, utilities, child/elder care, food, clothing, phone, and acute dental work related to treatment. To be eligible, you must have a household income level that is at or below 600% of the federal poverty level, be a United States citizen or permanent resident, and have a diagnosis of blood cancer. For more information on eligibility or to apply, go to Local Financial Assistance Program (LFA) | Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (lls.org). You may also call 877-557-2672.

**Leukemia & Lymphoma Society – Urgent Needs Program**

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society’s Urgent Needs Program provides eligible patients with assistance for non-medical expenses including rent, mortgage, lodging, utilities, childcare, elder care, food, transportation, car repair, car insurance, phone service, and acute dental work related to treatment. Eligible patients will receive a grant of $500, once within a 12 month period. At the end of the 12 month period, healthcare professionals can reapply on behalf of patients. To be eligible, you must have a household income that is at or below 600% of the federal poverty level, be a United States citizen or permanent resident, have a blood cancer diagnosis, and have demonstrated acute financial need. Patients may be insured or uninsured. For more information or to apply, go to Urgent Need Program | Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (lls.org) or call 877-557-2672.

**Ovarian Cancer**

**National Ovarian Cancer Coalition**

In partnership with the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition (NOCC), the NOCC Financial Assistance Program supports patients that have been diagnosed with ovarian cancer, fallopian tube cancer, or peritoneal cancer, by providing assistance for non-medical expenses that may hinder patients from receiving the treatment and care that they need.

The NOCC Treatment Fund offers a $1,000 grant, once per year, to eligible patients diagnosed with ovarian cancer for non-medical expenses related to treatment and care. The fund will cover transportation to and from treatment/doctor, rent/housing assistance, utilities/bills, food or groceries, child/elder care, and house cleaning services.

The NOCC Clinical Trial Fund offers a $2,500 grant, once per year, to eligible patients diagnosed with ovarian cancer and participating in a clinical trial to cover common non-medical costs related to participation. The fund will cover expenses related to transportation to and from clinical trial treatment/doctor, hotels/lodging, and meals and food.

Patients can apply online for both funds at https://portal.ovarian.org or by calling 866-719-2767.
Pancreatic Cancer
National Pancreatic Cancer Foundation

NPCF provides direct financial assistance from a variety of funding programs to patients currently in treatment for pancreatic cancer in need of assistance with cost of living expenses. Help is provided for rent/mortgage, utilities, grocery bills and moving/downsizing. You can apply once a month for up to a total of 6 months. To be eligible, you must be a U.S. citizen and live in the U.S. All correspondence and communication is by mail and email. Applications for financial assistance are expected to open back up in August 2023.

For more information, go to www.npcf.us/financial-assistance/. You can also email assistance@npcf.us.

Skin Cancer
Kylee’s Dancing Angels

Kylee’s Dancing Angels provides financial support to sarcoma patients who need financial support to get to their “happy place." This is a broad category of funding that just requires patients to be in treatment for sarcoma and to share a personal story about what they would use the money for. The organization was established in honor and memory of Kylee Brooke Webster, who lost her battle to sarcoma in October 2013. For more information or to apply, visit www.kyleesdancingangels.org/find-your-happy-place/.

Merkel Cell Carcinoma Financial Aid Fund

The fund supports patients who have been diagnosed with the rare form of skin cancer known as Merkel Cell Carcinoma (MCC). Once approved, the financial fund provides one-time assistance of $1,000 to cover transportation-related expenses connected to treatment appointments, lodging, and food or nutritional needs. Eligible patients include those who are undergoing active treatment, have received treatment within the previous 6 months, or will be receiving treatment in the next 60 days. Patients can apply online at https://financialaid.patientadvocate.org.

III. Other Financial Assistance - Not Specific to Cancer

These resources, while not specific to people with cancer, may provide help with issues often faced by patients and survivors as a result of a cancer diagnosis. Some are specific to certain groups.

Bridge Fund of New York City, The

The Bridge Fund of NYC provides no-interest loans with flexible repayment terms to New Yorkers facing eviction. Checks are paid directly to the landlord. Loans are generally considered for persons of modest means who are above the Federal Poverty Level. Modest grants are sometimes available to persons with the potential to maintain their housing but who would be unable to repay a loan. All residents of New York City boroughs must be referred to The Bridge Fund by a legal service or social services agency. (Must be facing eviction to be eligible).

For more information, visit www.thebridgefund.org or call: 212-962-4795 to initiate an inquiry for assistance.
**Coalition for the Homeless**

The organization offers crisis intervention, emergency cash assistance, and case management to prevent eviction in New York City.

For more information, visit [www.coalitionforthehomeless.org](http://www.coalitionforthehomeless.org), call 212-776-2000, or email info@cfthomeless.org.

**Community Service Society (CSS)**

CSS’s Income Support Services provides small grants to qualifying individuals and families who are struggling to make ends meet. Income Support Services offers the following assistance to qualifying low-income New Yorkers: homeless prevention, utility assistance, and summer camp scholarships. The Homeless Prevention program makes grants to those with mortgage or rent arrears who are at risk of losing their homes or being evicted. The Utility Assistance program makes grants to those who are facing hardships and therefore unable to pay their utilities, including water, gas, and electricity. The Summer Camp Scholarships program makes grants to help send minor children to licensed summer camp programs.

For more information, visit [http://www.cssny.org/](http://www.cssny.org/) or call 212-614-5484.

**Dream Foundation**

The Foundation grants final dreams from the heart to adults with a life expectancy of one year or less. Wishes may include a vacation with a couple of family members, help with a utility bill or appliance, or a gift for the sick adult’s child.

For more information, visit [www.dreamfoundation.org](http://www.dreamfoundation.org) or call 805-564-2131 x101. You may also email application@dreamfoundation.org.

**Entertainment Community Fund**

The organization helps professionals in entertainment and the performing arts. The Fund is a safety net, providing programs and services for those who are in need or going through a crisis or transition. It offers several services, including help attaining housing and health insurance, financial assistance for women in a medical crisis or those disabled by illness, intensive case management, referrals, support groups, and funeral/burial assistance. Emergency financial assistance is available for people who are unable to pay their immediate basic living expenses (housing, food, utility bills, or health care).

The Fund is administered in offices in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. (*Professional entertainers and performers only*)

For more information, visit entertainmentcommunity.org, call 917-281-5919, or email eastern@entertainmentcommunity.org. You can fill out an application at entertainmentcommunity.org/am-i-eligible-help.

**Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies**

The FPWA provides financial assistance to New Yorkers having difficulty paying for basic critical needs. It provides one-time grants to cover emergency needs related to utility bills,
rent/mortgage, medical bills, storage fees, or basic furniture. It also provides information and referrals to other social service agencies in New York City.

For more information, visit www.fpwa.org or call: 212-777-4800.

**Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP)**

HEAP is a federally funded program. Its general benefit helps low-income New Yorkers with costs of heating or cooling their homes. HEAP also offers an emergency benefit for households in a heat or heat related energy emergency. Assistance is also available for heating equipment repair and/or replacement and with cooling assistance for persons with a documented medical condition that is worsened by heat.

For more information, visit: http://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap or call: 1-800-342-3009.

**Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services: Services to the Homeless**

A service through the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services that provides eviction prevention through a one-time financial grant. It provides assistance with eviction prevention as well as help finding shelter, housing, food, and clothing, job training/placement, and counseling services.

For more information, visit jewishboard.org/listing/homeless-prevention-services/.

**Modest Needs**

Modest Needs offers grants to help individuals and families who, because they are working and live just above the poverty level, are ineligible for most types of conventional social assistance but who, all the same, are living one or two lost paychecks away from the kind of financial catastrophe that eventually leads to homelessness. Average grants vary from $750- $1,250. Typically, grants can be used to cover two specific types of expenses: unexpected/emergency expenses that an individual or family living paycheck-to-paycheck could not possibly afford without a short-term hand-up (medical care, repairing a major appliance, adoption fees, funeral expenses, etc) and monthly bills that an individual or family living paycheck-to-paycheck can’t afford to pay at the time of their application because of a documentable extenuating circumstance.

To apply, go to www.modestneeds.org/for-applicants/index.asp.

**National Philoptochos/Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society**

Provides modest financial grants to Orthodox Christians and their families. Grants are limited in scope and duration and are made directly to vendors. Documentation proving need is required. Funds can be used to assist with eviction prevention, uncovered medical costs, to prevent utility terminations, funeral expenses, etc. *(Applicants must be Greek Orthodox or have Greek or Greek Orthodox heritage.)*

For information, call: 212- 977 7782 , or visit: www.philoptochos.org/social-services-apply-for-help/.

**NY Connects**
A program of the New York State Office for the Aging and Department of Health that offers several services, including Child Care Assistance, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance, and Heating and Cooling Assistance.

For more information and to check eligibility, visit https://www.ny.gov/services/social-programs.

**Salvation Army NYC: Emergency Services Program**

This program is intended to help prevent someone who is experiencing financial problems due to an illness, medical condition, missed paycheck or similar reason, from spiraling into homelessness. Assistance is available for help with food and groceries, rent or mortgage help, utility bills etc.

For more information, visit https://easternusa.salvationarmy.org/greater-new-york/emergency-services/ or call 212-337-7200 for assistance.

**Volunteers of America**

Volunteers of America helps those in need by providing financial aid, housing, emergency support, job training, and other resources. There are a variety of services for adults, older adults, veterans, women, and people with disabilities.

To see the programs they offer, visit www.voa.org/service-navigator/.

## 2. **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

Certain organizations prioritize aid to children with cancer and/or families affected by cancer when providing financial and other assistance. Some of the following organizations specifically help children, while others help them, as well as other cancer patients.

**Arielle Anacker Cancer Foundation**

The Arielle Anacker Cancer Foundation helps pediatric cancer families pay their bills. To see if you are eligible, you will have to contact the foundation directly. You can do so at Contact Us (arielleanackercf.org). You may also call 954-249-5748 or email info@arielleanackercf.org.

**B+ Foundation Family Assistance Program**

The Be Positive Foundation gives qualified families money for expenses that are attributable to their child’s cancer diagnosis. They often help with the following expenses and bills: prescription medications that insurance won’t cover, travel costs for treatments, mortgage payments and rent, and more. In order to receive assistance, you must have a child diagnosed with cancer under the age of 21, need assistance with expenses directly attributable to your child’s diagnosis, and be receiving treatment at any U.S. hospital. Assistance may be granted one time in a 12-month period and twice overall, and they only pay creditors directly. To apply, fill out the online application at https://www.bepositive.org/need-help. You can also email at Assistance@BePositive.org or call 302-563-8389.

**Children’s Health Fund**
The Children’s Health Fund provides free medical care, help with medical costs, and essential services to children and families in need of aid. It helps both insured and uninsured individuals and offers a number of different programs.

For more information, visit http://www.childrenshealthfund.org/ or call 212-535-9400.

**Friends of Karen**

The organization provides case management services and financial assistance for medical care and other illness-related expenses to families with a child (newborn through age 21) who has been diagnosed with and is actively in treatment for cancer or another life-threatening illness, who is a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident, and who lives in New York City, Long Island, or a variety of other counties in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Check their website for eligibility and details on their programs at www.friendsofkaren.org or call 914-617-4057.

**National Children’s Cancer Society**

The Society provides financial assistance, lodging and meals during treatment, phone cards, health insurance premiums and medical expenses not covered by insurance to families who have a child with cancer. The child must be diagnosed on or before his/her 18th birthday and treated before his/her 21st birthday. To determine if you are eligible or apply, go to https://thenccs.org/financial-assistance/. You can also call 314-241-1600.

**UnitedHealthcare Children’s Foundation (UHCCF)**

The UHCCF provides medical cash grants of up to $5000 to help children’s families pay for medical services, bills, and expenses that are not covered by their commercial health benefit plan.

To qualify the child must:

- be 16 years of age or younger
- be covered by a commercial health benefit plan
- be facing medical costs that cause their family serious financial burden and not exceed certain income requirements

For more information, visit www.uhccf.org/apply-for-a-grant/eligibility-requirements/.

### 3. YOUNG ADULTS

*Young adults with cancer must deal with their health challenges alongside issues shared by their peers – e.g. self-image and educational opportunities. In recognition of this, some organizations specifically offer assistance to people within this group.*

**National Collegiate Cancer Foundation (NCCF)**

NCCF offers a need-based college scholarship to young adult survivors who are pursuing higher education throughout their treatment and beyond.
To qualify you must:

- be a U.S. resident
- be between the ages of 18 and 35
- have plans to pursue your associate, bachelor, master’s, doctorate, or certificate

For more information, visit www.collegiatecancer.org or call 240-515-6262. You can also email info@collegiatecancer.org.

Expect Miracles Foundation: The SAMFund for Young Adult Survivors of Cancer

The Fund assists cancer survivors ages 21-39 with their transition into post-treatment life. This program distributes grants and scholarships in an effort to enable survivors to pursue their educational or professional goals.

For more information, visit https://expectmiraclesfoundation.org/samfund/.

4. VETERANS

If you are a veteran, additional service-related opportunities may also be available to you.

Americans Veteran Relief Foundation

This program aids military veterans and their families when they are faced with medical bills and debt that they cannot afford.

For more information, call 1-800-215-6782.

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) Veteran Dental Financial Assistance

The LLS’s Veteran Dental Financial Assistance Program helps veterans with blood cancer gain access to dental care. Any veteran, regardless of dental benefit class, who requires dental procedures to begin lifesaving therapy for a blood cancer or as a consequence of therapy for a blood cancer, will be eligible for financial assistance to cover the costs of dental services. Care will be provided at the NYU Dentistry Oral Health Center for People with Disabilities. Although treatment takes place in New York City, the program is available to all Veterans as long as they reside in the U.S. or a U.S. territory and can travel to New York City. All expenses for the required dental care will be covered, as long as funding is available, and veterans can receive services more than once. There are no financial eligibility requirements and dental insurance is not required. To learn more or apply, go to Veteran Dental Financial Assistance | Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (lls.org) or call 800-955-4582.

Operation Homefront

This charity provides aid in the form of financial assistance, grants, and counseling to those who are currently or were previously in military service. The program is designed to provide short-term financial help for military families who are experiencing financial hardship. To find out if you qualify or to complete an application, go to https://operationhomefront.org/critical-financial-assistance/. You can also call 1-877-264-3968.
Veterans Affairs Medical Care Hardship Program

This program helps people who have seen a recent change in their income due to job loss or a salary reduction, or those who have experienced a rise in healthcare costs due to injury or illness. Eligibility requirements can be found on their website.

For more information, visit www.va.gov/health-care or call 877-222-8387.

Veterans Health Administration (VHA) Cancer Program

This program helps users of the veteran’s health care system get access to cancer prevention, detection, and treatment services.

For more information, call 1-877-222-8387.

5. MEDICAL CARE, SERVICES AND COSTS

Many of the organizations that provide assistance offer a variety of resources, including direct financial assistance for basic living expenses such as rent and utilities, free screening or other medical service, medications and medical equipment and supplies. Some of the organizations may be able to provide you with more than one type of assistance – be sure to inquire.

Accessia Health

Accessia Health’s patient assistance programs are designed to support individuals living with a chronic medical condition. The programs provide financial assistance with copays, health insurance premiums, travel costs, and other medical expenses. To find out more information or see if you qualify for financial assistance, visit https://accessiahealth.org/financial-assistance/. You may also call at 1-800-366-7741.

American Breast Cancer Foundation-Breast Cancer Assistance Program

The Foundation offers grants for cancer screenings and diagnostic services for uninsured and underserved individuals regardless of age, race, or gender. Services include breast prostheses, medical supplies, medications, testing, wigs, turbans, and scarves. To qualify you must be a U.S resident, have a breast cancer diagnosis, and be uninsured.

For more information, visit http://abcf.org, call 844-219-2223, or email info@abcf.org.

American Italian Cancer Foundation

The American Italian Cancer Foundation provides free breast cancer screenings for disadvantaged women. To be eligible for a screening, you must be at least 40 years old, a NYC resident and have not had a mammogram in over a year. To schedule a mammogram call the hotline number below and the operator will schedule you for an appointment at a location closest to you. Hotline is available in Spanish, although appointments do not offer translation services.
For more information, go to [www.americanitaliancancer.org/breast-cancer-screening.html](http://www.americanitaliancancer.org/breast-cancer-screening.html). To schedule an appointment, call 877-628-9090.

**Fertile Hope**

Fertile Hope is a LIVESTRONG initiative that assists patients whose medical treatments present the risk of infertility. The organization makes preservation treatments available regardless of economic status and provides financial assistance for sperm banking and embryo freezing and storing. Fertile Hope also promotes the understanding of fertility risks and preservation options, encourages personal educated decisions and helps patients cope with important family planning issues.

For more information or to apply, visit [www.fertilehope.org](http://www.fertilehope.org) or call 855-844-7777.

**Memorial Sloan Kettering (MSK) Cancer Center**

MSK provides financial support for cancer treatment to patients with or without health insurance. MSK’s Financial Assistance Program offers financial aid to patients who have the greatest medical and financial need, patients with household income up to five times the federal poverty level who cannot pay for their medical care. You can apply for financial assistance online at [Financial Assistance Program | Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (mskcc.org)](http://www.mskcc.org) by printing and mailing in an application, by calling 212-639-3810, or by visiting the Patient Financial Services office in Room C130 on the first floor of MSK at 1275 York Avenue, New York, NY, 10065.

**Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation**

Their Medical Gap Care Fund was established to help breast cancer patients residing in one of the nine counties of New York’s Hudson Valley who experience life emergencies and/or costs not covered by health insurance while undergoing treatment. These expenses could include, but are not limited to, insurance co-pays, medication/medical equipment not covered by insurance, post-surgery garments, housing, transportation, and utilities. For more information, visit [https://milesofhope.org/programs/financial-assistance/](https://milesofhope.org/programs/financial-assistance/).

**National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program**

The program provides free or low-cost access to breast and cervical cancer screening services for underserved women in the United States, including the District of Columbia, the four U.S. territories, and 13 American Indian/Alaska Native organizations.

For more information or to find out if you qualify, visit [www.cdc.gov/cancer/nbccedp/screenings.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/nbccedp/screenings.htm). To inquire about screenings in New York in particular, you can also call 866-442-2262.

**Pink Fund**

The Pink Fund provides short-term financial aid to patients who are in treatment for breast cancer. The aid covers both medical and non-medical related expenses, including health insurance premiums, prescriptions, house or rent payments, car insurance payments, and utility payments. Applicants must be employed, in active treatment and experiencing a loss or reduction in income as a result. Payments are made directly to creditors.

For more information, visit [www.thepinkfund.org](http://www.thepinkfund.org) or call 1-877-234-7465.
New York State Cancer Services Program

The Cancer Services Program provides breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screenings and diagnostic services at no cost to people who live in New York State and are uninsured or underinsured. To learn more about the services they offer and see if you are eligible, call 1-866-442-2262. You can also visit their website at www.health.ny.gov/diseases/cancer/services/ or email CanServ@health.ny.gov.

The Breast Examination Center of Harlem

The Breast Examination Center of Harlem provides female NYC residents aged 40 and older with no cost mammograms. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 212-531-8000. The Center is located at:

163 West 125th Street, Fourth Floor
New York, NY, 10027

IV. Clinical Trials

Many hospitals and other medical facilities are involved in clinical trials; many can now be found through an online search or clinical trial databases. In addition, some researchers seeking to recruit patients will list their trials on the research/clinical trials page on the websites of large hospitals. If you are considering participating in a clinical trial, you can find detailed information about all aspects of the process including eligibility criteria, trial results and what to expect.

ClinicalTrials.gov: (U.S. Institutes of Health)

The ClinicalTrials.gov website provides current information about clinical research studies to patients, their families, their friends and caregivers, and the public. Each study record includes a summary of the study protocol, including the purpose, recruitment status, and eligibility criteria. Study locations and specific contact information are listed to assist with enrollment. Information is updated daily.

For more information, visit clinicaltrials.gov.

National Cancer Institute: Cancer.gov

The NCI is part of the National Institutes of Health. It has a database of over 12,000 clinical trials that are currently accepting participants. The database can be accessed through their website, and NCI provides a telephone helpline for questions. The NCI website also provides additional information about the clinical trials process, all types of cancer, and general cancer-related issues.

For more information, visit www.cancer.gov/clinicaltrials or call 1-800-422-6237.

Lazarex Cancer Foundation

The Foundation helps end-stage cancer patients to reduce the costs associated with participation in FDA clinical trials. Covered expenses include those for transportation (airfare, gas, car rental, taxi, parking, tolls), lodging, and certain medical expenses not covered by insurance, but required for the clinical trial.
6. **MEDICAL INSURANCE AND CO-PAYMENTS**

Some of the organizations included in this section focus exclusively on providing co-pay assistance and may cover only a specific type of cancer. Others provide different assistance options and may serve a wider population.

**Accessia Health**

Accessia Health helps individuals living with a chronic medical condition pay medical bills, insurance premiums, and co-payments. PSI also provides financial assistance to help chronically ill patients afford the medical expenses related to specific chronic conditions.

For more information, visit [https://accessiahealth.org/financial-assistance/](https://accessiahealth.org/financial-assistance/) or call 1-800-366-7741.

**CancerCare Co-Payment Assistance Foundation**

The program is a partnership between CancerCare and Susan G. Komen ®. The program helps people with cancer overcome financial access and treatment barriers by assisting them with co-payments for their prescribed treatments. The foundation has funding for specific types of cancer at different times. To see if they cover your type of cancer and to apply, go to [www.cancercare.org/copayfoundation](http://www.cancercare.org/copayfoundation) or call 866-552-6729.

**Good Days**

Good Days provides co-payment assistance to underinsured patients diagnosed with a chronic or life-altering disease that requires the use of specialty therapeutics. To find more information or see if you are eligible, visit mygooddays.org, email info@mygooddays.org, or call 877-968-7233 (toll-free patient information) or 972-608-7141 (main number).

**HealthWell Foundation**

The HealthWell Foundation provides financial assistance to underinsured patients living with chronic or life-threatening diseases such as cancer, asthma, and autoimmune disorders. The Foundation helps eligible individuals with copays, premiums, deductibles, and out-of-pocket expenses for supplies, supplements, surgeries, and more. They offer financial assistance through a number of Disease Funds, with new funds opening every year, which means the covered diseases change each year. To see if you are eligible/apply, visit [www.healthwellfoundation.org/patients/](http://www.healthwellfoundation.org/patients/) or call 800-675-8416.

**Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Co-Pay Assistance Program**

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Co-Pay Assistance Program provides assistance toward the cost of Private, Medicare, Medicaid, and TRICARE insurance premiums, and treatment-related co-pays and co-insurance for prescription drugs, labs, scans, tests, etc. Award levels vary by disease fund. For more information, go to [www.lls.org/support-resources/financial-support/co-pay-assistance-program](http://www.lls.org/support-resources/financial-support/co-pay-assistance-program). You can also call 877-557-2672 or email FinancialAssistance@lls.org.
Myriad Reimbursement Assistance Program

The Myriad program provides financial assistance to reduce out-of-pocket costs for qualified underinsured patients in the U.S. depending on their household income level. To learn more or see if you qualify, go to webpay.myriad.com/financial-assistance. You can also call 844-697-4239.

New York Child Health Plus

NYCHP is a health insurance plan for children under the age of 19, who are residents of New York City. Depending on the family’s income, children may be eligible to join either Child Health Plus A (formerly Children’s Medicaid) or Child Health Plus B. You can through the New York State of Health Marketplace.

For more information, visit https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/child_health_plus/ or call 1-800-698-4543.

New York State of Health

NY State of Health is an organized marketplace designed to help people shop for and enroll in health insurance coverage. Individuals, families and small businesses can use the site to help them compare insurance options, calculate costs and select coverage online, in-person, over the phone or by mail. Individuals can check their eligibility for health care programs like Medicaid and sign up for these programs if they are eligible. By using the site, individuals will also be able to tell what type of financial assistance is available to applicants to help them afford health insurance purchased through the marketplace. This program is part of the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act.

For more information, visit https://nystateofhealth.ny.gov/ or call: 1-855-355-5777.

Patient Access Network Foundation

Patient Access Network Foundation (PANF) provides co-payment assistance to patients with serious illnesses who have insurance, but lack the means to pay for out-of-pocket costs for their medications or infusions. To apply, you must:

- Be a US resident;
- Have insurance that covers the medication for which you seek assistance, and
- Meet income eligibility requirements.

For more information or to see if you qualify, visit www.panfoundation.org or call 1-866-316-7263.

Patient Advocate Foundation Co-Pay Relief Program

PAF provides direct co-payment assistance for pharmaceutical products to insured patients (including Medicare Part D beneficiaries) who qualify financially and medically. Call PAF or visit their website for a list of covered cancer diagnoses.

For more information, visit copays.org or call 1-866-512-3861
7. PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Most Prescription Assistance Programs are run by, or affiliated with, pharmaceutical companies to provide free or reduced cost medications to people who cannot afford to buy their medicine. This assistance also includes chemotherapy. Every pharmaceutical company has a “compassionate care” program and each has its own application forms and eligibility requirements - but it can be worth the effort. You will need to know the names of all the drugs you are taking so that you can find out who is their manufacturer, and then contact them directly.

Amgen Assist (Safety Net Foundation)

The Foundation provides qualifying patients with Amgen medicines at no cost. To qualify you must:

- Be a US resident
- Satisfy income eligibility requirements
- Have no or limited drug coverage
- Have no other insurance options

For more information, visit http://www.amgensafetynetfoundation.com/ or call 1-800-272-9376.

Area Agencies on Aging (ElderCare)

Local area agencies on aging help patients age 65 years and older who cannot afford their medicines. To contact your local area agency on aging, call 1-800-677-1116 or visit www.eldercare.acl.gov.

AstraZenica

Astrazenica provides qualifying patients with prescription drug assistance. A list of the medications that they manufacture is available on their website. They have three programs:

- Program for people without Insurance
- Program for people with Medicare Part D
- Program for Healthcare facilities

For more information, visit http://www.astrazeneca-us.com/medicines/help-affording-your-medicines or call 1-800-292-6363.

Bristol-Myers Squibb Patient Assistance Foundation

Bristol-Myers Squibb provides uninsured patients with prescription drug assistance. A list of the medications that they manufacture is available on their website.

To qualify you must:

- You live in the United States, Puerto Rico, or the US Virgin Islands
- You do not have insurance coverage for a medicine listed on this site
- Meet certain income eligibility requirements
For more information, visit www.bmspaf.org/eligibility or call 1-800-736-0003.

**Genentech Patient Assistance Program**

Genentech provides medicine to patients without prescription drug coverage. Eligibility requirements and a list of the medications manufactured by the company are available on their website. The Genentech Patient Foundation provides free medicine to people without insurance coverage or who can’t pay for their Genentech medicines, and the Genentech Co-pay Services program helps people who have commercial insurance pay for their Genentech medicine.

For more information, visit www.gene.com/patients/financial-support or call 888-941-3331.

**GlaxoSmithKline Prescription Assistance Program**

GSK Patient Assistance Program can help you receive certain GSK prescription medicines at no cost. Individuals are eligible if they are either uninsured or have Medicare and meet other program requirements. You must also live in the United States or Puerto Rico and meet financial income eligibility criteria.

A list of the medications manufactured by GSK is available on their website.

For more information, visit www.gskforyou.com/programs/prescription-medicine-patient-assistance/ or call 1-866-265-6491.

**GoodRx**

GoodRx provides free coupons for large discounts on cash prices of prescriptions. GoodRx can be used by patients without insurance, or patients with insurance. GoodRx may be able to find you a lower price than your insurance co-pay. GoodRx can be used instead of insurance, but not combined with it. For more information and to see what drugs it covers, go to www.goodrx.com.

**Humana-Walmart-Preferred Rx Plan (PDP)**

PDP provides prescription drug assistance to patients who cannot afford their medication. Eligibility requirements and a list of the medications that this plan covers are available on its website.

For more information, visit www.humana.com/medicare/part-d-drug-plans/walmart-value-rx.

**Inside Rx**

This program serves as an option for patients who pay full price at the pharmacy, including those who don’t have insurance, or who are in the deductible phase of a high-deductible commercial insurance plan. Through this program, many medications can be accessed at a discounted price, providing savings that are realized immediately at the pharmacy. For a list of participating pharmacies, medications, and other important information about the program, visit www.insiderx.com.

**Johnson and Johnson Patient Assist Foundation**

City Bar Justice Center
Financial and Medical Resources for Cancer Patients and Survivors
JJPAF provides prescription products to people without drug coverage. The free prescription program is available to individuals who meet certain income requirements, don’t have insurance coverage, are being treated as an outpatient by a United States licensed doctor, and live in the United States or a U.S. Territory. To find out if you are eligible or get more information, visit www.jjpaf.org/eligibility/ or call 800-652-6227.

**Lilly Cares**

The Lilly Cares Foundation Patient Assistance Program helps patients with financial need receive their prescribed medications at no cost for up to one year. To see which medications or covered or check your eligibility, visit www.lillycares.com or call 800-545-6962.

**Merck Patient Assistance Program**

Merck provides prescription assistance to those who are uninsured and underinsured. A list of the medications manufactured by Merck is available on their website.

To qualify you must:

- be a U.S resident
- be 19 years of age or older
- have no health insurance coverage
- meet income eligibility requirements

For more information, visit www.merckhelps.com or call 1-800-727-5400.

**NeedyMeds**

NeedyMeds is a service that helps patients without prescription coverage by providing information about patient assistance programs that supply prescription medications at no cost.

For more information, visit www.needymeds.org, call info@needymeds.org or 800-503-6897.

**Nexavar Patient Support**

Nexavar provides medicine to patients without prescription drug coverage. Eligibility requirements and a list of the medications manufactured by the company are available on their website.


**Medicine Assistance Tool**

PhRMA’s Medicine Assistance Tool (MAT) is a search engine designed to help patients, caregivers, and health care providers learn more about the resources available through the various biopharmaceutical industry programs. MAT is not its own patient assistance program, but rather a search engine for many of the patient assistance resources that the biopharmaceutical industry offers.
To utilize the search engine, go to https://medicineassistance-tool.org or call 571-350-8643.

**Pfizer Helpful Answers**

Pfizer Helpful Answers is a family of patient assistance programs for the uninsured and underinsured who need help getting Pfizer medicines. Pfizer Helpful Answers provides Pfizer medicines for free or at a savings to patients who qualify.

For more information, call 866-706-2400.

**Roche Patient Assistance Foundation**

Roche provides qualifying patients with prescription drug assistance. A list of the medications manufactured by Roche is available on their website.

To qualify you must:

- be a U.S resident
- have no prescription drug coverage
- be financially unable to pay for the medication
- meet income eligibility requirements

For a list of the available medications, visit https://www.rxhope.com/pap/info/paplist.aspx?companyid=124&fieldtype=companyid or call 1-888-249-4918.

**RxAssist**

A helpful website for finding prescription assistance programs offered by many pharmaceutical companies and, in some cases, the names of specific drugs that are being subsidized.

For more information, visit www.rxassist.org.

**Schering-Plough Commitment to Care Program**

Schering-Plough provides low-income patients with help paying for medications. A list of the drugs manufactured by the company is available online. To qualify you must:

- be a U.S resident
- not be covered by any public, private, or Medicare Part D drug coverage programs
- not be eligible for Medicare or Medicaid
- meet an undisclosed income guideline

For a copy of the application, visit https://www.rxhope.com/PAP/pdf/schering_ctc_0209.pdf

For any questions, call 1-800-521-7157
VI. Drug Discount Cards
Drug Discount Cards can often save you money on the cost of drugs, especially generic medications. There are many different types of cards available so you should check that the medications you take will be covered, and at what price. DDCs can be especially helpful for people with no access to prescription medication through a medical insurance plan.

Family Wize
The Family Wize prescription drug discount drug card saves patients an average of 34% on their prescription drugs. Anyone without prescription drug coverage can apply.

For more information, visit www.familywize.org or call 1-844-234-3057.

Togetherness Rx Access
Uninsured individuals and families can apply for the Together Rx Access Card. The program helps legal U.S. residents who are not eligible for Medicare, do not have drug coverage, and are within certain income levels to save approximately 25% to 40% on brand-name and generic prescription drugs.

For more information, visit www.togetherrxaccess.com or call 1-800-444-4106.

8. GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS
Assistance through a government program provides a more reliable form of support. Eligibility requirements for some programs, such as Social Security Disability, Medicaid and SSI, are stringent and the process can be slow. However, if you do qualify for one of the programs, it will provide you with a steady source of support.

Federal Grants
If you have high medical bills or debt you can apply for federal grants. This is not a loan so you will not have to pay back the money you receive. To find out what grants you may be eligible for, call 1-800-333-4636.

Hill-Burton Federal Program – Free and Reduced Cost Healthcare
The Hill-Burton Act requires that health care facilities that have received federal funds must provide a reasonable volume of free and reduced cost services to persons unable to pay for hospitals, nursing homes and other health facilities, and make their services available to all persons residing in the facility’s area.

To qualify for aid under the Hill-Burton program you must:

- have lived in the U.S for at least 3 months
- not be covered by any type of existing health insurance
- meet income eligibility requirements (applicants can make up to, but no more than, double the Poverty Income Level)
Applicants can apply either before or after they have received medical care from a Hill-Burton hospital or facility, and are still eligible after a medical bill has been sent to a debt collection agency. You must apply through the billing department, admissions office, or business development office at the facility where you receive care.

For more information, visit www.hrsa.gov/get-health-care/affordable/hill-burton or call 1-800-638-0742.

Human Resources Administration (HRA)

NYC’s HRA provides temporary help to qualifying individuals and families with social service and economic needs. It provides a number of different services, including one-time payments for rent or utility arrears.

For more information, visit https://www1.nyc.gov/site/hra/help/homebase.page or call 1-718-557-1399.

Medicaid

People who cannot afford medical care may be eligible for Medicaid. For more information, visit http://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/ or call: 1-800-541-2831.

Medicaid Cancer Treatment Program in New York

The NY Breast, Cervical, Colorectal, and Prostate Cancer Program offers preventative care and complete care for individuals with specified pre-cancerous or cancerous conditions. If screened and diagnosed for breast, cervical, colorectal, or prostate cancer, patients may be eligible for complete health coverage through Medicaid. The program is accessed via the Cancer Services Program.

To qualify you must:

- be a US citizen or an legal resident with satisfactory immigration status
- be uninsured
- be ineligible for Medicaid under other eligibility groups

For more information, visit http://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/cancer/services or call the Cancer Services Program at 1-866-442-2262.

Medicaid - Emergency

Emergency Medicaid coverage is available, regardless of immigration status, if you are pregnant or require treatment for an emergency medical condition. A doctor must certify that you are pregnant or have an emergency. The amount put towards this fund and the interpretation of emergency care varies by state. In New York, an emergency medical condition is defined as “a medical condition (including emergency labor and delivery) manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that the absence of immediate medical attention could reasonably be expected to result in:

- Placing the patients health in serious jeopardy;
- Serious impairment to bodily functions; or
- Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.”
For more information, visit http://www.emergencymedicaid.net/ or www.medicaid.gov.

Medicare

At www.medicare.gov, patients and caregivers can find out about different Medicare plans and their costs. People with Medicare now receive wellness and preventative care treatment for free. For a list of the services that fall under this category, visit https://www.medicare.gov/what-medicare-covers/index.html or call: 1-800-633-4227.

My Medicare Matters

At www.mymedicarematters.org, individuals can find out about Medicare prescription drug coverage. Under the Affordable Care Act, Medicare is expanding to cover more prescription drug costs for seniors with Medicare Part D.

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSD)

SSD pays monthly cash benefits to people who are unable to work for a year or more because of a disability. To qualify, you must have previously worked in jobs covered by social security and meet their eligibility requirements. Social Security has a strict definition of disability that can differ from other programs. They only pay for total disability; consequently, no benefits are paid for partial disability or for short-term disability. Under Social Security, you are considered disabled if you cannot do work that you did before and they decide that you cannot adjust to other work because of your medical condition(s). Your disability must also last or be expected to last for at least one year or to result in death.

For more information, visit https://www.ssa.gov/disability/ or call: 1-800-772-1213.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

SSI is a federal income supplemental program that is funded by general taxes, not social security taxes. It assists aged, blind, and disabled people, who have little or no income. It provides cash to meet the basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter. SSI recipients are eligible for Medicaid.

For more information and to see if you’re eligible, visit http://www.ssa.gov/ssi/.

8. PERSONAL SERVICES

Some organizations provide services that, though not financial or medical, positively enrich the lives of recipients by offering free cleaning or meal services, or an opportunity to enjoy some pampering.

Babylon Breast Cancer Coalition

BBCC provides support to breast or gynecological cancer patients in Babylon, Long Island. The coalition's Lend a Helping Hand program offers various services, including housecleaning, transportation to and from appointments, help purchasing prostheses, salon services, and more. Its "SOS" program is dedicated to help those who have lost a loved one residing in Babylon Township.
to breast or gynecological cancer. SOS offers services like financial assistance with funeral expenses, child care expenses, prepared food, and house cleaning.

For more information, visit http://babylonbreastcancer.org or call 631-893-4110.

**Cleaning for a Reason**

Cleaning for a Reason is a charity that provides housecleaning and maid services to women undergoing treatment for cancer. To qualify you must be a female cancer patient, 19 years of age or older, who is actively undergoing treatment.

For more information, visit www.cleaningforareason.org or email info@cleaningforareason.org.

**God’s Love We Deliver**

This group provides meals to individuals with a documented diagnosis of cancer or another chronic, serious, or life threatening illness. To qualify you must be a resident of one of the five boroughs of New York City or of Hudson County, New Jersey and have a documented cancer diagnosis.

For more information or to apply, go to www.glwd.org/get-meals/for-you-or-your-loved-ones/eligibility-forms-client-form/ or call 212-294-8102.

**Look Good, Feel Better**

LGFB is a free, non-medical, brand-neutral, national public service program that is administered nationwide through the American Cancer Society. LGFB offers free individual, group and self-help beauty sessions designed to improve the self-esteem and quality of life of people undergoing treatment for cancer. They offer both in-person and virtual workshops.

For more information, visit http://lookgoodfeelbetter.org or call 1-800-395-5665.

**Magnolia Meals at Home - New York**

The Magnolia Meals at Home program is a meal delivery program that aims to help patients by providing nourishing meals to households affected by cancer. Eligible participants will receive up to two months of home meal deliveries. Each delivery includes 10 meals that are designed to help meet the nutritional needs of people living with cancer, and up to 10 additional meals for family members. To check if you are eligible/apply, go to www.magnoliamealsathome.com, email knugent@cancercare.org, or call 201-301-6809.

**North Fork Breast Health Coalition**

Provides one-time “Lend A Helping Hand” grants for breast cancer patients who live in the North Fork of Long Island, and are undergoing chemotherapy or radiation. These grants may be used for services such as housecleaning, meal preparation, and transportation. (North Fork, LI residents only)

For more information, visit www.northforkbreasthealth.org/grants or call 631-208-8889.

**West Islip Breast Cancer Coalition for Long Island**
The WIBCC provides assistance to Long Island breast cancer patients going through chemotherapy or radiation. Services include house cleaning, prepared food/gift cards, post-mastectomy accessory items, transportation to/from medical appointments, and child care.

For more information, visit [www.wibcc.org/lend-a-helping-hand-side](http://www.wibcc.org/lend-a-helping-hand-side) or call: 631-669-7770.

10. **TRAVEL COSTS AND TRANSPORT**

*Out-of-pocket costs for travel can soon add up, especially if you must travel often or for long distances as part of your medical treatment. These services may help to reduce this burden.*

VII. Travel Expenses

**Babylon Breast Cancer Coalition**

BBCC provides support to breast or gynecological cancer patients in Babylon, Long Island. The coalition's Lend a Helping Hand program offers various services, including housecleaning, transportation to and from appointments, help purchasing prostheses, salon services, and more. Its "SOS" program is dedicated to help those who have lost a loved one residing in Babylon Township to breast or gynecological cancer. SOS offers services like financial assistance with funeral expenses, child care expenses, prepared food, and house cleaning.

For more information, visit [http://babylonbreastcancer.org](http://babylonbreastcancer.org) or call 631-893-4110.

**Leukemia & Lymphoma Society – Susan Lang Pay-It-Forward Patient Travel Assistance Programs**

The Susan Lang Pay-It-Forward Patient Travel Assistance Programs provide assistance for treatment-related transportation and lodging expenses. Eligible patients receive a $500 grant. Eligible patients must have a household income that is at or below 600% of the federal poverty level, be a United States citizen or permanent resident, and be in active treatment for blood cancer. Patients may be insured or uninsured. To learn more about eligibility or to apply, go to Susan Lang Pay-It-Forward Patient Travel Assistance Program | Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (lls.org), email FinancialAssistance@LLS.org, or call 877-557-2672.

**Leukemia & Lymphoma Society – Susan Lang Pre CAR T-Cell Therapy Travel Assistance Program**

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Susan Lang Pre CAR T-Cell Therapy Travel Assistance program is available to blood cancer patients who are being evaluated to receive CAR T-cell therapy as either standard treatment or a clinical trial. Assistance covers travel and lodging expenses from the evaluation phase through the end of the patient eligibility phase. Those who qualify will receive $2,500 to cover the cost of treatment-related travel and lodging expenses for the patient and caregiver including ground transportation, tolls, gas, parking, car rental, car maintenance, repairs and parts, air transportation, baggage fees, lodging, and ambulatory services. To be eligible, you must have a household income that is at or below 600% of the federal poverty level, be a United States citizen or permanent resident, have a blood cancer diagnosis confirmed by a doctor, and be in the process of being evaluated for CAR T-cell therapy. Patients may be insured or uninsured. To learn more/apply, go to Susan Lang Pre CAR T-cell Therapy Travel Assistance Program | Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (lls.org) or call 877-557-2672.

**More Moments More Memories Foundation**
More Moments More Memories provides grants to help cancer patients and their caregivers with transportation to participate in potentially life-saving clinical trials. The financial assistance supports travel expenses such as airfare or bus fare, automobile mileage, lodging, and meals for the patient to participate in a clinical trial with their caregiver alongside them. To be eligible, patients must have been referred to a cancer clinical trial for a life-saving treatment by a physician and can demonstrate financial need by proving a household income of 500% of less of the federal poverty level. While geographic preference is given to citizens of Iowa, residents of any state can apply. To apply or learn more, go to https://moremomentsmorememories.org/our-grants/.

**North Fork Breast Health Coalition**

Provides one-time "Lend A Helping Hand" grants for breast cancer patients who live in the North Fork of Long Island, and are undergoing chemotherapy or radiation. These grants may be used for services such as housecleaning, meal preparation, and transportation. *(North Fork, LI residents only)*

For more information, visit www.northforkbreasthealth.org/grants or call 631-208-8889.

**Team Continuum**

Team Continuum has a number of different programs that provide support to pediatric cancer patients and their families. The services they offer includes help with non-medical needs such as rent, mortgage, utilities, transportation, out-of-town accommodations, theatre tickets, reunion-related expenses, holiday gifts, birthday treats, schoolbooks and nutritional cooking classes. *Financial support from Team Continuum is limited to families affected by childhood cancers, only (ages 0 – 18).* Applications must be submitted by a licensed social worker who is working on your behalf.

For more information, visit www.teamcontinuum.net or call (845)-200-7904.

**Uber Health**

Uber Health is a service provided by the New York Cancer Foundation to cancer patients that helps them get to and from healthcare appointments. To be eligible, you must be 18 years of age or older, a legal resident of the United States, and have an annual income at or below 400% of the federal poverty level. For more eligibility criteria or to apply, go to https://nycancerfoundation.org/apply/ or call 833-588-6923.

**VIII. Flights**

**Air Care Alliance**

The Air Care Alliance offers free flights to patients who need to travel for medical reasons. Income eligibility requirements can be found on their website. They utilize public benefit flying, which is volunteer pilots using their own aircraft and donating flights.

For more information, visit www.aircareall.org or call 1-888-260-9707.

**Air Charity Network (ACN)**

ACN offers free flights to needy patients who need to travel for medical reasons. Eligibility requirements can be found on their website.
For more information, visit http://aircharitynetwork.org or call 1-877-621-7177.

Corporate Angel Network (CAN)

Corporate Angel Network (CAN) helps cancer patients access the best treatment by arranging free travel on corporate aircraft. Business jet travel makes it possible for patients, including those located in areas with minimal airline access, to travel to specialized medical centers. Participation is open to all cancer patients, as well as bone marrow and stem cell donors and recipients. Patients may travel as often as necessary and there is no financial requirement.

For more information, visit www.corpangelnetwork.org, call 914-328-1313, or email info@corpangelnetwork.org.

Miracle Flights

Miracle Flights flies child cancer patients to medical treatment centers across the U.S. Eligibility requirements can be found on their website.

For more information, visit www.miracleflights.org or call 1-800-359-1711.

National Patient Travel Helpline (NPTH)

The NPTH helps patients traveling for medical reasons find free air transportation. They help patients of all ages and backgrounds who can’t afford transportation to vital medical care and services. For more information, visit www.mercymedical.org or call 1-800-296-1217.

11. TEMPORARY LODGING

If medical treatment requires you or your family to be far from home, these options may help you to significantly reduce the costs for temporary housing.

Hosts for Hospitals

Hospital Hosts help cancer patients and their families and caregivers find housing when they need to travel for treatment.

For more information, visit http://www.hostsforhospitals.org/, call 484-380-2999, or email lodging@hostsforhospitals.org.

Hope Lodge (American Cancer Society)

Hope Lodge provides free, temporary housing to cancer patients and their families. It has three locations in NY State, including one in NYC. Eligibility requirements and a list of their locations are available on their website.

For more information, visit www.cancer.org/support-programs-and-services/patient-lodging/hope-lodge.html or call 1-800-227-2345.

Joe’s House

Joe’s House is an online database that helps cancer patients and their families find lodging near treatment centers.
Healthcare Hospitality Network

An association of more than 150 nonprofit organizations located throughout the United States that provide family-centered lodging and support services for individuals receiving medical treatment far from their homes. Patients and family members can find lodging by going to the website or calling the toll-free number.

For more information, visit www.hhnetwork.org or call 800-318-8861.

Ronald McDonald House Charities

The charity provides three core programs: Ronald McDonald Houses, which provide lodging for families of seriously ill children receiving treatment at nearby hospitals; Ronald McDonald Family Rooms in hospitals, which serve as places to escape stress and tension; and Ronald McDonald Care Mobiles, which bring cost-effective medical, dental and health education services directly to underserved children in both rural and urban areas.

For more information, visit www.rmhc.org or call 630-623-7048.

12. CAMPS AND RETREATS

A number of organizations provide retreats and camping trips for individuals and families whose lives have been affected by cancer. Most are free.

Camp Good Days

This group provides free residential camping programs at several locations around NY State for children, adults and families whose lives have been affected by cancer and other life challenges.

For additional information, visit www.campgooddays.org, call 1-800-785-2135, or email info@campgooddays.org.

Camp Kesem

A camp for children affected by a parent’s cancer. Camp Kesem offers a free week of games, arts, crafts and facilitated conversations for six-to sixteen-year-olds. Parents may be living with cancer or have died of cancer. Camps are located around the U.S. in 27 states.

For more information, visit www.campkesem.org, call 253-736-3821, or email support@kesem.org.

Camp Mak-A-Dream

This is a medically supervised, cost-free retreat in Montana for different groups affected by cancer. There are a variety of different camps and programs, for adults, teens, and children. There are camps for both survivors and individuals in active treatment.
For more information, visit [www.campdream.org](http://www.campdream.org) or call 406-549-5987.

**Casting for Recovery**

Offers free 2½ day fly-fishing retreats for women with breast cancer. Participants range in age from early 20s to early 90s. The aim is to help women gain skills and to cope with recovery from breast cancer. Participants are provided with medical education and guided by trained facilitators who help explore their own recovery process.

For more information and to apply, visit [www.castingforrecovery.org](http://www.castingforrecovery.org).

**First Descents**

First Descents provides a free weeklong outdoor adventure camp in Colorado for young adults (age 18 to 39) impacted by cancer and other serious health conditions. Programs are all about having fun, getting outside, and pushing your limits through kayaking, rock climbing and other outdoor activities.

For more information, visit [www.firstdescents.org](http://www.firstdescents.org), call 303-945-2490, or email info@firstdescents.org.

**Tigerlily Foundation - Funds for Families Foundation**

The Tigerlily Foundation offers 4-day retreats to patients as one of its support programs. They also provide empowerment, education and advocacy programs for young women with breast cancer. Applicants must have a documented diagnosis of breast cancer and be between the ages of 15 and 45 years old.

For more information, visit [https://www.tigerlilyfoundation.org/programs/](https://www.tigerlilyfoundation.org/programs/) or call 1-888-580-6253.

13. **IMMIGRANTS (NON U.S. CITIZEN/LEGAL PERMANENT RESIDENT)**

If you are neither a U.S. citizen nor a legal permanent resident, and you do not have insurance or the resources to pay for the cost of any medical treatment, your options for accessing financial and medical assistance are more limited. However, under federal law, hospitals cannot turn you away if you need emergency treatment but cannot afford to pay. Also, under New York City regulation, hospitals cannot discriminate against you because of your inability to pay, nor are they allowed to ask about an immigrant’s legal status. However, you will be billed for the treatment and are likely to encounter additional expenses, e.g. prescription medications. The organizations offering financial, medical or insurance assistance below either state that access to their services and resources does not require U.S. citizenship or legal permanent residence, (residence in the U.S. or that state may be sufficient) or, unless noted, there is no mention of such a requirement in their published eligibility criteria. Still, as rules can change, you should fully research an organization’s policies and requirements before submitting a request for assistance. You
may also be able to access some of the resources provided in other sections of this guide. Contact the individual organizations for more information.

IX. Financial Assistance

Accessia Health

Accessia Health’s patient assistance programs are designed to support individuals living with a chronic medical condition. The programs provide financial assistance with copays, health insurance premiums, travel costs, and other medical expenses. To find out more information or see if you qualify for financial assistance, visit https://accessiahealth.org/financial-assistance/. You may also call at 1-800-366-7741.

CancerCare Financial Assistance

CancerCare offers assistance with cancer-related costs including transportation, child care, home care, and pain medication. It does not assist with general living expenses such as rent or utilities. Its team of professional oncology social workers can help patients find additional resources. To qualify you must:

- live in the U.S.
- have a documented cancer diagnosis
- be in active treatment
- meet income eligibility requirements For more information, visit www.cancercare.org/financial or call: 1-800-813-4673.

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society: Patient Aid Program

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society offers a variety of different programs for non-medical expenses. The Patient Aid Program provides a one-time stipend to eligible blood cancer patients to help offset non-medical expenses. To be eligible for the program, you must reside in the U.S. or U.S. territories, be in active treatment for blood cancer (or scheduled to begin treatment/in follow-up care), and have not received a Patient Aid Program award in the past. For more information on eligibility or to apply, go to Patient Aid Program | Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (lls.org). If you do not have a Social Security number or Alien ID number, you should call 877-557-2672 to apply. Please note patients will be required to submit documentation to verify identity.

The COC

The Dollars Allocated to Assist (DATA) project provides financial assistance to those in active cancer treatment across the country. It does not discriminate on the basis of religion. Their services are available to men, women, and children in active cancer treatment.

For more information, visit their webpage at www.thecoccareas.org/. An application can be obtained by choosing the To Receive Support button on the website’s Home Page and following the instructions for the Dollars Allocated to Assist (DATA) program.
Salvation Army NYC: Emergency Services Program

This program is intended to help prevent someone who is experiencing financial problems due to an illness, medical condition, missed paycheck or similar reason, from spiraling into homelessness. Assistance is available for help with food and groceries, rent or mortgage help, utility bills etc.

For more information, visit https://easternusa.salvationarmy.org/greater-new-york/emergency-services/ or call 212-337-7200 for assistance.

X. Medical Care and Insurance

Community Health Care Clinics

Community health care clinics provide free or low cost treatment and services to the uninsured and underinsured. Costs and services offered vary by clinic.


Emergency Medicaid

Emergency Medicaid coverage is available, regardless of immigration status, if you are pregnant or require treatment for an emergency medical condition. A doctor must certify that you are pregnant or have an emergency. The amount put towards this fund and the interpretation of emergency care varies by state. In New York, an emergency medical condition is defined as “a medical condition (including emergency labor and delivery) manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that the absence of immediate medical attention could reasonably be expected to result in:

- Placing the patients health in serious jeopardy;
- Serious impairment to bodily functions; or
- Serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.”

For more information, visit http://www.emergencymedicaid.net/ or www.medicaid.gov.

Freedom Benefits Enrollment Services

The search engine at www.freedombenefits.net helps immigrants explore their health insurance options. The four most popular health insurance choices among immigrants using this resource are listed below:

- **Inbound Immigration:**

  Inbound Immigration provides qualifying immigrants with up to five years of low cost medical insurance that includes maternity benefits as well as protection from injury and sickness for individuals and families. You must apply within 24 months of your arrival to the United States to be eligible.
For more information, visit http://www.freedombenefits.net/affordable-health-insurance/Inbound-immigrant-medical-insurance.html or call 1-800-335-0477.

For a medical emergency, call 1-800-690-6295.

- **HCC Life Short Term Medical** *(Documented immigrants only)*:

  HCC provides temporary low cost health insurance to individuals who need short term medical coverage that protects against unforeseen accidents and illness. It is recommended to students, individuals who are between jobs, and anyone else who needs temporary coverage. It is available for up to 11 months.

  For more information, visit http://www.freedombenefits.net/affordable-health-insurance/HCC-Life-short-term-medical.html or call 1-800-605-2282.

- **Global Medical Insurance**:

  This plan provides low cost, annually renewable medical insurance to individuals and their dependants who are living outside of their home country. This is a more expensive option but it is less expensive than U.S domestic health insurance plans.

  For more information, visit http://www.freedombenefits.net/affordable-health-insurance/Global-medical-insurance.html or call 1-800-628-4664.

- **Core Health Insurance**:

  This plan provides low cost health insurance and is available to individuals with preexisting conditions. It does not cover prescription drug coverage but applicants are eligible for a DrugCardAmerica retail pharmacy discount card through the program.

  For more information, visit www.corehealthinsurance.net or call 1-800-279-2290.

**Hill-Burton Federal Program – Free and Reduced Cost Healthcare**

The Hill-Burton Act requires that health care facilities that have received federal funds must provide a reasonable volume of free and reduced cost services to persons unable to pay for hospitals, nursing homes and other health facilities, and make their services available to all persons residing in the facility’s area.

To qualify for aid under the Hill-Burton program you must:

- have lived in the U.S for at least 3 months
- not be covered by any type of existing health insurance
- meet income eligibility requirements (applicants can make up to, but no more than, double the Poverty Income Level)

Applicants can apply either before or after they have received medical care from a Hill-Burton hospital or facility, and are still eligible after a medical bill has been sent to a debt collection agency. You must apply through the billing department, admissions office, or business development office at the facility where you receive care.

For more information, visit www.hrsa.gov/get-health-care/affordable/hill-burton or call 1-800-638-0742.
**NOTE: Policies on the eligibility of undocumented immigrants vary by facility. For more information, contact the facility where you plan to receive treatment.**

For general information, visit [www.hrsa.gov](http://www.hrsa.gov) or call 1-888-275-4772.

**Linking A.R.M.S. Program**

The program is a partnership between CancerCare and Susan G. Komen ®. It provides financial assistance, education and support services to low-income, under or uninsured women across the country who have been diagnosed with breast cancer. Financial assistance grants are made for women with limited income who are in need of oral medication for cancer treatment, pain and anti-nausea medication, lymphedema support and supplies, and durable medical equipment ordered by their physician. Financial assistance is not available for daily living expenses such as rent, utilities, food, doctor and hospital bills, diagnostic testing, non-oral cancer therapies, and insurance premiums. Grants are available on a once-per-year basis. No citizenship or residency requirements.

For more information, call: 1-800-813-4673.

**U.S Health Insurance Plans**

Most insurance application forms do not ask about citizenship. However, they will require either a social security number or a tax identification number (TIN). A TIN is available to anyone who does not qualify for a social security number if they pay taxes, regardless of their immigration status.

For more information regarding obtaining your TIN, visit [https://irs-tax-id.com/?gclid=CKXJovm267cCFZSe4AodsHEAgA](https://irs-tax-id.com/?gclid=CKXJovm267cCFZSe4AodsHEAgA).

**14. TIPS FOR MEDICAL CONSUMERS**

*In addition to locating sources of financial and medical assistance, you may be able to reduce your financial burden by being proactive when dealing with doctors and hospitals.*

**Prepay your hospital bill**

Many hospitals and medical providers offer a discount of anywhere from 10-75% to patients who sign up for a prepayment plan. Most plans are offered to families and individuals who have no insurance. Discounts are also offered to patients whose plans don’t cover all of the care they need. To arrange a prepayment plan, call the hospitals you are considering in advance and see what their policies are.


**Negotiate Your Hospital Bills**

Medical costs are not set in stone. It is possible to negotiate your bill. Here are a few tips:
• Before receiving medical treatment, do research on what different hospitals charge for the specific treatment(s) that you will be receiving. You can find this information out through your health insurance company. If you don’t have insurance you can find pricing information using www.healthcarebluebook.com. This way you can choose the hospital facility with the most competitive rates.
• If you have health insurance, contact your insurer in advance of receiving treatment to confirm that they will cover medical costs. This way they can’t refuse you coverage after you have already received treatment.
• Find out the hospitals deductible and factor this in when determining your medical costs.
• Make sure you receive a copy of your medical bill and look it over for mistakes. 90% of hospital bills have errors on them.
• If you are uninsured or underinsured, meet with a financial advisor at the hospital you choose to discuss possible options.

For more information, visit www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/pre_pay_hospital_bill_discount.html.

Check for Medical Bill Errors

• Ask for an itemized billing statement of all your charges.
• Review your statement for services, medications, or anything else that wasn’t received.
• Lookout for duplicate billing. Sometimes you will be charge twice for one service.
• Verify your dates to make sure you were not charge for extra days or hours.
• Consider consulting a medical bill advocate for help.

15. INFORMATION, ADVICE AND ADVOCACY RESOURCES

There are many organizations available to provide information, advice and advocacy to cancer patients and survivors on a wide variety of issues.

American Cancer Society

ACS focuses on cancer research, education and advocacy. It also provides patient and family services, which vary by locality, and referrals for financial assistance. Some local offices may provide transportation assistance, temporary lodging through Hope Lodges, wigs, or prescription assistance.

For more information, visit www.cancer.org or call: 1-800-227-2345.

New York City office, call 212-586 8700.

Cancer and Careers

Cancer and Careers is dedicated to empowering and educating people with cancer to thrive in their workplace by providing expert advice, interactive tools and educational events. Through a comprehensive website, free publications, career coaching, and a series of support groups and educational seminars for employees with cancer and their healthcare providers and coworkers, Cancer and Careers strives to eliminate fear and uncertainty for working people with cancer.

For more information, visit www.cancerandcareers.org or call 646-929-8031.
**Cancer Legal Resource Center**

The CLRC offers information and education on cancer-related legal issues to people with cancer, family members, friends, employers and others coping with cancer. It provides one-on-one matches with volunteer attorneys for in-depth legal information.

For more information, visit [www.cancerlegalresourcecenter.org](http://www.cancerlegalresourcecenter.org) or call 866-843-2572.

**City Bar Justice Center, Cancer Advocacy Project**

The Cancer Advocacy Project provides free legal advice, counseling and assistance to cancer patients and survivors. The project focuses on life planning (wills, advance health directives, and powers of attorney) health insurance appeals (denials of coverage) and cancer-related employment discrimination. CAP also conducts legal presentations for support groups and healthcare providers.

For more information, visit [https://www.citybarjusticecenter.org/projects/cancer-advocacy-project/](https://www.citybarjusticecenter.org/projects/cancer-advocacy-project/) or call: 212-382-4785

**Community Service Society of New York**

The society’s Public Benefits Resource Center (PBRC) untangles the complexities of the government benefit system by explaining how benefits work together and where to go for help. It provides information on over 70 government benefit programs, including Public Assistance, Medicaid, SSI, Food Stamps, Social Security and Child Health Plus. The society also provides advocacy services for public benefit recipients, and emergency assistance to individuals and families for eviction prevention, food, and utilities.

For more information, visit [www.cssny.org](http://www.cssny.org) or call 212-254-8900.

**The Family Center**

The center is a legal services organization that provides free legal assistance to individuals and families affected by serious illness, including cancer. Areas of legal help include housing, SSD and SSDI hearings and appeals, and family law, including guardianship. *(New York City residents only)*

For more information, visit [www.thefamilycenter.org](http://www.thefamilycenter.org) or call 212-766-4522 or 1-800-219-4522.

**The Max Foundation**

The Max Foundation is dedicated to improving the lives of people living with blood cancer and rare cancers worldwide. The organization’s International Patient Helpline provides free services of advocacy, emotional support, informational referrals and help finding emergency funding. Families receive personalized support services. Each year The Max Foundation provides free services to over 16,000 families in more than 100 countries.

For more information, visit [http://www.themaxfoundation.org/](http://www.themaxfoundation.org/) or call 1-888-462-9368.

**Medicare Rights Center**
Provides free counseling services to people with Medicare questions or problems. MRC’s enrollment services help people with limited incomes access benefits that can help pay their Medicare premiums, deductibles and co-pays.

For more information, visit [www.medicarerights.org](http://www.medicarerights.org) or call 1-800-333-4114

**Patient Advocate Foundation**

Our mission is to provide effective mediation and arbitration services to patients to remove obstacles to healthcare including medical debt crisis, insurance access issues and employment issues for patients with chronic, debilitating and life-threatening illnesses. We assist patients with: Medical Debt Crisis Insurance Access Issues Job Retention Issues.

For more information, visit [www.patientadvocate.org](http://www.patientadvocate.org) or call 1-800-532-5274.

**OncoLink**

The OncoLink website provides cancer-related information for cancer patients, families, healthcare professionals and the general public. Through OncoLink you can find comprehensive information about specific types of cancer, updates on cancer treatments and news about research advances. OncoLink updates the information everyday and provides information at various levels, from introductory to in-depth. The service was founded by the University of Pennsylvania.

For more information, visit [www.oncolink.org](http://www.oncolink.org).

**Survivorship A-Z**

A comprehensive interactive website for persons with life-threatening illnesses, including cancer. The website provides information on financial planning, government benefits, insurance, employment, and concerns of day-to-day living.

For more information, visit [www.survivorshipatoz.org](http://www.survivorshipatoz.org)

The information about financial and medical resources in this guide is intended to help identify possible sources of financial, medical and other support for people who are, or have been affected by a cancer
diagnosis or treatment. If you have any suggestions for improving this guide or want to see names of other organizations included in future editions, please contact the Cancer Advocacy Project at:

City Bar Justice Center
Cancer Advocacy Project
42 West 44th Street
New York, New York 10036-6689
Phone: (212) 382-4785
Fax: (212) 354-7438
Email: cap@nycbar.org
www.citybarjusticecenter.org