DIRECTOR’S NOTE

The past several months were certainly nothing any of us would have predicted when we began our plans for 2020. While the negatives surrounding COVID-19 are plenty, this unexpected turn brought to light that we are truly stronger than we tell ourselves, and our ability to adapt to change is quite superior.

Overnight, local teachers appeared online gracefully teaching children as if it were the only method they’d ever used, business owners revamped their daily service routine to continue to provide for their community, and community members mirrored their efforts by showing unwavering support. Families, friends and local organizations reached out to meet one another’s needs without questions, hesitancy or judgment. We were surrounded by change, sometimes daily. Whether it was one of lifestyle or mindset, those changes will have lasting impact on all of us.

While we navigated through necessary changes and challenges at Cancer Services, we were also met with an increase in requests for our services. Our board of directors, staff and volunteers are happy to report that we have continued to meet the needs of every local cancer patient who has requested our services. We are truly grateful for the unexpected donations, donated masks, gifts, and guidance that we have received. We changed together to provide for those who needed us most. There is truly hidden beauty and strength in change.

We thank each of you, our volunteers, and our community partners for your unwavering support.

With gratitude,
Jill Schmidt, Executive Director
Our Spring Fundraising Campaign surpassed our goal of $3,500! Thank you to everyone who shared information about Cancer Services with your friends and encouraged new donations to help the patients we serve.

The Tribute Tree holds a close place in our hearts as it’s a daily reminder of why we are here.

New tags for the Tribute Tree will be arriving soon and those who gave at Tribute level will receive a photo of their tag on the tree.

Tribute Tree gifts are accepted year-round.
Did you know that almost half of all cancers are preventable? We know lifestyle changes are not easy and we’re here to help if you need support. Call us for referrals to local resources that can help guide and support your efforts.

What habits can you tweak to help you and your loved ones stay cancer-free?

- Don’t smoke and avoid other exposure to tobacco
- Avoid exposure to excessive sun
- Maintain a healthy weight
- Be physically active
- Limit consumption of alcohol
- Attend cancer screenings – we can provide a ride!

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CANCER PREVENTION

Cancer Services provides help to over 400 local cancer patients annually.

- Transportation to cancer treatments is the most requested service.
- Your donations create community impact by providing direct services.
- Volunteers make our daily operations possible.

- Our Patient Services Committee is made up of representatives from Cleveland Clinic, Firelands Regional Medical Center, Magruder Hospital and Fisher-Titus.
After my husband passed away in 2011, I was forced to take a close look at my life and try to choose a path, without him here with me, and somehow make it through and find my way. The most difficult, sad and trying time of my life and my husband’s battle and loss to leukemia was a burden I couldn’t bear without the help of my children, friends, faith and comfort and support of agencies such as Cancer Services. David’s bravery and courage facing life’s most difficult challenge, motivated me to give back. My children and grandchildren also are a shining example and have always been involved in giving back to their community. My time at Cancer Services is so very rewarding, and I get back way more than I give. Jill and Kathleen make it a joy to come in to volunteer. A cancer diagnosis affects the individual, their family and friends, and the community — a wide circle of people. We all have someone we love who has battled cancer. Cancer Services provides cancer patients support to help reduce the financial and emotional impact of cancer. I hope my time here can help cancer patients in some small way to find their way through the challenges a cancer diagnosis brings. I have hope — hope for those fighting their battle; hope for a cure; hope for finding some joy while fighting this terrible disease. So come join me in supporting Cancer Services. It will be well worth your efforts and greatly appreciated! — Bonnie Ball