



BCCS Newsletter

Mission Statement

To provide
compassionate in-
home skilled nursing
care and supportive
resources for those
affected by cancer or
related illnesses in
Southwest Michigan.

Location

Marie Yeager Cancer
Center - 2nd floor
3900 Hollywood Road
St. Joseph, MI 49085
269-429-3281

www.bccancerservice.org
staff@bccancerservice.org

Follow us on social
media today!



A man is at his finest
towards the finish of the year;
He is almost what he should be
when the Christmas season is here;
Then he's thinking more of others
than he's thought the months before,
And the laughter of his children
is a joy worth toiling for.
He is less a selfish creature than
at any other time;
When the Christmas spirit rules him
he comes close to the sublime.
When it's Christmas man is bigger
and is better in his part;
He is keener for the service
that is prompted by the heart.
All the petty thoughts and narrow
seem to vanish for awhile

At Christmas

by Edgar A. Guest

And the true reward he's seeking
is the glory of a smile.
Then for others he is toiling and
somehow it seems to me
That at Christmas he is almost
what God wanted him to be.
If I had to paint a picture of a man
I think I'd wait
Till he'd fought his selfish battles
and had put aside his hate.
I'd not catch him at his labors
when his thoughts are all of pelf,
On the long days and the dreary
when he's striving for himself.

I'd not take him when he's sneering,
when he's scornful or depressed,
But I'd look for him at Christmas
when he's shining at his best.

Man is ever in a struggle
and he's oft misunderstood;
There are days the worst that's in
him is the master of the good,
But at Christmas kindness rules him
and he puts himself aside
And his petty hates are vanquished
and his heart is opened wide.
Oh, I don't know how to say it,
but somehow it seems to me
That at Christmas man is almost
what God sent him here to be.



Holiday Giving



Holiday giving is a wonderful way to spread joy and kindness during the festive season. It's a time when people come together to share their blessings and show appreciation for the challenges of friends and neighbors. It's important to remember that even small acts of kindness can make a significant impact on someone's life. So, let's embrace the spirit of giving and make this holiday season a memorable one for all our patients by supporting the Berrien County Cancer Service.

BCCS relies on private donations, funding from United Way, community grants, and fundraisers. Because we do not receive any Medicare, Medicaid, or insurance payments, we are able to help patients going through treatment for as long as needed. We do not have the strict "homebound" diagnosis code for providing a few weeks of in-home skilled nursing. Our goal is to provide Free services to cancer patients in Berrien County, providing support in a meaningful way, but we need your help to continue.

Any amount that you can donate will make a significant difference. Your donation will help us continue serving local people with cancer. As a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation, we will provide an acknowledgment and receipt for tax purposes. You may also donate in honor of someone or in memory of a loved one.

Thank you for supporting Berrien County Cancer Service.





BCCS Bulletin Board



\$100,000

—\$95,000
—\$90,000
—\$80,000
—\$70,000
—\$60,000
—\$50,000
—\$40,000
—\$30,000
—\$20,000
—\$10,000
—\$5,000



**TOGETHER
WE CAN!**

JOIN US IN REACHING OUR
GOAL OF \$100,000!



www.bccancerservice.org

BCCS STARGIVERS

- Beaudoin Electrical Contractors
- St. Joseph High School Key Club & Lauri Berry
- Eileen Chapman, & Amy Barfuss
- Freedom Finishing
- BecFest Participants
- Culture Need and Heritage Foundation
- Four Winds Casino Resort
- Kevin and Mary Whiteford
- Larry Dietz
- LPL Financial - Victoria Holt
- Franz Bock
- Donald and Janet Radde



*Happy Holidays! We hope this season
fills you up with the things that mean
most to you and energizes you for a
happy, healthy new year!*

Kala *Luz*
Jill
Blair
Sheryl

FROM ALL OF US AT BCCS

Nancy
Connie
Deb
Tyanna



Thank you to everyone who assisted and attended our Art Play Festival, we had a larger turn out than ever with over 120 people. Chef Patti K made delicious Walking Tacos. We are thankful to the St. Joseph High School Key Club who send 12 volunteers to assist with face painting, and craft activities. Eileen Chapman and Amy Barfuss along with volunteers from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on Niles Ave demonstrated the creation of quilts for kids. Local artist, Janice Harpole gave a drawing demonstration. and John Tolhuizen along with the band Mockingbird provided live music. It was a great evening! A Special "Thank You!" to Wolf Financial Advisory for sponsoring this family-fun evening.



Thank you to Doug
Campbell & the crew
at Campbell Ford in
Niles for the Breast
Cancer Awareness
donation!



In Memory

In Memory of Karen Demis

Anonymous

In Memory of Barbara Frye

James & Joyce

In Memory of Sophia Goldner

Janet Carlson

In Memory of Jim Clayburn, Bob Kish, Julie Phelps, Brian Sokolowski, & John Zilke.

Our hearts go out to Danielle Yeager
Becky Kliss &
Guests Attending BecFest

In Memory of Tom Johnson

Donna Janke

In Memory of Karen Randolph

Janet Carlson

In Memory of Karey Greene

The Pallett Family

Berrien County Cancer Service sends our sincere sympathy to all those who have recently lost loved ones. We thank all of our generous donors. Your donations appreciated to help those with cancer in SW Michigan.

From the Desk of Nancy Church, RN

With our office on the 2nd floor of the Marie Yeager Cancer Center overlooking the waiting room, we are excited when we get to hear the bell ringing and people clapping, signifying a milestone of completing treatment for the person who is ringing the bell. The tradition began in 1996 at M.D. Anderson when Irve Le Moyne, a rear admiral in the U.S. Navy decided to follow a Navy tradition of ringing a bell to signify "when the job was done". He brought a brass bell to his last radiation treatment, rang it several times and left it as a donation. It was mounted on a wall plaque at the radiation treatment center, inscription by Irve Le Moyne:



**Ring out
Ring this bell
Three times well
Its toll to clearly say,
My treatment's done
This course is run
And I am on my way!**

Ring the bell caught on at other cancer treatment center and soon became a tradition for patients to mark the end of a certain phase a treatment. Each bell ringing has a unique meaning to the person ringing the bell and some end up ringing the bell more than once during their treatment course. Traditions give us encouragement to celebrate what we have accomplished. What amazes me about this story, is how one person's inspiration of ringing a bell has spread from clinic to clinic to an international celebration signifying an important milestone in patients' lives.

This past year, BCCS celebrated our 75th anniversary! Many of you were at the Howard Performing Arts Center to cheer the 75 years of caring for those with cancer in the local community. It is always humbling to contemplate how it is YOU who have faithfully given over the years. So far in 2023, you have provided over 1,000 in-home skilled nursing visits. One of these is a lady who gratefully says, "BCCS has helped me because I don't drive and their nurse comes to my house every month to draw my blood. I'm so thankful to have their help." Another patient has mobility issues related to her cancer making coming to the clinic very difficult for the frequent blood draws during treatment. Her comment of thankfulness, "The Berrien County Cancer Service helps me to believe in mankind again. Throughout my journey I have met the most wonderful people.... My nurse comes and draws my blood and brings equipment that I need. She makes the experience very pleasant because she is a very loving and kind individual. I feel truly blessed to have her in my life."

As you contemplate this year the impact that you want to have to make someone's life a little easier, know that behind every dollar given to BCCS is a story of someone who is going through a health crisis and is receiving the extra supportive care that we provide in their journey of life.

Holiday Giving Reminder

This year has truly been a momentous one of celebrating 75 years of community support! Did you know that our local community is the only place with an awesome nursing service like the Berrien County Cancer Service? Your year end giving to BCCS keeps our mission of bringing hope and comfort to those fighting cancer.

Donate by QR code

or online at :

www.bccancerservice.org

or send to: BCCS

**3900 Hollywood Road
St. Joseph, MI 49085**



Berrien County Cancer Service
3900 Hollywood Road
St. Joseph, MI 49085
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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To help us save postage, you may call
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reading the newsletter, you may contact
us to be removed. *We value our readers
and hope you enjoy this newsletter.*

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BCCS is a non-profit organization funded primarily by donations, memorials, fundraisers, and United Way of Southwest Michigan. We receive no Medicare or insurance payments. To continue our services at no cost to those with cancer who need our help in the home, we need your help. Any donation is greatly appreciated. You may donate online at www.bccancerservice.org or mail your check to our address listed on the front cover. An acknowledgment and receipt for tax purposes will be sent.

Donations can be made in honor of someone or in memory of a loved one. In these instances, we would also like to send acknowledgment to the honoree or next-of-kin, so please provide that information when making your donation.

"My nurse is very caring and I am thankful that she comes to our home and I don't have to go to the hospital for blood work."

Ann