



BCCS Newsletter

3900 Hollywood Road
St. Joseph, MI 49085
269-429-3281
www.bccancerservice.org

Mission Statement

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

staff@bccancerservice.org

Follow us on social media today!



An April Adoration

by Sir Charles George Douglas Roberts

Sang the sun rise on an amber morn –
'Earth, be glad! An April day is born.
'Winter's done, and April's in the skies,
Earth, look up with laughter in your eyes!
'Putting off her dumb dismay of snow,
Earth bade all her unseen children grow.
Then the sound of growing in the air
to God a liturgy of prayer;

And the thronged succession of the days
Uttered up to God a psalm of praise.
Laughed the running sap in every vein,
Laughed the running flurries of warm rain,
Laughed the life in every wandering root,
Laughed the tingling cells of bud and shoot.
God in all the concord of their mirth
Heard the adoration-song of Earth.

13 APRIL, 2024 / 10:00 AM
K CANCER SHOWDOWN
BRIDGMAN -- RED ARROW
MICHIGAN LUTHERAN -- BANGOR
BRIDGMAN SOFTBALL FIELD | 9964 GAST ROAD, BRIDGMAN MI
Berrien County Cancer Service logo

Pennies for Patients Day in Bridgman 2024

It's time to start collecting change from your car, dresser, desk or laundry room to donate to BCCS for patient care. We are partnering with the Bridgman Softball Tournament, K Cancer.

You can bring us your pennies containers, change, dollars and plastic funds to help local cancer patients at this event on Saturday, April 13, 2024. All funds stay in Berrien County helping local patients with cancer care. We will have a table at the softball fields.

Watch for us at several other locations in May and throughout the remainder of the year. Contact our office at 269-429-3281 if you need a donation pickup.

35th Annual PENNIES FOR PATIENTS
5,000 PENNIES can provide mileage for a nurse to travel to the home, work or school of a cancer patient
www.bccancerservice.org 269-429-3281
April 13, 2024 - 10:00 am
K CANCER SHOWDOWN
Bridgman Softball Field
9964 Gast Road, Bridgman, MI

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US
PIZZA HUT
GIVE BACK NIGHT
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER
We are celebrating our volunteers at Pizza Hut's Give Back Night. Volunteers will enjoy complimentary salad, pizza and breadsticks at Pizza Hut in St. Joseph on April 22, 2024 4:30-6:30 PM
Non-Volunteers are responsible for their own meal.

35th Annual PENNIES FOR PATIENTS
25,000 PENNIES can provide a skilled nursing visit to a local cancer patient
www.bccancerservice.org 269-429-3281
Downtown Niles United Federal Credit Union
Wednesday, May 8, 2024
8:30am - 4:00 pm



BCCS Bulletin Board

APRIL SHOWERS Bring MAY FLOWERS

BCCS STARGIVERS

- Apothica Teas
- Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services
- Drive & Shine Car Wash
- Jose Ontiveros, Edward Jones Financial Advisor
- Shane Shidler, Edward Jones Financial Advisor
- The Flower Cart
- Iron Shoe Distillery
- NPC Coatings
- Niles Brewing Company
- Niles Nutrition
- Prime Table Restaurant
- Salon 414
- Tans Down Under, Niles
- Underground Laugh Lounge
- Veni's Sweet Shop



25,000 pennies pays for
1 hour of in-home skilled
nursing

www.bccancerservice.org

BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE

35th Annual



PENNIES FOR PATIENTS

"Pennies for Patients cents brought me a sense of hope and comfort when I needed it the most" ~ Karol Kesterke

Drop-Off Locations

- Saturday, April 13, 10:00am
 - Bridgman - K Cancer Showdown at the Bridgman Softball Field (9964 Gast Road)
- Thursday, May 2, 3:30pm - 8:00pm
 - Sawyer - Local Pour (12857 Red Arrow Hwy, Sawyer, MI 49125)
- Wednesday, May 8, 9:00am - 4:00pm
 - Niles - United Federal Credit Union Downtown (123 Sycamore Street)
- Tuesday, May 14, 8:30am - 4:00pm
 - Coloma - Downtown Coloma Park
- Friday, May 17, 9:00am - 4:00pm
 - St. Joseph - St. Joseph Today Welcome Center (301 State Street)

Donate Virtually at www.bccancerservice.org



Berrien County
Cancer Service

TABOR HILL
Private Event Tent

5:30 VIP Cocktail Reception by
6:00 Dinner is served
Raspberry Chicken or Zucchini Noodle Caprese

6:30 Nancy Church, RN, President & CEO

7:00-9:00 Live Music and Dancing
Starring Jimmy Fastiggi

Sponsored by




Contact the BCCS office at 269-429-3281 if you would like a canister to collect change for Pennies for Patients or if you need us to pick up your donation.



Berrien County
Cancer Service

Friday, August 9, 2024
5:30-9:00PM

TABOR HILL
Private Event Tent
donated by Moersch Hospitality Group
333 Mount Tabor Road
Buchanan, MI

Sponsored by




Early Bird Special!

Tickets on sale now get them **before March 31, 2024** for \$100 use coupon code **Spring!** After April 1, 2024 \$125 per person. This includes a salad, appetizer, meal and 1 drink per person. More details to the left and on Facebook event.

In Memory

In Memory of Judith Jones

Tom & Sherry Kohlmann
Gena Schultz
Connie Wright

In Memory of Justin Smith

Peggy Schaffer

In Memory of Coach Willie Wilson

Present Foundation

In Memory of Randy Reimers

Randy inspired us with faith, humor and kindness. He lived his life to the fullest. His loss is felt deeply.

Anonymous Donor

In Loving Memory of Jerry &

Marilyn Conrad

Glenn and Dorothy Conrad

In Memory of Mattox Williams

The impact Mattox had on the community is profound! He was a student, mentor, coach, friend and inspiration for his strength and determination to live his life!

Anonymous Donor

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

Now is a great time to give a gift to Pennies for Patients!

As we are approaching May, I have been reflecting on the changes that have occurred over the years with Pennies for Patients Day. Some of you may have fond memories of our spinning penny machine. It was quite a spectacle as the director's desk was topped with a large board where pennies were sorted to remove the "bad pennies" that would jam the machine and eyes diligently looked for those precious wheat pennies to place in a special jar. Below are photos of the spinning penny machine and my mother who was an enthusiastic penny sorting volunteer.



Another tradition starting at 6:00 a.m. was Pat Moody of 94.9 WSJM radio with his cheerful voice interviewing penny donors and staff regarding what Pennies for Patients Day meant to them. There was a feast all day long as people came and went with their jars of pennies and donations.



With our building on Red Arrow Highway getting old and access being a problem for people needing equipment, when the opportunity to move into the Marie Yeager Cancer Center building arose in 2018, we jumped at the opportunity. This was a big change for us with a much smaller office, but the opportunities for the patients were much larger. Sometimes I wondered if we could keep up with the equipment and nutritional requests, but through the years, local foundations such as the Frederick S. Upton and Berrien Community Foundations have generously provided grants to help meet the needs. One of the changes with the move (and then COVID-19) was trying to figure out where to hold Pennies Day, so last year, Tyanna our Director of Development, decided to take it into the communities and had Pennies for Patients Week. This was enthusiastically supported, so again we are coming to a community near you during the month of May, so you can get to know us.

Throughout all the changes, the one thing that has remained constant is the excellent care that we provide those who need our services. Whether it is someone in treatment having difficulty going to the clinic and needing labs drawn in the home, a patient losing weight during treatment needing extra nutrition, or a person having surgery needing a shower chair afterwards, we are here, ready to help and be the support that is needed.

Pennies for Patients started with the premise that anyone can give a penny. Tyanna tells me that with inflation, it needs to be a quarter and if everyone in Berrien County gave a quarter, it would raise \$38,000! So bring your pennies, your "change", your green paper pennies, your plastic and spend some time with us at one of the designated sites. Or just relax and go to www.bccancerservice.org or use this QR code to give a gift. Either way, you can know that you are an instrument of change in someone's life who is facing the challenge of cancer or a similar health crisis.

April is:

Testicular cancer awareness
Minority Cancer awareness month
Esophageal Cancer awareness month
National Cancer Control month
16th to 22nd - National Oral, Head & Neck

**Mail your gift to: BCCS
3900 Hollywood Road
St. Joseph, MI 49085**

**Donate by QR code
or online at:
www.bccancerservice.org**

Thank you!



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

JOIN THE NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL

To help us save postage, you may call 269-429-3281 or email us at staff@bccancerservice.org. If you are not reading the newsletter, you may contact us to be removed. *We value our readers and hope you enjoy this newsletter.*

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
STEVENSVILLE, MI
PERMIT NO. 129



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 when making your donation.

Help
BCCS and
enjoy Pizza!

"You have been very helpful! Since I am not employed and over 90!"

William

Pizza Hut
MICHIGAN PIZZA HUT
PRESENTS
**RAISING DOUGH
FOR BCCS PATIENTS**
MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024
4:00 - 8:00PM
**Berrien County
Cancer Service**
bccancerservice.org
269-429-3281