



# 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](http://www.bccancerservice.org)  
[staff@bccancerservice.org](mailto:staff@bccancerservice.org)

Follow us on social  
media today!



## THE YEAR

The crocus, while the days are dark,  
Unfolds its saffron sheen;  
At April's touch the crudest bark  
Discovers gems of green.

*Written by Coventry Patmore  
An English Poet 1823-1896*

Then sleep the seasons, full of might;  
While slowly swells the pod  
And rounds the peach, and in the night  
The mushroom bursts the sod.

The winter falls; the frozen rut  
Is bound with silver bars;  
The snowdrift heaps against the hut,  
And night is pierced with stars.

## PENNIES FOR PATIENTS DAY!

*Join us on Thursday, May 12th for our 32nd year!*

Your pennies are needed to help our patients more than ever as costs  
increase and we are in the midst of "shrinkflation".

2 collection sites:

Roger's Foodland from 7:30am-6:00pm, 4039 Hollywood Road, St. Joseph  
St. John's United Church of Christ from 11am-2pm, 601 Sycamore, Niles

If you would like to volunteer or  
need a collection jar call us at 269-429-3281

So, keep adding to those jars of coins and remember we also accept  
paper money, checks, and online donations at [www.bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org).



YOU have made this our signature event. Since 1990, over  
\$550,000 has been given to provide services to those with  
cancer and related illnesses in our local community.

Donations for Pennies Day will be accepted through May.

# BCCS Bulletin Board

April is Esophageal, Head & Neck, and Testicular Cancer Awareness Month

If you are having trouble swallowing or frequent indigestion/heartburn, known as gastro-esophageal reflux disease (GERD), be sure to call your physician for an evaluation. Esophageal cancer and some Head & Neck cancers (e.g. laryngeal cancer) may be caused by the tissue irritation of GERD. Head and Neck cancers include cancers of the larynx, oral cavity, throat, and sinuses. Major risk factors for many of these cancers include the use of tobacco, alcohol, and being male.

This is a good month to check with your physician regarding the need for any screening tests for prostate cancer.



## STAR GIVERS!

Tosi's Italian Countryside Restaurant for an AWESOME fundraiser and being the sponsor and site for our very 1st video premier!

## BCCS TESTIMONIAL VIDEO

Our 2nd Video Premier will be held Tuesday, April 19, in the Garden Room at Silver Harbor Brewing Company at 6:00 pm, The video and a slide show will be about 20 minutes long with a Q&A session afterward. Please grab a friend, enjoy the snacks, and learn about what we do, how to access our services and how you can help. Our goal is to get the word out to all about what we do.

## Do You Golf???

Watch for information on the Compassion Cup,  
Our 2022 Golf Outing on June 20, 2022  
Blossom Trails Golf Course



## RESOURCE CLOSET SPECIALS!

Right now we have an excess supply of regular walkers, mastectomy bras, oral swabs, lancets, and some ostomy items including barrier rings, No Sting Barrier Film, Adapt lubricating deodorant, adhesive removal, and 1-3/4 inch Hollister wafers and pouches. Call us at 269-429-3281 for info.



## ART PLAY WORKSHOP

For children and families impacted by cancer  
Join us on Thursday, April 21st from 4:30-6:00pm  
at the Krasl Art Center  
Registration is required  
Call Nancy at 269-429-3281 for more information

## BCCS PRESENTS!

Are you a member of a group or organization who invites speakers to talk about community services? Our Director of Development, Tyanna Essig is available to give a 20-30 minute presentation to your group upon request. Please contact Tyanna Essig in our office at 269-429-3281 or tyanna@bcccancerservice.org. We want everyone in Berrien County to know about BCCS!



# In Memory

In Memory of Janice Angelo  
Phyllis Knight

In Memory of Ray Burnett  
Delores & Jeanette Fester

In Memory of Dolly Voss  
In gratitude for all Connie Demler's wonderful love and care for my mom through all of the cancer stages

In Memory of Doris Case  
Jeanette Fester

In Memory of Anthony S. Dlouhy II  
Tony & Carol Dlouhy & Family

-Craig Okonski

*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 are very much appreciated and will help those with cancer in Southwest Michigan.*

*From the Desk of Nancy Church, RN*

"WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SAY TO CANCER?" As you have watched a loved one, friend, or maybe even yourself struggle through the difficulties of cancer, have you ever wanted to vent your emotions at the cancer? Through many years of working at BCCS, I have watched as people I have grown very close to face the challenges of going through cancer treatment - some with good success, some with new challenges to face, and others who have lost the battle. This past year was particularly hard to watch as two friends succumbed to esophageal cancer, leaving children and wives to face the reality of losing someone they depended upon. That is why I emphasized GERD in the Cancer Awareness Month column. While often GERD does not lead to cancer, it is a symptom that is easy to ignore and playdown. Paying attention to those early symptoms may lead to a quicker diagnosis that is easier to manage.

"WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SAY TO CANCER?"

Express your feelings about cancer

Submit a photo or video with your response to: [tyanna@bccancerservice.org](mailto:tyanna@bccancerservice.org)

Please NO FOUL OR OBSCENE LANGUAGE

Responses will be posted on the BCCS Social Media platforms.

Submissions give permission to post unless otherwise indicated.

Questions? Contact Tyanna at 269-429-3281 or by email

Here is what I am saying to cancer

## CANCER

You may beat us up  
You may take us down  
but You do not win  
You own no one  
You are a LOSER.

You may invade the body,  
but you cannot invade  
the spirit.

LOVE  
is always stronger  
than you are.

JUST GO AWAY!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESOURCE CLOSET DONATIONS!

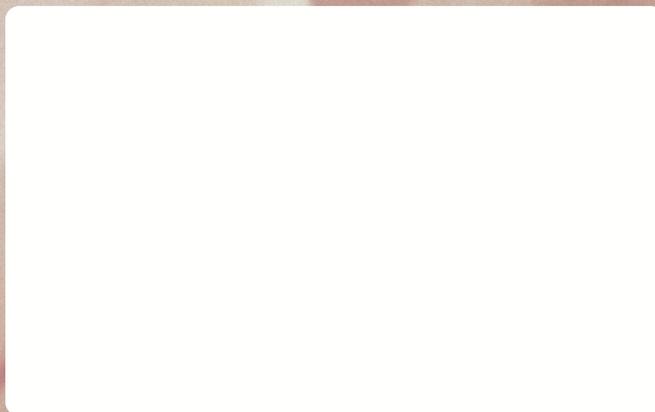
Please call us at 269-429-3281 if you have donations for our resource closet so that we can phone screen items prior to you bringing them. If you need medical equipment, supplies or our skilled nursing services, please give us a call.

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](mailto: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.*

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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](http://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.

*"They are always very nice and helpful and get me what I need. "*

**From Sandra**