



Berrien
County
Cancer
Service

BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE NEWSLETTER

www.bccancerservice.org

In honor of the committed service of
Olove Colcord, R.N.

THE MISSION OF THE BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE:

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

FEBRUARY 2019

(269) 429-3281

VOLUME XXVI

ISSUE II

The **BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE SUPPORT GROUP** is a group of patients, family members and care givers. Come share successes, feelings, fears and practical methods of coping with the physical and emotional aspects of living with the diagnosis of cancer.



A FRIEND

A friend like you is hard to find,
one that touches you deep inside.
You've given me strength to carry on,
you've offered your hand to hold on.
When times are tough, I know you're there
to offer support and show you care.
If not for you, I would have drowned,
but you help keep me on solid ground.
I believe you were sent from the man above
because he knows the strength of your love.
You show that love in so many ways.
It helps me get through my darkest of days.
So for that, I write this poem for you
and tell you from my heart, THANK YOU!

From all of us to all of you who support BCCS

BCCS Bulletin Board

Grants Awarded!!

We are excited to announce that BCCS was recently awarded 2 grants! The **Berrien Community Foundation** awarded us a \$10,000 grant to ensure those with cancer will continue to receive the compassionate support they need in their homes, as well as making sure our loan closet has the equipment, medical supplies, and nutrition that is needed. **The Frederick S. Upton Foundation** awarded us \$10,000 for compassionate in-home nursing care for our patients, in addition to making sure the patients receive the needed assistance from our loan closet. We are very grateful for these grants and appreciate the support that the local foundations give to nonprofits in the area. The grants for the loan closet have enabled us to loan our durable medical equipment to anyone in Berrien County for the short term use of less than 3 months. Those with cancer have access to a variety of medical supplies and are able to borrow equipment for as long as needed.



ART PLAY WORKSHOPS – KRASL PARTNERSHIP

We are excited to announce that our 2019 Art Play Workshops will begin in February.

Dates and locations are as follows:

Buchanan Art Ctr. Feb.11th, March 11th from 4:30-5:30 pm

Marie Yeager Cancer Ctr. Feb.14th, March 14th from 5:30-7:00 pm

Krasl Art Ctr. February 21st, March 21st from 5:30-7:00 pm

These workshops are designed for families impacted by cancer and are designed for children and adults to learn side-by-side as they use clay, watercolor, and other media to express themselves through art. If you know of any children who have a family member or close friend with cancer or are a stable pediatric cancer patient, please have them call 269-429-3281 and ask for Nancy regarding these workshops. You can also find out more information on our website www.bccancerservice.org or on our FB page: Berrien County Cancer Service, Inc.

Special Appreciation to Chris and Molly Craft of KEY REALTY for their Premier Sponsorship of our Art Program.

Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow

Just want to remind you that BCCS may be closed for snow days during inclement weather. So if it is snowing, please call us first at 269-429-3281 prior to coming to the BCCS office to make sure that we are open. On the days that the office is closed, messages will be checked periodically. If you have a medical emergency, please call 911. The nurses will still be visiting patients unless the roads are hazardous. Often the nurses will make patient visits a day early if they know that a snow storm is coming.



IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO START COLLECTING PENNIES!

As we celebrate our 30th Annual PENNIES FOR PATIENTS™ DAY, our goal is to surpass last year's total of \$22,322.37. Come join us on May 9, 2019 and see the excitement of thousands of pennies being counted along with refreshments and fun. There will also be a Niles location from 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. with cookies and punch. Stay tuned for more information in the February newsletter. All the proceeds stay local to help those with cancer in our community. Bring your pennies, silver, and dollars and join us for our 30th Annual PENNIES FOR PATIENTS DAY!

Volunteer Spotlight

Why I Volunteer

I enjoy helping at the Cancer Service.
I am doing it in memory of my Husband who passed away from cancer.

Jeanne Spitzer

February is World Cancer Awareness Month

Key Cancer Facts:

- 9.6 million people die from cancer every year.
- At least one third of common cancers are preventable.
- Cancer is the second-leading cause of death worldwide.
- 70% of cancer deaths occur in low-to-middle income countries.
- Up to 3.7 million lives could be saved each year by implementing resource appropriate strategies for prevention, early detection and treatment.
- The total annual economic cost of cancer is estimated at US \$1.6 trillion.

What is Cancer

Cancer is a disease which occurs when changes in a group of normal cells within the body lead to uncontrolled, abnormal growth forming a lump called a tumor, which is true of all cancers except leukemia (cancer of the blood.) If left untreated, tumors can grow and spread into the surrounding normal tissue or to other parts of the body via the bloodstream and lymphatic systems, and can affect the digestive, nervous and circulatory systems or release hormones that may affect body function.

Types of Cancer

Cancer can be classified according to the type of cell it starts from. There are five main types.

Carcinoma - A cancer that arises from the epithelial cells that help protect or enclose organs.

Sarcoma - A type of malignant tumor of the bone or soft tissue.

Lymphoma and Myeloma - Cancers that begin in the cells of the immune system.

Leukemia - Cancer of the white blood cells and bone marrow, the tissue that forms blood cells.

Brain and spinal cord cancers - Central nervous system cancers.

Happy
Valentine's
Day!!!!





In Loving Memory

During December 2018, Memorial Donations were generously made by and for the following people:

In Memory of Olove Colcord

Kimberly Godfrey, Niles

In Memory of Irene Czajkowski

Barbara Klein, St. Joseph

In Memory of Ellie Fiskars

Debra Agens, Benton Harbor

In Memory of Gaylon Foster

Connie Foster, Stevensville

In Memory of Johnny Gorman

Eva Gorman, Berrien Springs

In Memory of Judith Grize

Newton Frank, St. Joseph

In Memory of Karen Jordan

Randy & Shelly Frank, Bridgman

In Memory of Shirley Marie Newell

Kirk Newell, Bridgman

In Memory of Maxine Bailey Paschall

Anthony & Carol Dlouhy, Stevensville

In Memory of Jack Phillippi

Ron & Lupe Hein, Galien
Ron Hein, Sr., Leesburg, FL

In Memory of Hamad Saab

Barbara Lane, Benton Harbor

In Memory of Helen Schultz

Kathryn Schultz, Benton Harbor

In Memory of Claudia Strefling

Roberta Warnke, Buchanan

In Memory of Bruce Temple

Ann Temple, Elyria, OH

In Memory of Adam Tilly

Rebecca Eichler Toth, St. Joseph

In Memory of Ronda Turner

Carol Essig

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 cancer patients in Berrien County. Thank you.

Looking Ahead

BCCS SUPPORT GROUP – Niles

February 19 - 1:30 pm
March 19 - 1:30 pm

RAINBOWS OF HOPE– St. Joseph

On hold for the winter months.
Re-evaluating for future day and time.

CHILD & FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP Art Play Workshop

2nd Monday at the Buchanan Art Center
2nd Thursday at Marie Yeager Cancer Center
3rd Thursday at Krasl Art Center
Visit www.bccancerservice.org or call
BCCS at 269-429-3281 for details

OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP

Lakeland Regional Medical Center
February 14 - 6:00 pm
March 14 - 6:00 pm

DATES TO REMEMBER IN FEB. 2019

February 1 - Bubble Gum Day
February 2 - Ground Hog Day
February 4 - World Cancer Day
February 8 - Laugh and Get Rich Day
Feb. 11 - Don't Cry Over Spilled Milk Day
February 12 - Lincoln's Birthday
February 14 - Valentine's Day
February 17 - Random Acts of Kindness Day
February 18 - President's Day
February 22 - George Washington's Birthday
February 24 - Forget Me Not Day
February 27 - Insomnia Awareness Day
February 28 - National Tooth Fairy Day

Newsletters available online

Our newsletters are available on our website: www.bccancerservice.org. If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, please call our office at 269-429-3281 or send us an e-mail: staff@bccancerservice.org.

Please Consider...

Berrien County Cancer Service, Inc., is a non-profit organization funded primarily by United Way, private donations and fund-raisers. We receive no Medicare, Medicaid or other insurance payments. To continue our free services to Berrien County cancer patients, we need your help. Any donation is greatly appreciated.

Donations to our General Fund will help balance our current budget. Donations to our Endowment Fund will help guarantee that the Cancer Service will be available for as long as needed. Your contribution to our non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation is tax deductible – 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.

____ General Fund ____ Endowment Fund

Your Name _____

Your Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Donation Amount \$ _____

OR

In Memory of _____

Please send notification of my gift to:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

**Thank you for your
generosity!**

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BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE, INC. - BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Susan Lerke, R.N.
Kimberly Penney, R.N.

OFFICE STAFF:

Claudia Brister.....Office Manager
Henrietta Hein.....Office Clerk
Suzanne Arent.....Admin Assistant

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CANCER SUPPORT GROUP – Niles
3rd Tuesday of each month – 1:30 p.m.
Niles Senior Center
1109 Bell Road
Niles, MI 49120
Phone: (269) 429-3281

RAINBOWS OF HOPE GROUP- St. Joseph
On hold for the winter months.
Re-evaluating for future day and time.

OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP
2nd Thursday of each month – 6:00 p.m.
Lakeland Regional Medical Center
Community Room
1234 Napier Ave
St. Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 983-8804