

CANCER SUPPORT WEBSITES

November, 2014

Appearance

American Cancer Society (ACS)

Some local chapters provide wigs to cancer patients free of charge. Locate your local office by clicking on the Find Local ACS tab at the top of the home page. (800) 227-2345 or www.cancer.org

Look Good, Feel Better

Local workshops for cancer patients that include a 12 step skincare and makeup lesson, nail care education, and professional advice on how to deal with skin changes, hair loss, using scarves, hats, and other accessories. Find a local program by entering your zip code at the bottom of the website. Each patient will receive a bag of makeup from brands like Chanel, Clinique, Lancôme, and L’Oreal, etcetera (ACS 800-227-2345 or Look Good Feel Better at 800-395-5665). www.lookgoodfeelbetter.org

Comprehensive Cancer Websites

American Cancer Society

The site contains information and links about cancer types and treatments, resources for patient, family, and friends. www.cancer.org

American College of Surgeons: Commission on Cancer

Offers patients educational resources. www.facs.org/cancer

American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)

Contains information on types of cancer, support organizations, clinical trials, coping and side effects, as well as message boards and drug database. Call 800-4CANCER or visit their website at www.cancer.net

Association of Cancer Online Resources

Contains publications and information about web resources to help patients and their families. It is a unique collection of online cancer communities designed to provide timely information in a supportive free environment with a depth of information about various cancer diagnoses. www.acor.org

Cancer Network

Useful for finding cancer-related links and lists of online publications concerning cancer. Support resources are also listed, as well as information on specific cancers and prevention methods. www.cancernetwork.com

Cancer Symptoms and Side Effects

For patients and family members addressing ways to manage your cancer symptoms sponsored by the Oncology Nursing Association. www.tehcancerjourney.org

National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship

Advocates for quality cancer care for all people touched by cancer. Offers excellent resources around topics such as talking with doctors, employment rights, cancer care planning and health insurance. Call 877-622-7937 or visit their website at www.canceradvocacy.org

CANCER SUPPORT WEBSITES

November, 2014

National Comprehensive Cancer Network

The standard for clinical policy in oncology, the NCCN Clinical Practice Guidelines in Oncology cover more than 95% of all cancers and are updated at least annually. www.nccn.org

OncoLink

Maintained by the Abramson Cancer Center of the University of Pennsylvania, this site has information on specific cancers, treatment options, coping, and clinical trials. It also has monthly web chats and blogs. www.oncolink.org

Sisters Network Inc. – National Resource

Sisters Network® Inc. is committed to increasing local and national attention to the devastating impact that breast cancer has in the African American community. The link below provides information regarding Chicago Metro area activities. www.sistersnetworkchicagochapter.org/index.html

Susan G. Komen

The Susan G. Komen Foundation is the most widely known, largest and best-funded breast cancer organization in the United States. Since its inception in 1982, Komen has spent (through 2010) nearly 1.5 billion for breast cancer education, research, advocacy, health services and social support programs in the U.S., and through partnerships in more than 50 countries. Today, Komen has more than 100,000 volunteers working in a network of 124 affiliates worldwide. Patients can access the website for information regarding breast cancer screening and detection, diagnosis and treatment information, quality of life and survivorship information, as well as a glossary of terms, and a blog. www.komen.org

Employment and Legal

Cancer and Careers

Cancer and Careers empowers and educates people with cancer to thrive in their work environment by providing expert advice, interactive tools and educational events. www.cancerandcareers.org

Disability Rights Legal Center

The Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC) is a national, joint program of the Disability Right Legal center and Loyola Law School Los Angeles. The CLRC provides free and confidential information and resources on cancer-related legal issues to cancer survivors, caregivers, employers, healthcare professionals and others coping with cancer. www.disabilityrightslegalcenter.org

Patient Advocate Foundation

Patient Advocate Foundation's Patient Services provides patients with arbitration, mediation and negotiation to settle issues with access to care, medical debt, and job retention related to their illness. Case managers serve as active liaisons between the patient and their insurer. Patients can also search for financial assistance by state in the resource section of their site. www.patientadvocate.org

Social Security Disability Resource Center

The goal of SSDRC is to educate the public regarding the disability process, including discussion of the Social Security Administration's definition of disability, the medical and non-medical criteria that is considered to evaluate claims, and the actual process that is employed when cases are approved or denied. www.SSDRC.com

CANCER SUPPORT WEBSITES

November, 2014

Communication and Family Support Websites

Cancer Support Community

This is a blogging website that assists patients in creating their own personal webpage for friends and family. It is an excellent website for emotional support and also has a cancer helpline and live chat option. www.cancersupportcommunity.org

Caregiver Action Network

General information for caregivers. (301) 942-6430 or www.caregiveraction.org

Caring Bridge

Caring Bridge is a nonprofit committed to bringing friends and family together during any form of health journey. Individuals can create a free webpage, share updates, and creates a planner to coordinate and schedule tasks and practical arrangements such as childcare, transportation and delivered meals. www.caringbridge.org

MyLifeLine.org

My LifeLine.org is dedicated to providing free websites to cancer patients and caregivers. Their mission is to foster connection, inspiration, and healing. The site offers cancer specific resources, individuals can post requests for help and invite loved ones to follow their health updates. www.mylifeline.org

Financial Resources

Benefits Checkup

Developed and maintained by The National Council on Aging (NCOA), BenefitsCheckUp is the nation's most comprehensive web-based service to screen for benefits programs for older adults with limited income and resources. www.BenefitsCheckUp.org

CancerCare Co-Payment Assistance Foundation

The foundation provides eligible individuals with up to \$10,000 per year in co-payment assistance. They provide assistance to individuals with various cancer diagnoses including breast cancer. www.cancercarecopay.org

Cancer Financial Assistance Coalition (cfac)

Coalition of financial assistance organizations joining forces to offer financial assistance to patients during cancer treatment. www.cancerfac.org

Co-Pay Relief

The Patient Advocate Foundation **Co-Pay Relief Program** currently provides direct financial support to insured patients, including Medicare Part D beneficiaries, who must financially and medically qualify to access pharmaceutical co-payment assistance. www.copays.org

Healthwell Foundation

Committed to addressing the needs of individuals with insurance who cannot afford their copayments, and premiums for medical treatments. Call 800-675-8416 or visit www.info@healthwellfoundation.org

CANCER SUPPORT WEBSITES

November, 2014

Life Credit Company

Financial support for those living with cancer. This program offers individuals an opportunity to borrow money and secure loans solely from their life insurance policies, with loans repaid by their life insurance policy's death benefit. www.lifecreditcompany.com

National Collegiate Cancer Foundation

Their mission is to provide services and support to young adults who have been diagnosed with cancer. NCCF provides need-based financial support to young adult survivors who are pursuing higher education throughout their treatment and beyond.

Needy Meds

Their mission is to help people who cannot afford medicine or health care costs. On their site you can find information about free or discounted medication programs, free or low cost clinics, camps and scholarship programs. They also offer a discount drug card that can provide significant savings on your prescriptions (also as an iPhone App). www.needymeds.org

Partnership for Prescription Assistance

The organization helps qualifying patients without prescription drug coverage get the medicines they need for free or nearly free. Their mission is to increase awareness of patient assistance programs and boost enrollment of those who are eligible. They offer a single point of access to more than 475 public and private programs. www.PPARX.org

Sy's Fund

Provides funding for meaningful gifts and integrative therapies for young adults ages 18 through 39 going through cancer treatment. There is a rolling application cycle. Call 413-512-9177 or visit www.sysfund.org

The Pink Fund

By providing a financial bridge, The Pink Fund helps to meet basic needs, so that patients can focus on healing. The Pink Fund distributes short-term financial aid for basic living expenses on behalf of breast cancer patients who have lost all or a part of their income during active treatment. www.thepinkfund.org

Government Resources

Center for Disease Control and Prevention

Treatment guidelines as well as prevention information. www.cdc.gov

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services

Information regarding qualification guidelines, as well as resources for beneficiaries. www.cms.hhs.gov

Department of Human Services

The "For Customers" section can help individuals find programs, services and information. By applying for a **Medical Card** or the **SNAP program (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)**, DHS can help individuals and families meet basic needs, cope with illness, emergencies, or other challenges. To

CANCER SUPPORT WEBSITES

November, 2014

find additional information and programs, there are related links on the right hand side of the website. Call 800-843-6154 or TTY at 800-447-6404, or access their website at www.dhs.state.il.us/

Healthfinder

Government source for reliable health information. www.healthfinder.gov

Medline Plus

Provides answers to health related questions, with information from the National Library of Medicine, the National Institutes of Health, and other health related information. Also provides a database of full-text drug information, medical videos, and an illustrated medical encyclopedia. www.medlineplus.org

National Cancer Institute

Information on types of cancer, current treatments as well as a medical dictionary, statistical information and clinical trials. Live Help from 8am-11pm, M-F. www.cancer.gov

Social Security Administration

Individuals can apply for Social Security retirement, spouse or disability benefits online. If providing assistance to someone in their application for disability, they will also need to complete the disability report, which is also available online. There is an online **Benefit Eligibility Screening Tool (BEST)**, at www.benefits.gov/ssa to check eligibility. There are a series of questions to learn whether an individual is eligible for Retirement (RI), Disability (DIB) or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits. They can also learn whether they might be eligible for Medicare benefits. People needing proof of their Social Security or Supplemental Security Income benefits can get verification letters online instantly through a **My Social Security Account** link at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount. Individuals can also have a letter mailed to them by calling the Social Security toll-free number below, or by applying online at www.socialsecurity.gov. **1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778)**.

Housing

Catholic Charities

Get information and details on emergency rental assistance, homeless prevention funds and other emergency assistance for expenses such as utilities. Use services such as benefits screenings, community casework and counseling, and housing programs and family shelter. The center operates from 651 W. Lake Street, Chicago, IL, 60661, dial (312) 655-7700. Other information departments are located at 1717 Rand Road, Des Plaines, Illinois, dial (847) 376-2100 as well as the West Regional Office, 1400 S. Austin, Cicero, Illinois 60804, phone (708) 222-1491.

Joe's House

Joe's House is an online lodging resource for cancer patients and their loved ones. The site lists thousands of options for lodging. Details on each lodging facility such as distance to hospital, how to make a reservation, qualifications for stays, rates and amenities can be found on the site. Users can search by city or by healthcare facility. Call 877-JOESHOU (877-563-7468). www.joeshouse.org

Hospital Hosts

This site assists people in finding housing when they have to travel for treatment. www.hospitalhosts.com

CANCER SUPPORT WEBSITES

November, 2014

National Association of Hospital Hospitality Houses, Inc.

An association of more than 150 nonprofit organizations located throughout the U.S. that provide family-centered lodging and support services to families and their loved ones who are receiving medical treatment far from home. www.NAHHH.org

DuPage County Peoples Resource Center

People's Resource Center (PRC) offers emergency rent and mortgage assistance to qualifying clients who are unable to pay rent or make a security deposit due to a temporary financial crisis. The purpose of the program is to protect families facing temporary hardships from falling into homelessness.

Individuals may call **630-682-5402, ext. 323** and leave a message with their name, phone number, and a short explanation of their situation. They will receive a call back from a staff member.

Pain Management Resources

American Chronic Pain Association

Studies and information regarding pain management. www.theacpa.org

American Pain Management

Publications, studies and information about pain management. www.painfoundation.org

Support Resources

Association of Community Cancer Centers

Education and advocacy organization for the cancer team. www.accc.cancer.org

Association of Oncology Social Work

Provides a list of members who offer support services for cancer patients and caregivers. www.aosw.org

CancerCare

Provides free support services for anyone affected by cancer. www.cancercare.org

Cancer Hope Network

Support information, as well as a bulletin board and online and telephone support groups.

www.cancerhopenetwork.org

Lance Armstrong Foundation

Advocates for cancer survivors and offers information about survivorship. www.livestrong.org

Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer Task Force

The **Community Services** web pages provide a list of specific breast cancer care services offered throughout Cook and the collar counties (DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will). These services are offered by a variety of local organizations and range from child care to patient navigation, just to name a few. All services are listed by area. Access them at www.info@chicagobreastcancer.org

Coalition for Cancer Survivorship

Provides information on practical issues such as insurance, advocating for yourself, and communicating with family and friends. www.canceradvocacy.org

CANCER SUPPORT WEBSITES

November, 2014

Stand Against Cancer (SAC) and the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (IBCCP)

Breast and cervical screenings programs are available for eligible uninsured women in Illinois. ACCESS COMMUNITY HEALTH NETWORK assists women in accessing services through STAND and IBCCP.

Eligibility requirements:

- Woman age 18-64 years old
- Uninsured
- Resident of Illinois
- Low income at or below 250% (for women over the income limit, please contact 773.735.3282)

What is covered?

- Clinical breast and pelvic exam with pap test
- Screening mammograms
- Patient education on breast and cervical health and self-breast examination
- Follow-up diagnostic tests (ultrasounds, biopsies, etc.) are provided through the IBCCP program

Call 866-882-2237, 773-735-3282 and at www.accesscommunityhealth.net/

Stand Up To Cancer (SU2C)

An initiative created to accelerate innovative cancer research that will offer new clinical trials and therapies to patients more quickly. www.standup2cancer.org

The Wellness Community

Non-profit organization dedicated to providing free emotional support, education, and hope for people with cancer and their loved ones. www.thewellnesscommunity.org

Wellness House

Cancer can feel overwhelming, for patients and their families. It can be confusing and frightening. With support groups, exercise and nutrition classes, social events, and much, much more, Wellness House is designed to give patients back the strength, community, and control that cancer can take away. There is absolutely no charge for all of the programs and services that Wellness House offers. Call 630-323-5158 or visit www.wellnesshouse.org

Transportation

Air Care Alliance

CANCER SUPPORT WEBSITES

November, 2014

The Air Care Alliance is a nationwide league of humanitarian flying organizations whose volunteer pilot members are dedicated to community service. The website provides information regarding volunteer pilots who provide services for healthcare and patient transport. www.aircareall.org

Air Charity Network

For over 25 years, Air Charity Network.org provides people in need with access to free air transportation to specialized health care facilities or distant destinations due to family, community or national crisis.

They have a great deal of funding including support from Ronald McDonald House, and Shriners Children's Hospital. Air Charity is the nation's largest volunteer pilot organization.

www.aircharitynetwork.org

Corporate Angel Network

This organization arranges free flights to treatment centers, using empty seats on corporate aircraft flying on routine business. Eligibility to participate is open to all cancer patients, bone marrow donors, and bone marrow recipients who are ambulatory and not in need of medical support while traveling. This service is not based on financial need. www.corpangelnetwork.org

Miracle Flights

Miracle Flights for Kids flies children who are struggling with serious cancers to specialized medical treatment centers across the U.S. www.miracleflights.org

National Patient Travel Center

The national Patient Travel Helpline provides information about all forms of charitable long-distance medical air transportation and provides referral to national charitable medical air transportation networks. www.patienttravel.org or call 800-296-1217

Patient Travel Foundation

For long ground trips and flights. www.patienttravel.org

Road to Recovery

A free transportation service to and from treatments and physician appointments.

www.cancer.org/Treatment/SupportPrograms.Services/road-to-recovery

CANCER SUPPORT WEBSITES

November, 2014