



# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Providing compassionate support to  
Hancock County cancer patients and  
their families on their journey

Dear Supporters, Donors, and Friends,

I am thrilled to share with you the highlights of our journey at Cancer Patient Services throughout 2023. While we've faced challenges, our accomplishments and the resilience of our community have shone brightly.

This past year has been marked by a noticeable increase in the needs of our clients. Our Financial Assistance program increased almost 20% from 2022 to 2023. And we are on track to increase by another 13% this year. With the rising cost of health care and household necessities, our clients are having to make difficult decisions on what they can afford to purchase.

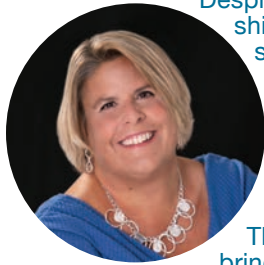
Yet, amidst this rise in demand, we have stood strong, and steadfast in our commitment to supporting those affected by cancer. From emotional guidance to practical assistance, we've continued to be a beacon of hope for individuals and families navigating through the complexities of cancer.

However, I must also address a significant hurdle we've encountered: a decrease in donations. While understandable given the broader economic climate, it's essential to highlight the vital role your support plays in our ability to serve. Your generosity is the lifeblood of our organization, enabling us to extend a helping hand to those in their darkest moments.

The resilience CPS experienced this year really mirrors the resilience we see from our clients every day. Merriam-Webster defines resilience as: "an ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change." However, I struggle with the word easily in this definition. Nothing about cancer is easy. Cancer is messy. Cancer is difficult. I am certain if you asked a cancer patient about their cancer journey, easy would not be a word they would use. Yet, every day we see clients fighting to be resilient. We see this same determined spirit from our stakeholders and friends.



Despite the challenges, our community has rallied together like never before. Our 2nd Annual Flock Walk is a shining example of how a community can "flock" around local cancer patients. The spirit of compassion and solidarity has never wavered. It's a testament to the incredible resilience and generosity that define Cancer Patient Services.



As we look ahead, I am filled with hope and optimism. With your continued support, we can overcome any obstacle in our path. Together, we can ensure that no one faces cancer alone and that every individual receives the care and support they deserve.

Thank you for your unwavering dedication and generosity. Your contributions are transforming lives and bringing light into the lives of those affected by cancer.

Warmest regards,  
Carol Metzger, CEO, Cancer Patient Services

*"Persistence and resilience only come from having been given the chance to work through difficult problems." – Gever Tulley*

The Cancer Patient Services healing arts programs were wonderfully busy in 2023!! As our program continues to focus on providing stress-reducing activities, teaching tools to reduce anxiety, and offering wonderful connections for individuals, we continue and strive to add more opportunities for our cancer clients and caregivers.

In the past year, we held special workshops on embroidery, journaling, and coloring, which all have been helpful to relieve stress for our clients and caregivers. Additionally, our program provided over 100 massages, 300 art kits, and 90+ reiki sessions. We also offer a bi-weekly meditation class and a monthly art class that offers 68 experiences.

Our healing arts program has been extremely beneficial for our clients and caregivers, and we are proud to continue to offer these services to those who need them. We believe that our program helps to improve the overall well-being of individuals who are facing challenging circumstances. From our clients we have heard many things:

"The Healing Arts Program through Cancer Patient Services has made such a difference in my recovery! From massages to art sessions, to informative programs, retreats, and comforting, loving words from the employees in the office, my journey has been aided by these favorite things! Thank you, CPS!"

"Thank you, Cancer Patient Services, for an amazing Healing Arts Program (massages, Reiki, meditation, art classes and more). Thank you for helping all of us (cancer warriors/survivors) stay emotionally and mentally healthy."

So, we thank you for your continued support of our program. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With Gratitude,  
Bethany Powell, Financial and Healing Arts Manager







## The Flock Walk At a Glance

In 2023 we brought back our hugely successful Flock Walk for a second year. On September 9th at The University of Findlay's Koehler Center with a goal of 300 participants and hopes to raise \$100,000 the second annual Flock Walk took flight. We had great expectations from our supportive community but were astonished by the impact our 2023 Flock Walk would have.

We crushed our participant goal with over **450 walkers**, and **35 teams** and raised almost **\$113,000 for local cancer patients**. This amount was \$33,000 over last year's total amount raised at the inaugural Flock Walk. The appreciation, love, and support was overwhelming. We started the morning with a free survivor's breakfast and survivor's first lap around the indoor track before the rest of the participants completed their walk outside. We had recent survivors of less than a year to decades cancer-free. There was not a dry eye during that first lap. We also honored and remembered loved ones with 60 decorated flamingos placed around the course of the walk. The family-friendly and supportive atmosphere had inflatables, raffles, yard games, healing arts therapies, hair tinsel, t-shirts, and more.



Due to the expressed interest and rapid growth, we added a **5k run** to last year's Flock Walk. We had 157 participants on the 5k route making it a great addition to our event that we hope to continue to grow. We are creating a name for the only cancer walk/run in the Findlay area. We can't do it alone and we have **BIG GOALS** for The Flock Walk to be able to keep supporting local loved ones and are looking to crush our goal of **\$125,000**.



### Interested in being a part of this growing fundraiser and team?

Together, we have a chance to make a real difference in local cancer patients' lives.

*Mackenzie Wagner,  
Donor Engagement Director*

## Finding The Light Through Grief

Emotional losses and unexpected changes are a natural part of life and a large part of a person's cancer journey, including recovery from loss. Grief is not limited to death, grief is the normal and natural emotional response to a change of loss of any kind – death, divorce, moving, financial changes, health changes, etc.

To assist others in navigating their losses, I became a Grief Recovery Method Specialist, guided by expert instructors at The Grief Recovery Method Institute. This opportunity was made possible, in part, from a grant through The Community Foundation.

I am now equipped with the knowledge to guide others through their darkest hours. Armed with the tools of compassion and understanding, I began offering individual and group sessions, providing a safe place for others to share their grief. Individuals learn to honor their loved one's memory while embracing the beauty of life once more.

As the echoes of sorrow fade and the seeds of healing take root, I stand as a beacon of light, illuminating the path to hope and renewal. If you would like more information on the next new group or if you would prefer individual sessions, please call 419-423-0286 for more information. Together we can walk through the shadows of grief, emerging stronger, wiser, and more compassionate than before.

"I have tried other (grief) programs, they were not a fit for me. This program (GRM) helped me work through the pain and heartache of losing my husband." ~Anonymous



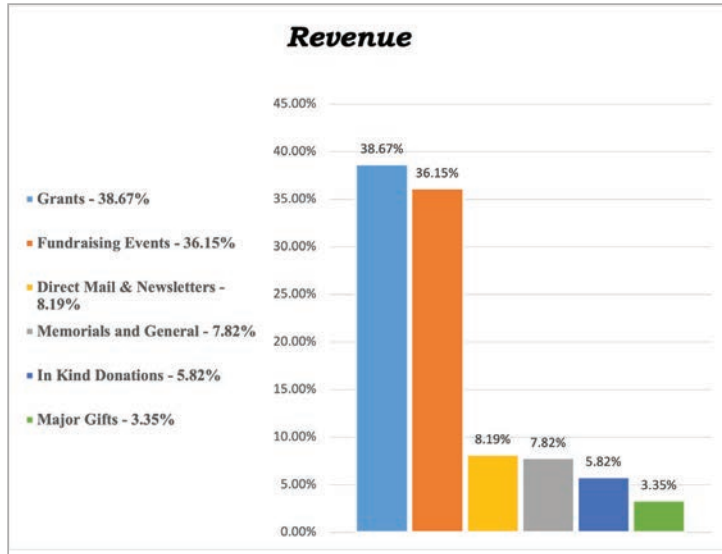
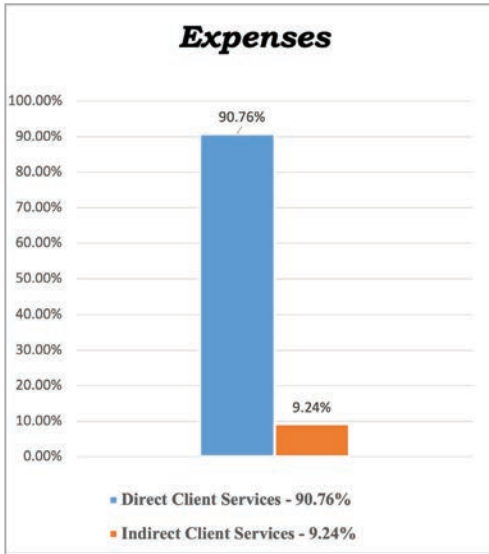
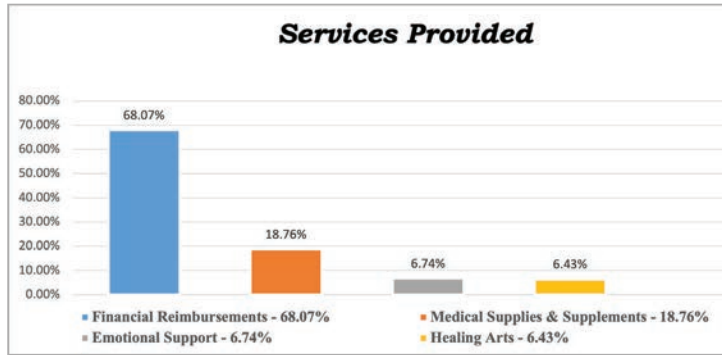
**Joanne Reinhart,**  
Program Director/  
Grief Recovery Specialist



*A photo captured the day following my aunt's passing due to cancer.  
~Joanne Reinhart*

# Financial Statement

SERVICES PROVIDED



**Emotional Support**

Total Cost  
**\$10,920.00**

**Healing Arts**

Total Cost  
**\$10,399.56**

**Medical Supplies & Supplements**

Total Cost  
**\$30,356.66**

**Financial Reimbursement**

Total Cost  
**\$110,143.07**

Total Cost For All Services Provided  
**\$161,819.29**

## GRANTS RECEIVED IN 2023

Grantor	Amount	Funds used to support:
United Way of Hancock County	\$100,000	Financial Assistance program
HCCIL	\$2,500	Independent Living accessibility modications
The Findlay Hancock-County Community Foundation	\$5,000	Handbags that Helps Grant - Gas cards
The Findlay Hancock-County Community Foundation	\$2,000	Professional Development Grant - Certify an employee in Grief Recovery
The Findlay Hancock-County Community Foundation	\$1,550	Professional Development Grant - Employee attend fundraising courses
Breast Cancer Fund of Ohio	\$3,000	Breast Cancer Grant to support cancer patients
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$139,050</b>	



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## CPS Board Members.

### Officers

President: Lucas Barger  
Vice President: Tara Smith  
Treasurer: Heather Loughman  
Secretary: Kara Conroy  
Past President: Karen Taschler

### Board Members

Suzzette Boyd  
Betsy Hackworth  
Jeanna Kolhoff  
Mandi Kuhlman  
Jason May  
Robin Pfeiffer  
Adele Simon  
Brad Wood





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