

Community is stronger than cancer

SPRING 2024



Dear Friends and Supporters,

I'm excited for you to read this newsletter, a space where we come together to celebrate progress, share stories of resilience, and renew our commitment to ensuring that together, we create connections, share knowledge, and find hope

for families facing cancer.

At the heart of our organization lies a core belief that every individual affected by cancer deserves unwavering support, compassionate care, and hope for a brighter tomorrow. For 34 years, we have stood as a beacon of light in the storm of this relentless disease.

I am continually humbled by the extraordinary dedication of our team, the generosity of our supporters, and the resilience of the individuals and families navigating the complexities of a cancer diagnosis. Each day, we witness acts of courage and kindness that inspire us to redouble our efforts to further our mission.

Not Just for Year End

Your current financial focus may be preparing 2023 tax returns. But it's not too early in 2024 to imagine—or to update—your legacy.

Maybe you'll retire this year. Or you plan to sell or buy real property. Perhaps your child or grandchild will enter or graduate from college. Or there will be modifications to a business you own.

These and other potential life changes in 2024 may prompt your setting up, or reviewing, your will or trust.

When you do, we hope you'll think of the people impacted by cancer whom Cancer Support Community Greater San Gabriel Valley serves. By leaving a gift to Cancer Support Community in your will or trust, you can help ensure that future generations of people with cancer, and their loved ones, won't face cancer alone. And you may well achieve tax benefits through your gift, too.

We understand the profound impact that cancer has on individuals and communities. We remain dedicated to partnering with our medical providers, who address the medical aspects of the disease, by focusing on the social and emotional burdens it imposes.

This year, as we reflect on the milestones we've achieved and the challenges that lie ahead, I invite you to join us in renewing your commitment to uplift the families we serve.

Thank you for your appreciation of our mission and continuing support. It is through your generosity and partnership that we can continue to make a difference in the lives of countless individuals affected by cancer.

Stay happy, stay healthy, and stay with us in 2024,



Patricia V. Ostiller, JD, CFRE
Chief Executive Officer



Legacy of Hope Society members at our new center

It's easy to do. And we're here to help. Please contact Patricia Ostiller at 626-796-1083 or p.ostiller@cancersupportsgv.org, or Peggy Smith at 818-388-1885 or p.smith@cancersupportsgv.org, for a no-obligation chat. *As always, please consult with your tax attorney/financial advisor for advice on tax and financial matters.*



Cancer Support Community has nearly doubled support group offerings in the past few years. Some groups were formed in response to our growing participant base, while some were started proactively to better serve unique populations within our community. Now, with an increased demand for in-person programs, we have been striving to offer more programs in our beautiful new facility. In particular, we added a new in-person Women's Support Group in early 2024 and a hybrid Men's Patient Group in 2023.

We have had a virtual Women's Support Group for a number of years, and given the consistent popularity and need for the group, Cancer Support Community started the new in-person group. Building upon the vitality of the Women's Group, we were inspired to add a hybrid group for men. Consistent with statistics on utilization of psychosocial support, our organization historically has served more women than men. However, the Men's Support Group ended up serving 34 men in the past year, which is unprecedented in our history of offering male support groups.

The importance of these unique groups cannot be understated. As the Women's Support Group facilitator and Program and Clinical Director, I can confirm that these groups provide a safe space for participants who feel more comfortable discussing vulnerable topics such as relationships, intimacy, and the physical changes from treatment with those who share the same gender identity and experience.

With a goal of serving more people than ever before in 2024, Cancer Support Community will build on the success of these groups by continuing to offer more in-person programs, and by building programs that address the unique needs of the participants we serve.

Alison Wong, Ph.D., LMFT, Program and Clinical Director

Expanding Community Outreach Efforts in 2024

With our new permanent home, our commitment to community outreach has been reinvigorated, with a special focus on extending our reach to areas farther east within our service area. Though it's still early in the year, we're thrilled to highlight some of the initiatives we've undertaken thus far, particularly in Ontario and Rancho Cucamonga.

One standout event that we had the privilege to participate in was the 2nd annual MLK Health Fair in Ontario. This gathering provided us with a wonderful opportunity to engage with a diverse array of community members and organizations. Through meaningful conversations and networking, we were able to raise awareness about the free services we offer and establish valuable connections within the community.

Looking ahead, we're eager to allocate more time and resources to serving the eastern regions within our coverage area. Despite the geographical challenges, our commitment remains steadfast in ensuring that residents in these communities have access to the support and resources they require.

Moreover, we want to underscore that our services remain accessible to all, irrespective of location, through our hybrid programming model. Whether individuals are situated in Rancho Cucamonga, Santa Clarita, or beyond, they can actively participate in our programs virtually. This ensures that our outreach efforts are inclusive and accessible to all community members.



DAPPER DERBY SOIRÉE

2024 ANGEL GALA

SUNDAY
MAY
19

SANTA ANITA PARK
285 W HUNTINGTON DRIVE ARCADIA, CA

4PM VIP RACE & RECEPTION
5PM SPEAKEASY COCKTAIL RECEPTION
6PM DINNER, AUCTION, AWARDS, RAFFLE & DANCING

VISIT [CANCERSUPPORT.LINK/ANGELGALA2024](https://cancersupport.link/angelgala2024) TO SPONSOR, PURCHASE TICKETS & MORE!

raffle prizes, and live music and dancing!

This year, we proudly honor remarkable individuals and organizations for their unwavering support. Congratulations to our esteemed Angel Award recipients: **Tom and Karen Capehart (Individual Honorees)**, **Marguerite Marsh, Ph.D. (Lifetime Achievement Honoree)**, **Oak Tree Racing Association (Corporate Honoree)**, and **USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center (Healthcare Partner Honoree)**.

Mark your calendars for Cancer Support Community's most anticipated event of the year! Join us for the **34th Angel Gala on Sunday, May 19th, at Santa Anita Park**, as we transform the evening into a "**Dapper Derby Soirée**" filled with glamour and goodwill.

Experience an unforgettable event featuring a VIP race and reception, speakeasy cocktail hour, sumptuous dinner, awards ceremony, thrilling silent and live auctions,

Please consider your support in one of the following ways: **1) Attend, 2) Sponsor, 3) Donate, 4) Donate an Auction Item, or 5) Volunteer**. For more information, please visit: cancersupport.link/AngelGala2024 or contact Director of Events and Marketing Rae Magnuson at r.magnuson@cancersupportsgv.org. Let's make a difference, together!

OUTDOOR
ELEGANCE
PATIO DESIGN CENTER



Mention **Cancer Support Community** and **Outdoor Elegance** will donate 10% of your total order to their programs for families facing cancer.



CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY BENEFACTORS SOCIETY 2024



Our Benefactors Society is growing! We're thrilled that Julia and Mark Meahl, Charlotte Streng and Susan and Jack Reynolds have joined our 2024 Benefactors Society! We're also pleased to announce that several of our renewing Patrons have increased their gifts to the Benefactors level. Special thanks to Melissa Alcorn/DFA Holdings, Shelley Allen and Bob Kohorst, Rosemari Annear, Dana and Mike Naples, Georgia Seid, and the Valenta Family.

We aim to add eight new Benefactors and Patrons in 2024 to this much-treasured group of leadership donors. Why is this important to our future? Simply put, the more people we serve, the more resources we need. In 2023, we served 1,130 people - a new record - breaking our 2022 record of 1,045. We hope to serve even more in 2024!



Benefactors and Patrons enjoy their annual appreciation dinner on March 14, 2024.

If you've been considering joining our Benefactors Society, we encourage you to bring your support to us in 2024. Our Benefactors Society supports 30% of our operating budget; wouldn't it be wonderful if this group grew to support 50% of our operating budget? Thank you to this very special group of philanthropists:

Benefactors \$20,000+

Melissa Alcorn/DFA Family Holdings
Rosemari Annear
Karen and Tom Capehart
Terri and Jerry Kohl
Shelley Allen and Robert Kohorst
Ellen and Harvey Knell*
San Marino Motor Classic
Dana and Mike Naples
Lee and Mickey Segal
Georgia Seid
The Valenta Family

**Lead Founding Benefactors*

Patrons \$10,000 - \$19,999:

Terry Beyer
Bonnie and John DeWitt
The Havner Family Foundation
LeAnn and Michael Healy
Vicki Laidig
Gloria Podres and George Mack
Julia and Mark Meahl
Serge Melkizian
Julie and Scott Nesbit
Sue and Steve Ralph
Susan and Jack Reynolds
Charlotte Streng
Susie and Brad Talt

Both groups receive yearlong benefits including tables at our events, VIP receptions, 12 months of recognition on our website and other materials, a private Benefactors Society Appreciation dinner, and more! To join, please contact Patricia Ostiller at p.ostiller@cancersupportsgv.org or Brad Talt at batalt575@gmail.com.

GET STARTED

Can someone you know benefit from Cancer Support Community's free programs?

Please let them know that we welcome individuals and families in person, virtually, and hybrid.

Visit cancersupportsgv.org/getting-started.

OUR MISSION: CSC UPLIFTS AND STRENGTHENS PEOPLE IMPACTED BY CANCER BY PROVIDING SUPPORT, FOSTERING COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITIES, AND BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS TO CARE.

Cancer Support Community | 331 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. | Sierra Madre, CA 91024 | 626-796-1083

Email: info@cancersupportsgv.org **Web:** cancersupportsgv.org