

Connections VEWSLETTER Summer 2024

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Summer is here! I hope everyone reading this newsletter takes some time to relax and recharge. Thanks to your unwavering support, Cancer Support Community is on its way to having another record year of service, providing vital resources to what we forecast to be 1,200+ individuals and families navigating their cancer journeys.

To that end, we just completed a strategic marketing plan to build increased awareness of our programs offered without cost to our participants. In this redesigned newsletter, we're thrilled to share exciting updates about our initiatives. Our nutrition workshops are more popular than ever and offer valuable insights into maintaining a healthy diet during and after cancer treatment. These workshops aim to empower patients and caregivers with practical advice from leading nutritionists.

Additionally, after ten years, we are retiring our Poker Bowl and Ladies Night Out and replacing them with our new signature fall event, Sip, Savor & Support on

October 5, 2024! This event promises to be spectacular in terms of venue, food, drink and entertainment, while also raising essential funds for our operations.

Finally, we just received word that **Cancer Support**



Community has been chosen as the recipient of Rep. Judy Chu's Congressional Leadership of the Year Award as **Nonprofit of the Year** for the 28th Congressional District! Thank you to Representative Chu and to Team CSC - our Board of Directors, Staff and Clinicians, Volunteers and Supporters.

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

Patricia V. Ostiller, JD, CFRE, CEO

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

Cancer Support Community Greater San Gabriel Valley is a safe space for all who are impacted by cancer to connect, share knowledge, and embrace hope. We walk alongside our participants and their medical team, providing evidence-based knowledge and professionallyled psychosocial emotional support and activities as a proven method to enhance medical outcomes.

We welcome patients, caregivers, survivors, families, and those experiencing loss with kindness and understanding, ensuring that our community-funded programs, activities, and services are provided to all, always at no cost - EVER.

Visit cancersupportsgv.org/gettingstarted



An orientation is required

to participate at Cancer **Support Community.**

IN-PERSON ORIENTATIONS Tuesdays, 11 am

Thursdays, 5 pm

VIRTUAL ORIENTATIONS

Virtual orientations may be scheduled through Zoom.

cancersupportsgv.org/ gettingstarted





At Cancer Support Community, we believe in nurturing the body, mind, and spirit.

That's why we offer a variety of healthy lifestyle classes designed to support patients and their families.

Our nutrition classes are particularly popular, providing valuable insights into maintaining a balanced diet during and after treatment. Recently, we hosted two standout workshops: "Trader Joe's Food Hacks" with Chef Dená Brummer and "Cooking with Chef Juana."



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

In "Trader Joe's Food Hacks," participants learned how to create quick and healthy meals using readily available items from Trader Joe's. This workshop focused on time-saving tips and nutritious recipes that make healthy eating accessible and convenient.

"Cooking with Chef Juana" offered a hands-on experience where attendees discovered how to prepare clean, healthy, and easy soup recipes. Chef Juana's expert guidance ensured that participants left with practical skills and delicious soup ideas to incorporate into their daily routine.

In addition to nutrition, Cancer Support Community offers exercise classes tailored to different fitness levels, art classes for creative expression and stress reduction, and meditation sessions for mindfulness and relaxation.

This quarter, we introduced a parent-child Taekwondo class with Master Zach DeJohnette. This unique class fosters physical fitness, discipline, and bonding between parents and their children. Under Master Zach's expert instruction, participants learn Taekwondo techniques in a supportive and fun environment, promoting both physical and emotional well-being.

Proper nutrition, regular physical activity, and mental wellness significantly contribute to improving quality of life and enhancing overall health. We are grateful to our certified healthy lifestyle instructors who generously share their time and expertise to empower our community with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate cancer together.

Join us for our popular Lunch and Learn Lecture series in July, August and September 2024. Seats fill up quickly so please register soon.



2024 Lunch & Learn Lecture Series

Sexuality and Cancer



with Sherry Hite

Tuesday, July 2 12:00 - 1:30pm Register at: cancersupport.link/Hite

Cancer Related Neuropathy and Fatigue



with Dr. Arash Asher

Director of Cancer Survivorship & Rehabilitation at Cedars-Sinai Cancer Institute

Thursday, Aug 15

12:00 – 1:30pm Register at: cancersupport.link/Asher

Management of Menopause and Prevention of Gynecologic Cancers



with Dr. Jennifer Park & Dr. Paul Lin

OB/GYN from Fair Oaks Women's Health and Gynecologic Oncologist from Huntington Hospital

Thursday, Sept 19 12:00 – 1:30pm Register at: cancersupport.link/Park

Lunch will be provided

Imagine the future...what's your legacy?

Planned gifts are essential, not just for you and your family, but for Cancer Support Community as well. Planning for tomorrow allows you to take care of yourself and people impacted by cancer.



A planned gift to Cancer Support Community would provide funding for support groups, healthy lifestyle classes, workshops, individual counseling and social gatherings to families and individuals facing this disease. And it's easy to do - to learn more, please contact Jan Cantwell@cancersupportsgv.org.

LEGACY OF HOPE SOCIETY

Our Legacy of Hope Society is comprised of people who have named Cancer Support Community Greater San Gabriel Valley as a beneficiary in their estate plan. We are very grateful to the following individuals:

Melissa Alcorn
Mrs. Marshalene Anderson
Rosemari Annear
Kal Balian Antoun
Ligia Ashook
Terry Beyer
Mr. and Mrs. Lance Bird
Debbie Bolton
Mr. and Mrs. Loren Brodhead
Huw Christopher
Laurie and Tom Daly
Ellen Driscoll

Mary Galloway Richard C. Gilman

Suzanne and Brian Gilman Helen Hancock

Brenda Lee Hastings LeAnn and Michael Healy

Joseph R. Henry Gloria H. Hoversten Joseph Jacobs Maggie Jagels

Dr. and Mrs. Frank Jameson Christopher Johnson Dr. David and Carole Jones Sharon Kelley Anne Kennedy and Dr. Peter Kennedy

Ellen and Harvey Knell **John Kulli** Vicki Laidig

Mrs. Ginny Lechler Marsha and Andrew Lewis The Mack Family Trust Marguerite Marsh Ph.D. and Robert Marsh M.D. Diane and Craig Martin

Elizabeth Mejia Serge Melkizian

Laurie and Chris Mitchell Dana and Mike Naples Patricia Ostiller Gordon Pashgian

Jacqueline Pick

William Quiros Sue and Steve Ralph

Coral Ann Hiscoe Reid

Mark Russakow Lora and Robert Sandroni Penelope Schopflin lanet Schulman

Bernadette Sherman Rosemary "Rary" Simmons

Peggy Smith
Kathleen Spellman
Anise Stevens

Pam and Les Stocker
Dr. and Mrs. Joel Streng
Betsy Snyder and Clay
Marquardt
Meg and John Symes
Maura and Sean Townley
& Family
Lydia Valenta
Ron Valenta
Lupe Vela

Louise Jane Saffman Wannier Laura Wending Mr. and Mrs. Robert Zeilstra

Names in bold type indicate that their bequest has been received by Cancer Support Community Greater San Gabriel Valley.

Putting the "fun" in fundraising



We're thrilled to announce the success of our 34th Angel **Gala, Dapper Derby Soirée**, held at Santa Anita Park. Thanks to everyone's efforts, we raised over \$415,000—a new record! A heartfelt "THANK YOU!" to our honorees, donors, sponsors, Angel Gala Committee, attendees, staff, volunteers, government officials, our Master of Ceremonies, Lian Dolan, and guest speaker, LA Times Sports Columnist, Bill Plaschke.



And don't forget to save the date for San Marino Motor Classic's Symphony of Cars Gala on Saturday, August 24th at Lacy Park! Once again, we're so grateful to be the beneficiaries of this elegant evening with dinner under the stars featuring 15 classic automobiles paired with live music of their era.





Cancer Support Community is known for hosting top-notch fundraisers, and this year, we're excited to introduce a new signature event - **Sip, Savor and Support!** Join us **Saturday, October 5th,** at the INEOS Grenadier Showroom at Rusnak Auto Group in Pasadena for fine dining, tantalizing cocktails, exquisite wines, live music, and a special guest.

All of our events are critical to our ability to fund our free programs for families facing cancer. If you are interested in attending or supporting these upcoming events, contact us today!

CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY BENEFACTORS SOCIETY 2024





Dr. Ruth Williamson

Our Benefactors Society continues to grow! We are honored to have Dr. Ruth Williamson as a new member of our 2024 Benefactors Society. With over 34 years of experience in the medical field, Dr. Williamson is a radiation oncology breast cancer specialist at Huntington Hospital. Dr. Williamson says that she "decided to join the Benefactors Society because the support that Cancer Support Community provides is invaluable for my ladies and their families coping with a breast cancer diagnosis, breast cancer treatment, and cancer survivorship. I have always felt that Cancer Support Community is my partner to support my patients and an extension of the cancer program at Huntington Hospital."

Increasing membership in our Benefactors Society will help us serve more people – and we've been increasing the number of people served every year since 2022. The more people we serve, the more resources we need.

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 Lee and Mickey Segal The late 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 Dana and Mike Naples 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 Dr. Ruth Williamson

Benefactor Benefits

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, CEO at p.ostiller@cancersupportsgv. org or Brad Talt, Board President at batalt575@gmail.com.



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



Connecting all who are impacted by cancer with hope, knowledge, and understanding.