



Town of Sudbury

Board of Health

DPW Office Building
275 Old Lancaster Road
Sudbury, MA 01776
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Resources Related to Cancer Patients, Survivors, and Families

Receiving a Cancer Diagnosis can be overwhelming, and can often cause a great emotional, physical, and financial burden on families. Here are some resources in the Greater MetroWest Region that may be helpful. Please note that this handout is for informational purposes and not to provide endorsement. Please do your own research to determine which programs and services best meet your individual needs, and to explore other services that may be available.

American Cancer Society:

- Helpline & 24/7 Chat: 1-800-227-2345
 - Callers will be asked a number of demographic questions related to type of diagnosis, location, and needs before providing a comprehensive overview of resources available to the caller. People with Cancer diagnoses, family members, and friends can call with questions.
 - To chat with someone around the clock, scroll to the bottom right hand corner of <https://www.cancer.org/involved.html>
- Road to Recovery: Ride to Treatments
 - Road to Recovery is run by the American Cancer Society but is staffed on a volunteer basis.
 - Call 1-800-227-2345 4 days in advance in order to get connected with someone in the Sudbury area.
- Coupon for Wig
 - Call 1-800-227-2345 to receive up to a \$70 coupon for a wig.
- Interactive Caregiver Resource Guide
 - <https://www.cancer.org/treatment/caregivers/caregiver-resource-guide.html>
- Financial Resources in Your Area
 - Call 1-800-227-2345 for financial resources related to your cancer diagnosis.

Cancer Care:

- Cancercare.org
 - Official website of organization
- Counseling Support
 - Call 800-813-HOPE (4673) to get connected with an oncology social worker
 - Cancer Care also offers counseling services for caregivers and family members
- Support Groups
 - Cancer Care can connect people undergoing treatment with in person, online, or over the phone support groups
 - Cancer Care also offers support groups for caregivers and family members
- Financial Support
 - The Copay Foundation and The Financial Assistance Program, which covers needs like transportation, childcare, or home care.

- Connect Education Workshops
 - Cancer Care offers online and podcast workshops for people undergoing treatment, caretakers, and friends.

Cancer Recovery

- Cancerrecovery.org
 - Official website of organization
- Women's Cancer Fund
 - A quarterly distribution program that financially supports women who have been diagnosed with cancer. A maximum of \$250 towards utility bills will be approved

Caregiving MetroWest

- <http://www.caregivingmetrowest.org/InfoCenter/HealthConditions/Cancer.aspx>
- Offer help and support to family and friends who are supporting loved ones with cancer.
- Caregiver Concierge
 - A form that caregivers can fill out to find the support and resources nearest them
- Infocenter Overview
 - Resources related to financial and legal planning for caregivers

Facing Cancer Together

- Facing Cancer Together provides cancer support, caregiver support, diagnosis specific networking and bereavement groups.
- Livestrong Cancer Support Group: Waltham YMCA
 - For people living with a Cancer Diagnosis
 - An intake appointment is required before joining one of these groups. Please call 617-332-5777 for more information or to schedule an appointment
- Other resources and groups available here:<https://facing-cancer.org/programs-and-services>

Boston Cancer Support

- Comprehensive list of resource for people living with cancer, survivors, caregivers, and friends in the Boston area.
 - <https://www.bostoncancersupport.org/west-of-boston/>
- The Hope Lodge
 - The American Cancer Society Hope Lodge in Boston, which opened in 2008, offers 40 guest rooms located near treatment centers in the area
 - <https://www.cancer.org/treatment/support-programs-and-services/patient-lodging/hope-lodge/boston/about-our-facility.html>
- Joe's House
 - A nonprofit organization that helps cancer patients and their families find a place to stay when traveling away from home for medical treatment.
 - <https://www.joeshouse.org/>
- Hospitality Homes

- Provides free short-term housing in volunteer host homes and donated apartments for families and friends of patients seeking care at Boston-area healthcare organizations.
- <http://hosp.org/>
- The Ronald McDonald House at Boston Harbor
 - <https://www.rmhbostonharbor.org/>

Utilizing your Local Hospital

- Reach out to your hospital provider to see what kind of groups and services they offer. Below are two different hospitals in the area.
- <https://www.emersonhospital.org/clinical-services/cancer-care>
- <https://www.umassmemorialhealthcare.org/marlborough-hospital/cancer-care>

Understanding your Medical Coverage

- Health insurance companies offer a wide array of programs to support overall wellness. This is an untapped resource for many consumers. Each insurance company has its own specific set of offerings, and it is recommended that you call Member Services at your health insurance company, or visit the company website to learn more about resources available to you.
- Visit the website below for more details:
<https://sudbury.ma.us/socialworker/2018/07/05/do-you-know-all-of-the-benefits-offered-by-your-health-insurance/>

Breast Cancer

ABCD: After Breast Cancer Diagnosis

- <https://www.abcdbreastcancersupport.org/resources/patient-resources/>
 - Official website of organization
- Peer Support
 - Call 1-800-977-4121 to be matched with a mentor who has had a similar experience
- Support Center
 - Call 1-800-977-4121 for additional resources, more information about diagnosis, and help navigating pathology reports and second opinions.

Pink Hearts Fund

- Financial Assistance:
 - 3rd Monday of each month they decided on funding
 - Amount of assistance given on short-term basis (up to 90 days) with a financial cap of \$3,000 based on qualification, available program funds and need.
 - Includes possible direct bill payment of utility bills, mortgage or rent, car or car insurance payment, and health insurance premiums.
 - Documents must be uploaded to your online application or MAILED to PO Box 603, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303.

- <https://qualify.thepinkfund.org/Account/PreQualify>
- Breast Prosthetic:
 - With a prescription from an oncologist, the HOPE Boutique will fit you for a breast prosthesis
 - Call 228-575-8299 to schedule a consultation

Breast Cancer Charities of America

- Help Now Fund
 - <https://thebreastcancercharities.org/help-now-fund/>
 - The application is live the 1st through the 5th of each month
 - The Help Now Fund assists with rent or mortgage payments, utility bills (electricity, water, and/or gas), cell phone bills and car payments.
 - Required Paperwork:
 - A copy of a current U.S. issued photo identification card
 - A medical letter on letterhead, verifying the patient's diagnosis and treatment plan. All letters must be signed and dated within 90 days of the application period. The letter must come from one of the following: oncologist, social worker, nurse, or patient advocate.
 - The first two pages of your most recent tax return document. This will expedite the grant review process and comply with ever changing Federal Tax Auditing guidelines.
 - Recent copies of bills, lease, and/or statements for which the patient is asking for assistance. Bills must be dated within 90 days and include the patient's mailing address, account number, and billing company information.
 - Both Medical and Billing release forms completed and provided to the patient's medical office and billing companies. Required Documents are found on the website
 - Up to \$1,000 per year

Catherine H. Tuck Foundation

- <https://catherinefund.org/>
- Offers grants cover **non-medical** expenses such as housing, utilities, food or transportation.
- Requirements
 - You need to be in active treatment for breast cancer, which we define as being within three months of a breast cancer
 - You must have a financial hardship as a direct result of breast cancer diagnosis and treatment.
 - You must be able to provide documentation that you have been employed (at least 16 hours per week) for at least 8 of the 12 months prior to the current diagnosis of breast cancer.
 - You must have less than \$5000 in liquid assets.
 - You must be a US citizen and currently live in the United State

Women's Cancer Recovery

- Cancer Fund: <http://www.cancerrecovery.org/women-cancer-fund/>
 - Offer financial assistance quarterly
 - A maximum of \$250 may be approved per family, per year.
 - Only utility and rental fee bills will be considered. A utility request is defined as a heating, electrical or water bill.

Ellie Fund

- <https://www.elliefund.org>
- Providing transportation to medical appointments, light housekeeping, nutritional and grocery assistance, childcare reimbursement, nutritious prepared/delivered meals and integrative therapy services free of charge
- **Call 781-449-0100 to apply**

For additional questions, or suggested additions to this list, please call Bethany Hadvab, Sudbury Town Social Worker, at 978-440-5476

Please visit <https://sudbury.ma.us/socialworker/> for additional up-to-date information and resources