fact sheet

FINDING RESOURCES IN YOUR COMMUNITY

A cancer diagnosis raises a wide range of challenges and concerns. Fortunately, there are local and national resources to assist you with many of the issues that come up. This fact sheet describes several kinds of services available to people with cancer and their loved ones, and how to find the help you need.

WHAT KIND OF HELP CAN I GET?

General Information
Many reputable general and diagnosis-specific cancer organizations provide reliable, up-to-date information on treatment options, clinical trials, managing side effects and more.

Emotional Support
Cancer can make you feel lonely, scared or distressed. Counseling, support groups, patient-to-patient networks and other kinds of support are available to help you cope with such emotions.

Financial Help
There are organizations and companies that help people with cancer and their families with medical billing, insurance, and reimbursement issues. There are also co-payment organizations and patient assistance programs that help individuals who cannot afford the cost of medications.

Transportation Assistance
In many communities, transportation services are available to help you.

Housing/Lodging
Some organizations provide lodging for families of a patient undergoing treatment. Joe's House is an online directory of places to stay near hospitals and treatment centers. Visit www.joeshouse.org for more information.

Children's Services
There are organizations that provide services for children with cancer or children who have a family member with cancer. These include counseling, summer camps, and "make-a-wish" programs.

Home Health Care
Home health care is for people who no longer need to be in the hospital, but still require skilled care at home.

Hospice Services
Hospice care focuses on the needs of individuals who are terminally ill. Visit the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization website, www.nhpco.org, to find a hospice or palliative care center in your community.

RESOURCES

Cancer*Care*
800-813-HOPE (4673)
www.cancercare.org

211 Collaborative
www.211.org

American Cancer Society
800-227-2345
www.cancer.org

U.S. Administration on Aging
800-677-1116
www.eldercare.gov

Cancer Financial Assistance Coalition
www.cancerfac.org

The United Way
(find your local United Way at www.liveunited.org)

HOW DO I FIND THESE RESOURCES?

The services you need can be found in your own neighborhood. Here are some ideas:

Your Health Care Team
Doctors, nurses and social workers can provide a wealth of information about your cancer diagnosis and treatment. The libraries at cancer centers are also excellent sources of information. Hospital social workers and discharge planning coordinators are great resources for information about counseling, home care, transportation and child care.

Local/County Government
Local governments often offer low-cost transportation. Government agencies can give you information on Social Security, state disability, Medicaid, income maintenance and food stamps.

Cancer Financial Assistance Coalition (CFAC)
The Cancer Financial Assistance Coalition (www.cancerfac.org) has a searchable database of national and regional organizations that provide financial assistance and other services for people with cancer.

Cancer*Care*® Can Help

Founded in 1944, Cancer*Care* is the leading national organization providing free support services and information to help people manage the emotional, practical and financial challenges of cancer. Our comprehensive services include counseling and support groups over the phone, online and in-person, educational workshops, publications and financial and co-payment assistance. All Cancer*Care* services are provided by professional oncology social workers and world-leading cancer experts.

To learn more, visit **www.cancercare.org** or call **800-813-HOPE (4673)**.
Facebook: facebook.com/cancercare **|** **Twitter:** @cancercare

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