



## The Cancer Foundation

SERVING NORTHEAST GEORGIA

Newsletter: Fall 2022

### Cancer Forecast: 100 % chance of expensive medical bills ... and neighbors who care

For too many in our community, cancer threatens more than the patient's health. Many struggle with impossible financial choices as the high cost of treatment devastates the family's income and wittles away their life savings. Low income families facing cancer in northeast Georgia turn to The Cancer Foundation, Inc. Requests for support are **up 28 percent** over last year as inflation in housing, food, power and fuel costs continue to rise.

Our donors and sponsors continue to amaze us with their steadfast support allowing TCF to intervene in the lives of those hit the hardest by the storms of life that cancer brings. TCF offers patients some much-needed good news:

- "Your rent has been paid for this month."
- "A gas card is on its way so you can get to treatment."
- "Your power and water will not be cut off."

Imagine these moments happening everyday as we share these exact words after approving a patient's application. At a time when hope is in short supply, patients are relieved to know their family is protected by the generosity of others. Like sunshine on a rainy day, our caring community helps our neighbors with cancer survive and even thrive. Thank you!



Alexis McCumber with her family

### WELCOME ALEXIS!

In August, Alexis McCumber joined the TCF Board of Directors. Alexis and her husband, Andrew, moved to Athens recently to be closer to Alexis's parents, Mary Ellen and Bubba Wimberly. Both have faced cancer in recent years giving Alexis a new window into the struggles this disease brings to families.

"I have felt a deep call to be involved and serve my community from a young age. That fire was placed in me by my mother, who was diagnosed with breast and uterine cancer in 2018. Her drive, mental stability, and positive attitude throughout the process were awe inspiring. Recently, my father was diagnosed with prostate cancer. I believe my mother's response to adversity and her general outlook during that time encouraged him to act similarly. I am thrilled to serve such a deserving group of people. I hope to instill some positive thinking and love into their lives during difficult times."

Alexis looks forward to serving families through her volunteer efforts with the TCF Board. Welcome Alexis!

The mission of The Cancer Foundation is to help alleviate the financial burden of cancer for eligible patients. Serving 25 counties of northeast Georgia, TCF provides help in the form of financial assistance for housing, utilities, transportation and other critical needs during cancer treatment.

enclosed

**IMPACT  
REPORT  
2021**

## Do you get anxious going to the mailbox?

Many patients struggle to keep up with their family's basic needs due to the extra expenses of cancer treatment. Opening the day's mail often brings more bills that they cannot afford to pay. A trip to the TCF mailbox, however, is a joy! Notes from patients and gifts from our generous donors abound!



Actual TCF Patients and their families

The Cancer Foundation -  
Thank You so much for your good thoughts for hope and healing. Thank You also for the \$250 gas card sent to me through the generosity of donors and with your assistance. It is so greatly appreciated! This gas card is not a small gesture but a huge gift that does ease the worry of getting to my daily treatments. The challenges that cancer brings to so many is hard to deal with, but the caring donors and the help of your foundation makes some things easier to cope with and gives less worry. So again Thank You so much for all your kindness!  
God Bless

Just a little pay  
back for the help  
received in 2011.  
Couldn't have  
made the Radiation  
trips without your  
help,  
PS  
I'd like to thank you  
Paralyzed Veterans of America

Cancer Foundation Staff -  
Just finished chemo + rang the bell - so thankful for each of you, how encouraging and pleasant all have been to me -  
Enclosed is a donation that perhaps will help someone with their treatments.



TCF recently received these note of thanks along with donations. Dozens of cards and letters from patients adorn the walls of the TCF office.

# BY THE NUMBERS...



1,195 GEORGIANS IMPACTED

**704** families served  
benefitting **173 CHILDREN & TEENS**



four hundred nineteen  
volunteer hours

**1,301 BILLS PAID**

**3,520**  
documents scanned

**25**  
REFERRING PROVIDERS

**4** STAFF  
**208** FUEL CARDS

**1,149 Donations**

**\$469,741**

patient assistance provided

TCF's Financial Assistance Program provided more assistance dollars in 2021 than in any prior year! Our program offers speedy, flexible support for the family's most pressing basic needs. Once approved, TCF makes payments directly to the creditor owed within 24-48 hours. While TCF allows for many options to fit each patient's unique situation, most families request help with housing, utilities, and transportation costs.

## TOP PATIENT NEEDS



**TRANSPORTATION**  
\$ 184,599



**HOUSING**  
\$ 122,906



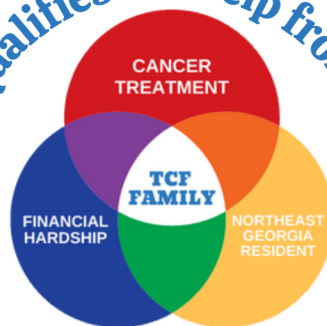
**UTILITIES**  
\$ 105,881

## REFERRING PARTNERS

Patients must have a referral to apply. Thank you to the following referring facilities for working with TCF in 2021!

Augusta University Cancer Care, Anderson Medical Center, Athens Area Urology, Atlanta Cancer Care, Bridgeway Hospice, Cancer Treatment Centers of America, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Compassionate Care Hospice, Emory Medical Center, Georgia Cancer Specialists, Gwinnett Medical Center, Homestead Hospice, Kindred Hospice, Longstreet Clinic, Loran Smith Center for Cancer Support, Mercy Health Center Athens, Northeast Georgia Medical Center, Piedmont Athens Regional, Piedmont Newton, Piedmont Rockdale Oncology, Piedmont Walton Hospital, Radiotherapy Clinic of Georgia, St. Mary's Good Samaritan Hospital, St. Mary's Hospice Athens, University Cancer and Blood Center

Who qualifies for help from TCF?



Families must meet three eligibility requirements:

- A member of the family is in active treatment (or hospice) due to a cancer diagnosis.
- The family has provided proof of low income/financial hardship. On average TCF families have annual household income less than \$18,000.
- Must reside in our 25 county service area.

# 2021: Impact Report



## PATIENTS SERVED BY COUNTY

Banks	18
Barrow	46
Clarke	131
Elbert	49
Franklin	25
Greene	19
Habersham	30
Hart	48
Jackson	55
Jasper	7
Lumpkin	17
Madison	42
Morgan	16
Newton	39
Oconee	10
Oglethorpe	17
Putnam	10
Rabun	5
Stephens	32
Taliaferro	0
Towns	2
Union	3
Walton	61
White	17
Wilkes	5

# GIVING 2021

Donors listed here made contributions between January 1 and December 31, 2021 that total within the gift ranges noted.

## The Legacy Society

*Updated annually, the Legacy Society recognizes donors with cumulative giving of \$100,000 or more since our founding in 2009.*

Athens Area Cancer Auxiliary  
Diane and Dan Davis  
Georgia Crown Distributing Company  
The Luther & Susie Harrison Foundation  
It's the Journey, Inc.  
Suzanne and Don Leebern  
The Jack Tarver Family Foundation  
Turner Family Foundation  
University Cancer & Blood Center  
Jessica Wallace Tolbert & James Wallace  
Walton County Health Care Foundation  
Marlo and Glen Wiggans,  
The Wiggans Family Fund at the  
Athens Area Community Foundation

## Annual donors: \$10,000- up

Martha and Randall Avery  
Lisa and Mark Christopherson  
Doreen and John Hill III  
Gisela and Hal Hodgson  
The Irving Family Fund at the  
Athens Area Community Foundation  
It's the Journey, Inc.  
Andy McClung  
The Kirby Smart Family Foundation at the  
Athens Area Community Foundation  
The Ramon C. and Amanda H. Thompson Family Fund  
at the Athens Area Community Foundation  
Alice and Noah Langdale Foundation  
Cable East  
*In memory of Michael Wall's birthday*  
Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
Mary Allen Lindsey Branan Foundation  
The Estate of Carol Mims  
Marlo and Glen Wiggans,  
The Wiggans Family Fund at the  
Athens Area Community Foundation

## Annual donors: \$3,000-\$9,999

Kelley Blanton  
Blaine Bostelman  
*In memory of W.H. & Marjorie NeSmith*  
Angela and Mike Bush  
Janie and Butch Bush  
Guest Family Foundation  
The Harris Foundation  
Thomas Ihde  
Erika and Ricky Lane  
Fran and Richard Lane  
Cindy and Wayne Lester,  
The Cindy and Wayne Lester  
Family Fund at the Athens Area  
Community Foundation  
Kathy and Jerry Maynard  
Robert E. and Evelyn McKee Foundation

Teresa and John McLean,  
The McLean Family Fund at the  
Athens Area Community Foundation  
Thomas H. Rogers and Cynthia Mercer, MD  
Holly and Scott Phelan,  
The Scott Phelan Fund at the  
Community Foundation for  
Northeast Georgia  
Lisa Rawls  
Drs. Cynthia and Brad Shepherd  
Cherie Snyder  
*In memory of George Dougherty*  
JWR Jewelers, Patti Reed  
The Adsmith, Jayne and Kirk Smith  
Dr. and Mrs. James Splichal  
Matt Thomas  
*In honor of Brooke Thomas*

The Weeks Family Fund at the  
Athens Area Community Foundation  
Athens-Clarke County Charity Drive  
Athens Pulmonary  
Atlanta Gastroenterology  
BankSouth  
Hawthorne Drug Co.  
Hughes Subaru  
Jackson EMC  
Janssen Pharmaceuticals  
Northeast Georgia Medical Center  
The Fortson, Bentley, and Griffin, P.A.  
75th Anniversary Fund at  
Athens Area Community Foundation  
Trinity Accounting Group

If you note an error in this listing or wish to update your recognition preferences, please contact Brittany Davidson at [bdavidson@cfnega.org](mailto:bdavidson@cfnega.org).

# TOTAL SUPPORT: \$715,754

## Annual donors: \$1,000-\$2,999

Pamela Aderholt  
*In memory of C. Dennis Aderholt*  
Dr. Glenn Alex  
Cathy and Kevin Bente  
*In honor of Kevin Bente*  
The Sue Boatright Giving Fund, a donor-advised fund of Fidelity Charitable  
Charles Bryant  
*In honor of Dr. Nik*  
Dr. Kuang Chang  
*In honor of those that lived to love*  
Ricky Chastain  
Alicia Collette  
*In memory of Charles Allen Berry*  
Wendy and Tim Conrad  
*In memory of Timothy E. Lally*  
Megan Dickert  
Mary Susan Dougherty  
*In memory of George W. Dougherty, Sr.*  
*In honor of Marlo Wiggans*  
*In honor of Lauren O'Grady*  
Mal Elder  
*In memory of Robert Sheffield Elder*  
The Michael and Martha Everett Fund at Schwab Charitable  
*In honor of Steve Everett*  
Nancy and Steve Everett  
*In memory of Jim and Helen Everett*  
Janet and Tim Field  
*In honor of Ms. Kimberly Pittman*  
Dr. and Mrs. Frederick Flynt  
Mara Franklin  
Jag and Chris Gholson  
Loretta and Richard Goodson  
Laurel and Joel Gregory  
*In memory of Donna Gregory*  
*In memory of Carlton Stephen "Pete" Ingram*  
*In memory of Betty Bregitzer*  
Guest Family Foundation  
Chase Gunter,  
The Ashley Gunter Endowment Fund at Fidelity Charitable  
Jackie Hammersley and Mike Parker  
Carolyn and James Hansen  
The Harris Foundation  
Charles Heiser  
*In memory of Norman Michael Mulvey, Sr.*  
Emily Hill  
Melanie and Steve Hollis  
Martee and Foy Horne

Keren Hymo  
Michael A. Kahn Family Foundation  
*In memory of Mary Wright Donnan*  
The Linda and Greg Kennedy Fund at Schwab Charitable  
*In memory of Shirley Kennedy*  
Mary and David Kissel  
*In honor of Dr. Chang and staff*  
Whitney Knowlton  
Lois and Lucy Lampkin Foundation  
Valerie and John Ledyard  
Eric Love  
*In memory of Norman Michael Mulvey, Sr.*  
Laura and Harris Lowery  
Dr. and Mrs. Jay Mancini  
*In memory of Vetra Bishop*  
*In memory of Muriel Levin*  
Dr. Kevin Toon and Dr. Aimee Martin  
Jerry McElhannon  
*In memory of Joyce McElhannon*  
*In memory of Annette Herndon*  
Charlotte Mealor  
*In loving memory of Jerry J. Mealor*  
*In honor of Sandra Wardlaw*  
Daniel Measel, MD  
John and Diane Morrow  
*In memory of Dr. James A. Batts, Jr.*  
Lynn Nagy  
Dale and Ryan Nesbit  
Dr. Petros Nikolinakos  
The Nute Family Foundation  
Robbie and William Paine  
John Parker  
*In memory of Mary Donnan*  
Anne Ranne  
Emory Shepherd  
Kayla Spadoni  
*In memory of Ruth Baggett*  
Sharon Stanley  
*In memory of Vicki Rozier*  
Marsha and Dennis Strobel  
John H. Terrell III Family Foundation  
Dr. and Mrs. Mark Vrana  
*In honor of Glen and Marlo Wiggans*  
Dr. and Mrs. J. Michael West  
Monona White  
*In memory of Robert White*  
Frank Williams  
America's Home Place  
Athens Area Urology  
Atlantic Capital

Greg Kennedy  
*In memory of Shirley Kennedy*  
Marsh and McLennan Company  
Chastain and Associates  
Classic City Orthodontics  
*In memory of Stephen Kenneth Thomas*  
Collins/Moody Financial Services  
Connected Technologies  
Fintrust Capital Partners  
Georgia Skin Cancer & Aesthetic Dermatology  
Green Properties Management, Inc.  
Hawthorne Drug Co.  
Hill Medical Group  
*In honor of Emily Hill*  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
Kindred Hospice  
Landmark Properties Holdings, LLC  
Anne Ranne  
Malcolm Development and Construction  
St. Mary's Health Care System  
Synovus  
The Give It All Fund, a Donor Advised Fund of Renaissance Charitable Foundation  
The Middlebrooks Automotive Holdings, Inc.  
Fund at the Athens Area Community Foundation  
Tri County EMC Foundation, Inc.  
Walmart  
Walton EMC

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## Annual donors: \$750-\$999

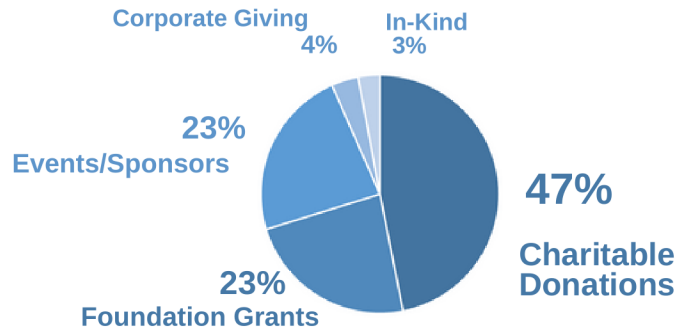
Drs. John and Michelle Barton  
Johnnie and Charles Blair, Jr.  
Dr. and Mrs. Robert Bluett  
*In memory of Alan Clardy*  
Susan Boye  
Ruth Campbell



## Rainy Day Friends!

All who contribute \$750 or more within the calendar year qualify as a **Rainy Day Friend!** These donors are matched with a specific TCF family to learn how their contributions benefitted them during their cancer treatment. To join the Rainy Day Friends, visit [www.cfneqa.org/rainy-day-friends](http://www.cfneqa.org/rainy-day-friends).

# Thank You to our Donors and Sponsors!



## FISCAL YEAR 2021: INCOME BY SOURCE

TCF survived two consecutive fiscal years of pandemic philanthropy! For us, this meant fewer public fundraising events. Fortunately, private donors and grantmakers increased their giving allowing TCF to provide more support for patients than ever before! The generosity of our community made the difference in 2021!

### 2021 Sponsors



**Hodgson & Hodgson**

**Dr. and Mrs. Glen Wiggins**

**Hughes Subaru**



**LAMAR**

**BankSouth**

**THE ADSMITH**

**janssen** | PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY OF Johnson & Johnson

**FBG** | FORTSON, BENTLEY & GRIFFIN, P.A. ATTORNEYS AT LAW CELEBRATING 75 YEARS

Northeast Georgia Health System

**JACKSON** | HEALTHCARE MEMBERSHIP ASSOCIATION™ The Power to Improve Your Life

**75** | THOMSON REUTER

**TRINITY** | ACCOUNTING GROUP Focus. Vision. Discipline.

**Gastroenterology** | ASSOCIATES OF ATHENS

**SYNOVUS**

**ATHENS PULMONARY** | Pulmonary • Critical Care • Sleep Medicine

America's Home Place - Athens Area Urology, P.C. - Atlantic Capital Bank  
 Chastain & Associates Insurance - Classic City Orthodontics - Collins and Moody Group  
 Connected Technologies - Fintrust Capital Advisors - Georgia Skin Cancer & Aesthetic Dermatology  
 Glenn Alex, DMD - Heyward Allen/Middlebrooks Automotive - Kindred Hospice  
 Landmark Properties - Laura and Harris Lowery  
 St. Mary's Hospital - Walton EMC



## TCF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021

Floretta Johnson	Joel Gregory, President	Cindy Mercer, Executive Committee	Cynthia Shepherd
Erika Lane	Mercer Treadwell, Vice President	Jag Gholson, Past President, Ex-Officio	Kirk Smith
Libby McKinney	Cindy Lester, Secretary	Steve Everett	Grant Tribble
Cynthia Shepherd	Lisa Rawls, Treasurer	Mark Hodge	Alan Zielinski

# Remember with Love

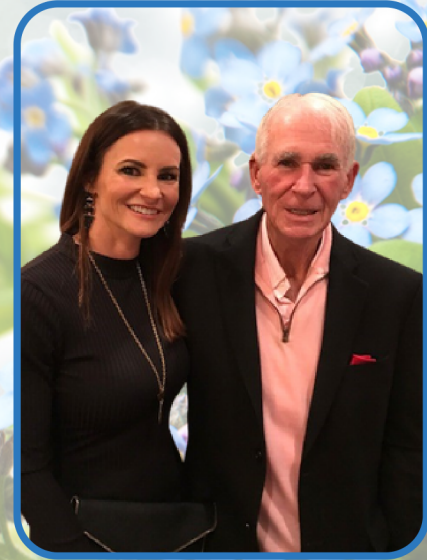
April, May, June 2022

Thank you to these families for recently directing gifts of remembrance to The Cancer Foundation. Our deepest sympathies go out to all who will miss these loved ones.

- The family of Cathy Powell
- The family of James E. Wallace
- The family of Larry Lee Kimbrough
- The family of Billy Franklin Chandler
- The family of Cynthia Leigh Hamlin

Many families choose TCF as the designated charity in an obituary for a loved one. Visit our Memorials page at [cfnea.org](http://cfnea.org) for more information on gifts of remembrance.

In Memory of  
**Mr. James E. Wallace**  
April 28, 1948 - April 24, 2022



Below is an excerpt from a letter from Mr. Jim Wallace outlining his motivation for giving to The Cancer Foundation. His dedication to the needs of others continues to guide the efforts of The Cancer Foundation Board, Volunteers, and Staff.

Up until August 2014, I was working hard, and I had just about beat prostate cancer. I felt as if I was on top of the world, trying to live life with the utmost joy. I felt as if I had come into my prime and I quickly realized the harder I worked, the more joy I received.

After seeing eleven doctors for help with my throat problems, I asked for a biopsy. A few days later, the results came back; I had tested positive for tongue and throat cancer. My emotions went from extreme joy to complete sorrow and hopelessness. After getting over the initial shock and beginning my treatments; I noticed I was really depressed. I remember asking "why me?" and felt a lot of pity for myself.

Then I remembered how I had beat prostate cancer twice. It had been a long journey and a hard fight, but it was well worth it. I made up my mind that I was going to kick cancer again and regain my life. While going through this experience, I noticed how I could help the other patients that are fighting cancer. I know many people aren't as blessed as I have been, so I am so thankful I can offer support to make their lives a little easier while facing their illness. I realized that this is what makes life worthwhile....giving back.

Jim Wallace

In 2016, Mr. Wallace and his daughter, Jessica Tolbert, founded the Tolbert Wallace Fund at The Cancer Foundation that inspired the successful March to a Million Campaign ultimately raising over \$1 million in the years that followed.



## Patient PANTRY

Patient Pantry launched in June 2022 as TCF's newest program addressing the urgent need for food among some low-income cancer patients in our area. Pantry Bags are donated by members of the community ready for delivery to a family in need due to the high cost of cancer treatment. The TCF Board of Directors donated to create the program's first ever pantry bag; this bag was provided to a family on a fixed income from Watkinsville, Georgia with a breast cancer patient in the home.

Patient Pantry bags are easy to assemble; the list of preferred items may be found on the TCF website. Donating a bag of food makes an immediate impact in the life of a patient and their family.

Visit [www.cfnea.org/patient-pantry](http://www.cfnea.org/patient-pantry) for more information.



**BRITTANY DAVIDSON:**  
TCF Operations Manager

In July, Brittany joined the staff of The Cancer Foundation as Operations Manager. Brittany's role touches on all aspects of TCF from monthly program audits to donor stewardship in order to keep the organization running smoothly. Brittany comes to us with an extensive healthcare administration background having worked most recently with the Live Well Department at University Cancer & Blood Center as Department Coordinator. Her heart for our patients comes through in all she does at TCF!



*Welcome, Brittany!*



**FOR YOUR**  
*calendar*

**Sip & Shuck Fall Fundraiser**

**Thursday, October 6, 2022 6 pm to 9 pm**

Visit [cfnega.org/events](http://cfnega.org/events) for sponsor and reservation information.

**Virtual Celebration of Life**

**Tuesday, November 1, 2022**

On November 1st, TCF will launch our online album of remembrance for loved ones lost to cancer. Visit our website to submit a photo of your loved ones to be added to our virtual celebration of life.

**TCF Holiday Campaign Launch**

**Monday, November 14, 2022**

Make a difference in the life of a cancer patient this holiday season with a donation! Visit our website for details.

**Do you know a family in need due to the high cost of cancer treatment?**

Patients need a referral from their health care provider and must meet eligibility requirements. Patients should ask to speak with a social worker or nurse navigator at their treatment facility to start a TCF application. Or, families may contact us directly:

phone 706-353-4354 or email [help@cfnega.org](mailto:help@cfnega.org)

We provide creditor direct assistance for housing, utilities, transportation, medication copays, medical equipment, health insurance premiums and more!

[www.cancerfoundationofnega.org](http://www.cancerfoundationofnega.org)

**IN THEIR OWN WORDS**



*I am sending my heartfelt thanks to all of you...You all are very important to people like me and all the other cancer patients.*

*I want you to know the help you have given me and my wife has made and continues to make this journey much easier not just financially but spiritually and mentally.*

*It has brought relief to my situation. I hope these words cause you to know how thankful we are for all of your help!!!*



**Thyroid Cancer Patient  
Madison County**



**The Cancer Foundation**

OF NORTHEAST GEORGIA  
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