

## A Glance Back at 2016 - *“Going the Extra Mile”*

By Karla Nichols, Executive Director

“Going the Extra Mile” to offer support throughout the cancer journey... that is what Cancer Action is committed to providing for every person in our community who hear those frightening words “you have cancer”. A cancer diagnosis can turn a person’s world upside down, impacting not only them but their family and friends. At Cancer Action, we believe that no one should face the challenges of cancer alone. During the past year, our services and support helped over 2,600 cancer patients face the challenges that cancer brought into their lives. We meet a person wherever they are when they come to us and walk alongside them throughout their cancer journey. For 57 years Cancer Action has been “Going the Extra Mile” for those with cancer in our community!

Our support provides essential practical services, financial assistance and the professional guidance, education and emotional support to help families navigate this difficult journey. Our individualized, personal approach to care is what makes Cancer Action a unique and vital organization in Kansas City.

2016 was another busy year for our organization! Cancer Action’s practical and financial assistance programs provided



**Cynthia Newsome, Mid-Day Anchor, 41 Action News; Molly Hammer, Singer and Karla Nichols**

critical, often life-saving services to cancer patients. Help with prescriptions, nutritional supplements and rides to life-sustaining treatment appointments were three of the most utilized and costly services during the past year. We continue to increase our survivorship and wellness programs to help address the emotional impact that cancer has on the lives of survivors. We also moved our office in Wyandotte County to the Argentine area in the middle of the year. We are hopeful this may increase the access to those living in south Wyandotte County!

Cancer Action’s 6th annual Champion for Survivorship Breakfast, “Raising Hope” was a highlight of the year. Cynthia Newsome, Midday Anchor for 41 Action News and cancer

survivor was our special guest emcee. She shared her cancer journey, providing hope and inspiration! Moving videos featuring personal stories of Cancer Action clients were shown during the event. Molly Hammer once again shared her beautiful voice with us.

Cancer Action continues to be blessed with so many dedicated volunteers who assist us in our mission. Our committed and compassionate volunteers provided over 51,000 hours of service this past year! Our longtime friend and emcee Gary Lezak, Chief Meteorologist for 41 Action News and his weather dog, Sunny helped us recognize and celebrate their work at our annual volunteer reception.

Cancer Action continues to be a vital and needed partner with the cancer care providers in our community. I am so grateful to everyone who gave their time, talents and treasures to lift up thousands of cancer patients who come to Cancer Action for support, hope and comfort during the toughest time of their lives. As a local organization, every dollar Cancer Action receives remains here in our community helping our families, friends and neighbors. Together we “Go the Extra Mile” for those with cancer in our community!



## “Going the Extra Mile” with Danielle – A Story of Hope Rising

No one thinks of getting cancer at 30 years of age, but that is what Danielle and her family had to

face. “At age 30, I began the most challenging journey of my life! I was diagnosed with breast cancer.” Danielle shared. As a mother, wife,

### Danielle with husband

daughter, teacher, and praise team member at her church, her first thoughts were, ‘This can’t be happening to me! Am I going to live? Can I make it through this? What do I do now?’

That’s when Danielle turned to Cancer Action. She learned of Cancer Action from a member at her church when she was struggling to eat. Cancer Action has been a strong support to her and her family. We provided nutritional supplement; helped with her medications; provided medical supplies needed from her surgery; and education and emotional support throughout her journey. Most recently, we helped her with a lymphedema sleeve to help treat one of the side-effects from her treatment. Whatever she may face, Danielle knows she is not alone.

Today Danielle is thankful to be a cancer survivor! She is grateful for each day she has with her family, especially her son, Chuck! She shares how appreciative she is for the support from Cancer Action, “I know that Cancer Action went the extra mile with me!”

## *We Couldn’t Do It Without You.....*

### *Going the Extra Mile Together*

Together, we helped over 2,600 cancer patients on their journey during 2016. We want to share with you some of the impact we made together...

- Supplied over **80,000 servings of nutritional supplements**
- Arranged **794 rides** to treatment and doctor appointments
- Filled **2,193 cancer-related prescription**
- Provided **313 wigs and over 1,200 turbans and scarves**
- Distributed over **570 pieces of medical equipment** and **37,000 Medical Supplies**
- Adopted **30 families** through our “Making Wishes Come True”
- Case managers provided thousands of hours in emotional support, guidance and education helping cancer patients navigate every step of their cancer journey.

## Leaving a Legacy of Hope to Others

Cancer Action has been blessed to receive bequests through the years that have helped us expand our support, ensuring that the life-saving, life-improving care Cancer Action gives is available to those in our community who need us today. We are always honored to be remembered through these special gifts of compassion that ensure our organization remains strong, ensuring that Cancer Action can continue meeting the growing needs of cancer patients here in Kansas City.

One such person was Eleanor Gray. Eleanor was a person of great compassion for others. She blessed many through her estate planning. Through her thoughtful and generous planning, she left a legacy of hope and care to those who she will never meet, yet she has touched their lives in important, even life-sustaining ways.

There are many ways you can leave a gift to Cancer Action. Whether your gift is large or small, every gift will help us make a difference for those experiencing this difficult time in their lives. If you would like more information on making a legacy gift to Cancer Action, please contact Karla Nichols, Executive Director at (913) 642-8885.

## Cancer Action Volunteers Giving Time And Touching Hearts

Cancer Action volunteers are dedicated, compassionate and faithful in giving of their time and many talents to offer support to cancer patients and their families. We are grateful for your service. Here are just a few examples of how Cancer Action Volunteers gave of their time in 2016:

In 2016, volunteers gave over **51,618 hours** of service!

- Volunteers drove over **11,350 miles** and spent over **770 hours** transporting cancer patients to their doctor and treatment appointments
- Over **1,850 hours** were donated by those helping our three offices run smoothly and bulk mail volunteers.
- Approximately **49,138 hours** were given to provide comfort and care to our clients through individuals and our service groups
- Many others gave thousands of hours helping with special events, health fairs, organizing storage rooms, courier work, and a host of other activities to help us make



**CANCER ACTION 2016 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**  
Beve Freeman with Gary Lezak and Sunny, Karla Nichols and Shirley Gibson, Program Director

Volunteers don't necessarily have the time; they just have the heart!

Elizabeth Andrew



**MAXINE BOWERS LEGACY AWARD** presented to Mary Standerfer, shown with Karla Nichols, Executive Director, Cancer Action and Gary Lezak, Chief Meteorologist for 41 Action News holding Sunny

## Financial Overview

### Total Support and Revenues **\$669,279**

Donations/ Memorials	\$262,978	39.2%
Patient Services Grants	\$162,518	24.3%
United Way/ CFC	\$127,260	19.0%
Interest and dividend income	\$ 18,575	02.7%
Unrealized Gain on investments	\$ 32,161	04.8%
Realized Gain on Investments	\$ 5,282	0.07%
Special Events	\$ 54,829	08.2%
Other revenue	\$ 5,676	0.08%

### Operational Expenses **\$667,823**

Programs and Services	\$ 570,504	85.4%
Management/ General	\$ 51,586	07.7%
Fundraising	\$ 45,733	06.8%

A full copy of the audited financial statements may be obtained upon request.

*Individually,  
we are one drop.  
Together, we are  
an ocean.*

Ryunosuke Satoro

*Special thanks to the following for their support of Cancer Action:*

**Foundations and Businesses**

Addington Design  
 AON Foundation  
 AT&T United Way Employee Giving Campaign  
 Bank Of America Charitable Foundation  
 Bank of America United Way  
 Bank of Labor  
 Benchmark Rehabilitation  
 Boilermakers Local Lodge No. 83  
 Bra Couture KC  
 Aileen V. and Redman Callaway Fund  
 Cancer Treatment Centers of America  
 CertainTeed Corporation  
 Cremation Society of Kansas and Missouri  
 GE United Way Campaign  
 Haldex Brake Products Corporation  
 Hallmark Cards  
 Healthcare Foundation of Greater Kansas City  
 Heartland Combined Federal Campaign  
 HNC Living Foundation  
 Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney's Office  
 Jewish Heritage Foundation  
 Lathrop & Gage  
 Midwest Cancer Alliance  
 Midwest Respiratory Care  
 Mile High United Way  
 Quality General Contracting  
 R A Bloch Cancer Foundation  
 Realm Construction  
 RPM Photography and Cinematography  
 Sara's Floral  
 Sarah Cannon  
     Cancer Centers HCA Midwest Health  
 Shifra Stein and Robert F. Barrett  
     Memorial Fund  
 Smithfield Farmland Corporation  
 St. Mary's Medical Center  
 Susan G. Komen Greater Kansas City Affiliate  
 The Andrew J. Somora Foundation  
 The Benevity Community Impact Fund  
 Travelers Community Connections  
 Truman Heartland Community Foundation  
 Truman Medical Center

United Way of Greater Kansas City  
 United Way of Wyandotte County  
 University Of Kansas Cancer Center  
 US Bank  
 US Foodservice  
 WireCo World Group  
 Your Cause

**Community Groups**

Bikers for Boobies KC  
 Beyoutify  
 Brookridge Womens Golf Association  
 Farmers Insurance Company  
 First Christian Church, Christian Women's  
     Fellowship, Independence, MO  
 First Presbyterian Church, Independence, MO  
 First United Methodist Church,  
     Friendship Class, Blue Springs, MO  
 Fort Osage Athletic Booster Club  
 Fraternal Order of Eagles #385  
 GNO-4-BC  
 Heartland Indoor Horseshoe Association  
 Hearts on Wheels  
 Hoops 4 Hope  
 House of G&C  
 Independence Young Matrons  
 IO Maiden Designs  
 Lakewood Elementry School Teachers  
 Lee's Summit West Titans Booster Club  
 Ride to Boulevardia  
 Kimbell McCurry Paintings  
 Maywood Community Church Ladies Council  
 Merriam Christian Church  
 National Horseshoe Association  
 Oliver's Hair Salon  
 Polo Riders Saddle Club  
 Raymore-Peculiar Schools  
 Rod Rogers Memorial Golf Tournament  
 Sunflowers To Roses Organization  
 Torchbearer Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi,  
     Independence, MO  
 Visions Motorcycle Club  
 Woods Chapel United Methodist Church

**Mission Statement**

As a caring community of professionals and volunteers, Cancer Action is dedicated to reducing distress and improving the quality of life for those living with, through and beyond cancer; and promoting education, prevention and early detection to reduce the impact of cancer in the greater Kansas City area.

**2016 Board Members**

**BOARD OFFICERS**

JO BETH HERRICK, President  
 DAVID HARRIS  
 BARBARA FLOWERS - Recording Secretary  
 JOE OTEY - Treasurer  
 MOLLY BUCHANAN, Past President

**BOARD MEMBERS**

MARY CALYS  
 PATRICIA CARUTHERS, PH.D  
 ELIZABETH CHILCOTE  
 KATHERINE GIRGIS  
 CLAYTON HARPER  
 KIMBERLY GEORGE  
 ERIC JACOBSON  
 BRIAN LEVINSON  
 ELAINE MCINTOSH  
 VANGIE RICH  
 MARY SHAFER  
 CHRISTIE SHELDON  
 MARCIA VALERA  
 DR. PETER VAN VELDHIJZEN  
 MARY WILLIAMS  
 LIZZIE WRIGHT



**OFFICE LOCATIONS**

**Eastern Jackson County**  
 4010 S. Lynn Court  
 Independence, MO 64055  
 816-350-8881

**Johnson County**  
 10520 Barkley, Suite 100  
 Overland Park, KS 66212  
 913-642-8885

**Wyandotte County**  
 3730 Metropolitan Avenue  
 Kansas City, KS 66106  
 913-321-8880

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