

July 2017



Breast Cancer Assistance Group of Monterey County (BCAG) July 2017 Newsletter

July marks the beginning of BCAG's fiscal year and provides us a time to reflect on the past 12 months, and assess the progress we have made in helping women and men in Monterey County deal with the devastating financial hardships of breast cancer.

Over the past year BCAG has awarded over \$93,500 in grants to 74 local women for food, gas, rent, utilities, and incidentals. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, BCAG provided financial assistance to roughly a third of the women in Monterey County who were diagnosed with breast cancer in the past 12 months. Applicants ranged in age from 30 to 81 years old, proving once again that breast cancer does not discriminate by age.

We are very thankful to the multitude of generous donors who have helped BCAG make this our most successful fundraising year ever. Special thanks goes to the Carmel Valley Ranch Women's Golf Association, the donors to the Monterey Gives! campaign, and the participants in our annual March Bowl-a-thon. Thank you to everyone for your long hours of work and dedication to ensuring BCAG's continued growth and success.

As our year begins, we are very pleased to announce new partnerships with Meals on Wheels (MOW) of Salinas and Thrive Wellness Kitchen of Monterey. For a minimal cost these wonderful organizations will deliver nutritious meals to BCAG applicants who cannot shop or cook for themselves. Together with our ongoing partnership with the Food Bank for Monterey County, we now have three excellent resources to provide nutritious food to our applicants.

For the upcoming year BCAG has elected a new President, Jane Sullivan, and Vice-President, Susan Jordan. Eleanor Uhlinger, Mary Surbridge and Lucy Bradford will remain in their positions as Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. To Susan Greenbaum, our outgoing President, we give thanks and gratitude for three years of amazing leadership and inspiration.

Please visit our website to learn more about BCAG and how you can help to support our cause.

Sincerely,
Jane Sullivan
President
Breast Cancer Assistance Group of Monterey County

[Visit our Website](#)

19th ANNUAL CARMEL VALLEY RANCH CHARITY DAY A HUGE SUCCESS!



Thank you to the Carmel Valley Ranch Women's Golf Association and the Carmel Valley Ranch Tennis Club for your ongoing support over the past 19 years. On June 21st over 100 golfers, tennis players and amazing volunteers came together for the 19th Annual Charity Day benefiting BCAG. A fun day of play was followed by a silent auction, gourmet lunch, and exciting live auction. Special thanks to chairperson, Kasmin Chapell, and her team of volunteers, the PGA golf professionals and golf staff, the Ranch culinary team, the Carmel Valley Ranch Management staff, catering, banquet and clubhouse staff and the Spa Aiyana staff. And of course, a huge thank you to the generosity of all the donors who



sponsored the auctions, golf holes and tennis courts. All spent countless hours planning and working to ensure the 19th Annual Charity Day for BCAG was a tremendous success!



Come Celebrate 2017 Cancer Survivor's Day

Saturday, August 5, 11:00a.m.- 3:00p.m.

Whether you have cancer, survived cancer, or want to show support, join us for this free special event. Survivor's Day is co-sponsored by the Montage Health's Comprehensive Cancer Center in association with the American Cancer Society. Guests will enjoy a barbecue lunch with local doctors at the grill and plenty of other fun activities for the entire family. This event takes place each summer. To learn more, call [\(831\) 625-4753](tel:8316254753).

2017 Cancer Survivor's Day

CELEBRATE | EDUCATE

2017 Cancer Survivors' Day

Saturday, August 5 | 11 a.m.–3 p.m.
Monterey Peninsula College



Bring your family and friends for a day of education, fun, and food at Community Hospital's annual Cancer Survivors' Day.

Barbeque ...
Doctors at the grill

Therapy dogs

Art ... Hands-on art project, *Hands of Hope*, celebrating survivorship

Music and more

Educational presentation*
11 a.m.–noon MPC Lecture Hall

Essential Nutrition: Lessons on Food and Life
Barbara Quinn, registered dietitian, nutrition columnist, author

*Presentation is limited to the first 300 people.

Lunch noon–3 p.m.

To RSVP or for more information:
(800) 388-4301 or cancer.survivorship@chomp.org
chomp.org/celebrate



Comprehensive
Cancer Center
Montage Health

SAVE THE DATE!!

It's not too early to mark your calendar for BCAG's 16th annual Bowl-a-thon! The event will take place on March 24th, 2018, from 1:00pm - 4:00pm at the Monterey Bowling Lanes. The Pacific Grove High School Associated Student Body will once again co-sponsor the event in memory of 2008 graduate, Isabelle McKay Giacalone. All proceeds will be designated for grants to assist young mothers being treated for breast cancer.



Your donations to BCAG make a difference...

The following profile is the story of a recent recipient of a BCAG grant. (To protect her privacy we have changed her name and personal details.)

Lydia is a 60-year-old woman living in Salinas. After discovering a lump in her right breast she underwent a biopsy and was diagnosed with triple-positive, Stage II breast cancer. Because it was a very aggressive form of breast cancer, Lydia immediately underwent a mastectomy, followed by a regimen of sixteen chemotherapy treatments. These treatments will be completed in September and follow-up radiation will be determined at that time.

Prior to being diagnosed Lydia supported herself by working as a cleaning lady. As a result of her surgery and compromised immune system from chemotherapy, Lydia can no longer work, especially around children.

Lydia rents a room in a private home for \$350 a month. When she was referred to BCAG by a social worker at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital she was financially destitute. Due to her inability to work she was two months behind in rent payments. Lydia had little hope of obtaining her past-due rent money, let alone funds for her future housing. Lydia was facing the reality that she could easily become homeless. In addition, without transportation she had no way to get to her chemotherapy and doctor's appointments.

BCAG provided Lydia with a special needs grant to pay for three months of rent and access to transportation for her medical treatments. In addition, Meals on Wheels will deliver food to her home for two months.

Unfortunately, Lydia has no family or friends who can assist her financially. Without the help of BCAG, Lydia would no doubt be homeless and unable to receive treatment for her breast cancer. BCAG's grant has provided her with a temporary living solution. If she is unable to return to work in September she can reapply to BCAG for an additional grant to provide continued assistance during her treatment and recovery.

If you or someone that you know has been diagnosed with breast cancer and would like to apply for a grant from BCAG, please visit our website for more information and to download an application.

[Apply for a BCAG grant](#)

[Donate to BCAG!](#)



Breast Cancer Assistance Group of Monterey County | Phone: 831-649-6365 | Fax: 866-219-8561 |
Email: contact@bcagmc.org | [Website](#)

STAY CONNECTED

