Lately I’ve been thinking a lot about the “silver linings” to COVID. As a community we’ve made so many changes in such a short period of time and been traumatized by much of the uncertainty of the moment. Yet, there is still this beautiful experience of people finding a way to come together and encourage each other even when it’s different than what we are used to seeing.

Cancer Services has had a period of some of the greatest needs and increases in client requests in the history of the agency, and we have been able to respond to those needs. We divided our staff so that only a small portion are on-site and the rest of staff are off-site and while this was out of necessity, we are seeing people thriving in these changed environments, and we are learning that we are still there for each other and for our clients…better than ever. We had to stop gathering in person, so we began providing digital programming and outreach, and saw increases in the numbers of programs and people attending…because no matter what, survivors wanted to gather, learn and support each other. We’ve had groups that consistently help us raise funds to make sure our programs can be accessible to everyone, and while their events and venues had to change they are still demonstrating such passion and commitment for Cancer Services and our clients.

While we are all tired of so many trying circumstances in life, we receive beautiful quotes and cards and letters of encouragement from survivors just wanting to say thank you and make sure we know that we helped. And all of those “silver linings” remind me of what is so incredibly special about our agency, our clients, our culture and our community…we will continue to make someone’s life a little brighter whenever we reach outside of ourselves to share love with others. To all of you who truly make the lives of cancer survivors and our community better, with your support, we wish you the very best for 2021 and share our gratitude for you and the unprecedented year we just completed!

Tara O’Brien, CEO

Cancer Services is celebrating 65 Years this year and it has certainly been a year to remember. During this pandemic, we have continued to serve clients every day and meet increases in every area of service! We have never charged for any of our services and continue to fulfill our mission “Enhancing Health, Life, and Survivorship” because of committed donors like you. We are so grateful for any support and involvement you’ve had in our agency, and are proud to share these results for the first 9 months of 2020:

Patient Advocacy

- 5,937 cancer survivors helped with an average of 13 contacts per client
- A 27% increase

Medication & Financial Assistance

- $395,596 assistance provided & secured daily from the Patient Advocate Team
- A 504% increase

- $74,174,310 medication and financial assistance provided
- This was a 127% increase in client needs

1,235:1 Return on Investment

For every $1 of client financial assistance provided, $1.235 of in-kind financial assistance secured for clients

93% of our annual budget is spent providing direct services; only 7% is spent on management and fundraising expenses.

Thank you! With your support, Cancer Services continues to be a place of strength and compassion for cancer survivors and their families and making quotes like this from a recent client, a reality ~

“Thank you for your support and encouragement during my chemo, your generosity greatly helped my family during a challenging time.”

Choosing to leave your legacy to Cancer Services is an important decision. As an agency of integrity, you can be assured that your contribution will be used to advance our mission. For more information contact Tara O’Brien at Tara@CancerServicesOnline.org or Willonda Thomas at Willonda@CancerServicesOnline.org

What’s next after cancer treatment? Sign up for our Transitions Wellness Program in February to find out! Space is limited so register soon!

Tuesdays at 7:00pm
February 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd
Register at www.CancerServicesOnline.org/Register

Special thanks to Excalibur Direct Marketing
Join us for Eat the Rainbow! Fruit and Veggie Challenge in January! Eat the Rainbow! is a 12-week challenge focused on what you CAN eat instead of what you can’t.

In this 12-week series, we are going to:
• Explain why fruits and vegetables are important for cancer survivors
• Help you increase the amount of fruits and vegetables in your diet
• Bust some common myths about fruits and vegetables

Find out more!

Discover delicious recipes with Julie, The Cancer Dietitian! Are you tired of those complicated recipes? Do you want some ideas for delicious and nutritious recipes that won’t take you all day to make? This hands-on cooking demonstration class is for you!

Upcoming Classes
January 20th ~ Stock the Freezer
February 17th ~ Veggies with Breakfast
March 17th ~ Treatment Side Effect Recipes
April 21st ~ Delicious Desserts

Register here!
www.CancerServicesOnline.org/Register

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Julie, The Cancer Dietitian, hosts webinars regularly throughout the year to educate the public and health care professionals on oncology nutrition topics and general health and wellness topics. Check them out!

Upcoming Webinars
January 13th ~ Intuitive Eating
February 10th ~ Nutrition & Immunity
March 10th ~ Organic or Conventional
April 14th ~ Carbs: Necessary or Not?

Register here!
www.CancerServicesOnline.org/Register

Save the Date ~ April 24, 2021
Wrapped Up In Ribbons
Stay Tuned for more information about Wrapped Up In Ribbons!! While we cannot predict what April 2021 will look like, we will find a way to celebrate Cancer Services, our clients, and the many sponsors and donors that make Wrapped Up In Ribbons a success!

Jon & Kimberly Marzano
Event Co-Chairs

Thank you to those who sacrificed their time and efforts this year to raise funds for Cancer Services! We appreciate you!

Allegacy Federal Credit Union
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
Battery Watering Technologies
Babusiak Insurance Agency
Ireland Insurance Agency
J. McLaughlin at Reynolda Village
Stephanie Hatley & LuLaRoe
Meadowlark Middle School
OpulenceMD Beauty & Dr. Anika Hilderbrand
Oak Valley Ladies Golf Association
Ole Watering Hole
Pink Ribbon Rally
The Solar Bears
Winston-Salem Journal