CANCER ANGELS OF SAN DIEGO CELEBRATES
15 YEARS OF GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT - FROM THE
WALK TO RESTORE LIFE TO THE LARGEST DONATION
EVER RECEIVED - CANCER ANGELS HAS BEEN
CHANGING LIVES SINCE 2007



Make a difference this Holiday season:

- \$1,000 Helps keep a family of four in their home for one month
- \$500 Helps keep an individual housed
- \$250 Provides food for a month
- \$100 Pays the utilities
- \$50-\$75 Fills a tank with gas to get a patient back and forth to treatment

Here's how can you support Cancer Angels:

- Use the enclosed envelope and mail your donation to:
 CASD, 2240 Encinitas Blvd. #D, Box 327, Encinitas, CA 92024
- Donate Online: <u>www.cancerangelsofsandiego.org/donate</u>
- Use **smile.amazon.com** instead of Amazon.com. AmazonSmile will donate to CASD each time you shop. Make sure to choose CASD prior to completing purchases.



Cancer Angels of San Diego Fall 2022

Volunteer of the Year Award

The North County Philanthropy Council held their 35th Anniversary Volunteer Awards Celebration, where Eve Beutler received a well-deserved volunteer award at their 2022 luncheon. Eve, among others, were recognized for their true acts of kindness in service to the missions of their organizations.





In Eve's 15 years of service with Cancer Angels, she has helped thousands of Stage IV patients – preventing homelessness, meeting needs and providing essential support. Here is an excerpt from Eve's statement in the NCPC Awards Program: "Removing an eviction notice from the door of a cancer patient and preventing homelessness and hunger makes me know we're doing imperative work. That is what is so special to me. Cancer Angels lifts people from helplessness to hopefulness by easing their suffering and giving them the dignity to live."



Patient Spotlight



Richard sits at a table by the pool at his apartment complex in Chula Vista. He is full of love for his 16-month-old son and deeply grateful for the support of Cancer Angels, but he also exudes the exhaustion and worry that comes from battling colon cancer for two years.

A pre-Covid visit to a new primary doctor and a conversation about his family's health history led to an appointment for a screening colonoscopy – an appointment, that like so many others, was postponed for a year as the pandemic delayed the availability of healthcare. By the time Richard's exam gets rescheduled, his cancer is Stage III and spreading. It's 2020 and he is the eighteenth person in his family to be diagnosed with colon cancer at 40 years old. He is also weeks away from learning that his girlfriend is pregnant.

Flash forward two years from diagnosis. Richard is the primary caregiver to his son, Anthony. As with so many of the patients Cancer Angels supports, he has also lost his job as the maintenance man for a property management company because of absences during treatment. It's unfair and not in alignment with the law, but it happens all the time. That is where Cancer Angels comes in and why your support of our work is so important.

Anthony is all the motivation Richard needs to continue treatment and he tells us that what he hopes for is more time. Time together with his son and time to be a good role model for Anthony as he grows.





Anthony's Christmas List

- 1. Tricycle & Helmet
- 2. Shoes & Socks
- 3. Building blocks
- 4. Puzzles
- 5. Montessori toys like the bee box, happy puzzles, shape blocks, or vegetable box
- 6. Pajamas
- 7. Chewelry by ARK Therapeutic

Your donation this holiday season will help fulfill Anthony's wishes and those of the other families we serve. In his own words: "I'm a single parent, first-time father battling cancer. It's been very difficult going through chemo and taking care of my son. I had bad depression and couldn't take the medication because I wouldn't be able to take care of my son. I was losing hope, but my son gave me life. He gave me strength to keep pushing forward. Then I was in a financial crisis. Living in San Diego is difficult. My family helped me out as much as they could. I was facing eviction. The fear of that pierced my soul. I felt alone. I was thinking how am I going to do this, I have a one year old son and me going through chemo? I was falling deeper into depression, but like a good parent, put on that smile so my son wouldn't see how broken I was. A caseworker told me about Cancer Angels of San Diego and got me in contact with Eve. God sent me a blessing with her. I put all my trust in her and I can say for certain they have gone above and beyond. Cancer Angels of San Diego pulled me out of my crisis and gave me time. They try really hard to get things done." Richard M.

Statistically Speaking

As Richard's story shows, there is so much more to cancer than just the disease itself. Not only do cancer patients have to deal with the physical toll of the disease, but they also have to manage the emotional, mental and financial stresses that come with diagnosis and treatment. Those stressors are very real and research clearly shows they impact outcomes.

There is actually a term for the economic impact of cancer – financial toxicity – and it effects a large percentage of patients who receive a diagnosis. Consider this, the average American has less than \$3,500 in savings and 39% of the population doesn't have enough money on hand to cover a \$400 emergency. In the State of California, 39 million residents live in poverty and, while 90% of the state is now covered by medical insurance, an unexpected life event like cancer and its attendant costs can mean the difference between making the rent payment and having to live in a car during treatment.

A further reality of cancer is that patients and their caregivers may be unable to work for an extended amount of time. Those with low-income jobs are particularly effected. A study found that patients undergoing cancer treatments missed 22 more days of work per year than patients with other diseases, and the numbers get even worse for women. Only 57% of low-income women are able to remain in their jobs after a cancer diagnosis.

With your support, Cancer Angels steps forward to help low-income patients thrive after diagnosis and during treatment, making sure they stay housed and have the basics covered.

Here's how you can make a difference this holiday season:

- Purchase gift cards with a value of \$50 and up for supermarkets like Ralphs, Vons, and Trader Joes or gas cards like Shell, ARCO, and Chevron
- Fulfill the holiday wishes of a family we serve
- Support the future of Cancer Angels by making a donation of any amount