

## Disability Rights Legal Center

# CLRC

## Cancer Legal Resource Center

*The CLRC is a joint program of the Disability Rights Legal Center & Loyola Law School Los Angeles*

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## National Financial Assistance

The Cancer Legal Resource Center (CLRC) has designed this information sheet to answer commonly asked questions regarding the availability of possible financial assistance. However, this handout may be just a starting point for you to find out additional information. Please feel free to contact the CLRC at (866) THE-CLRC if you need additional information or to answer other questions you may have.



The American Cancer Society (ACS) is a nationwide, community based, voluntary health organization. With over 3,400 local offices, the ACS provides information on all aspects of cancer through its toll-free information line (800) ACS-2345, website at [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org) and through published materials.

### To find financial assistance resources in your area:

- (1) Log on to [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org), click 'IN YOUR AREA' on the top of the homepage, type in your zip code or city in the prompt box, and then click 'GO.'
- (2) Scroll towards the bottom of the page and find the 'LOCAL RESOURCES' section. There, you can click on the resource category you are interested in and it will direct you to a list of resources in your area.
- (3) You can also click on 'SEARCH RESOURCES' at the bottom of the 'LOCAL RESOURCES' section to obtain the full list of resources in your area.

If you have additional questions, simply call the ACS toll free information line at (800) ACS-2345 and ask specifically about financial assistance resources available in your area.



CancerCare is a national non-profit organization that provides free professional support services to anyone affected by cancer including patients, caregivers, children, loved ones and the bereaved. CancerCare programs include counseling, education, and financial assistance.

CancerCare typically provides financial assistance in two ways: The CancerCare Co-Payment Assistance Foundation provides help for those who cannot afford their medication co-payments. Please check their website for covered diagnoses and medications. CancerCare also provides limited funding for other needs. To qualify, individuals must call or go online to fill out the application for financial assistance. Individuals must be in active treatment or no more than a year from active treatment. CancerCare's social workers are well trained in financial issues and will work closely with you to get the help you need.

### To apply for CancerCare's financial assistance:

Call toll free (800) 813-HOPE; or visit [www.cancercare.org](http://www.cancercare.org)



AVONcares Program for Medically Underserved Women provides financial assistance to low-income and uninsured women throughout the country. The AvonCares program will provide the following service for women in the United States and Puerto Rico with breast or gynecological cancer and their families: financial assistance, emotional support for individuals and families, education and outreach, information about cancer and treatment, and referrals to other services. Individuals must be in active treatment or within a year of active treatment of some kind. For information on the AVONcares, **contact CancerCare at 1-800-813-HOPE (4673) or visit [www.cancercares.org](http://www.cancercares.org).**



Through a partnership between Susan G. Komen for the Cure and CancerCare, qualified, low income, under-insured or uninsured breast cancer patients may be eligible for financial assistance under the Linking A.R.M.S. program. Grants to cover the costs of oral cancer treatment medications, pain and anti-nausea medications, lymphedema support and supplies, prostheses, and durable medical equipment may be available. **For more information call toll free (800) 462-9273 or visit [www.cancercares.org](http://www.cancercares.org). For the Linking A.R.M.S. program, call (800) 813-HOPE.**



Patient Services Incorporated (PSI) is a non-profit organization dedicated to subsidizing the high costs of health insurance premiums and pharmacy co-payments for individuals with a very limited number of specific chronic illnesses and rare disorders. Through private and corporate donations, PSI offers assistance to families based on the severity of the medical and financial need. **To request an application, call toll free (800) 366-7741.** If approved, assistance will be granted for a maximum of two years pending the availability of PSI funds. For more information, visit [www.uneedpsi.org](http://www.uneedpsi.org).

### PATIENT ADVOCATE FOUNDATION CO-PAY RELIEF

The Patient Advocate Foundation Co-Pay Relief program offers personal services to patients diagnosed with breast cancer, kidney cancer, lung cancer, prostate cancer, sarcoma, and muscular degeneration. Assistance may also be available to patients who are experiencing secondary issues as a result of cancer treatment.

The Co-Pay Relief program offers personal services to all patients through the use of call counselors. These counselors will assist you throughout the entire application process and screen for eligibility (by collecting financial and medical information) from everyone who calls to apply for the program. **For information about this Co-Pay Relief program, log on to [www.copays.org](http://www.copays.org).**

**To find a comprehensive list of resources for specific types of cancer:**

- (1) Call toll free (800) 532-5274 or (866) 512-3861; or
- (2) Log on to [www.patientadvocate.org](http://www.patientadvocate.org), click on 'Resources,' then click on 'National Financial Resources Guide'



Patient Advocate Foundation's Colorectal CareLine is a patient/provider hotline designed to provide assistance to patients who have been diagnosed with colorectal cancer and are seeking education and access to care. The Colorectal CareLine also offers the Financial Assistance Fund for individuals with colorectal cancer who need assistance with transportation expenses related to treatment. This is a one-time \$400.00 grant. **For more information about the Colorectal CareLine, log on to [www.colorectalcareline.org](http://www.colorectalcareline.org) or call (866) 657-8634.**



If you are having difficulties paying your utilities, your local Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) may be able to assist you with bill payment. **To apply, contact the LIHEAP program in your community or call the National Energy Assistance Referral Project at toll free (866) 674-6327 for more information.**



The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society offers patients who reside in the United States and Puerto Rico and have difficulty paying for or simply cannot afford their private or public health insurance premiums or co-pay obligation, a possibility that they may be eligible for this program. It is available to patients with chronic myelogenous leukemia, chronic lymphocytic leukemia, Hodgkin lymphoma, Non-Hodgkin lymphoma, myelodysplastic syndromes, Myeloma, and Waldenstrom macroglobulinemia. Individuals must meet strict financial guidelines in order to be eligible. **To apply, contact the Co-Pay Assistance Program at (877) 557-2672 or contact the information resource center at (800) 955-4572 or log on to [www.lls.org/copay](http://www.lls.org/copay) or email [copay@lls.org](mailto:copay@lls.org)**



HEALTHWELL  
FOUNDATION®

The Foundation provides copayment and premium payment assistance to eligible individuals. This means that if you've been prescribed a medication, but are unable to afford the copayment required by your insurer, they may be able to help by paying some or all of your copayment. Also, if you are eligible for health insurance, but cannot afford the insurance premium, they may be able to help by paying some or all of your insurance premium. They are currently able to provide assistance to patients undergoing treatment in several disease areas. **To apply for the program log on to [www.healthwellfoundation.org](http://www.healthwellfoundation.org). For questions, contact the HealthWell Foundation at (800) 675-8416.**



The Patient Access Network Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to supporting the needs of patients that cannot access the treatments they need due to out-of-pocket health care costs. **To apply, call (866) 316-PANF (7263) or visit [www.panfoundation.org](http://www.panfoundation.org).** A Patient Access Network Foundation counselor will work with you directly to assist you in completing the application and assess your eligibility for assistance. Individuals must meet certain financial, insurance, and medical criteria to be eligible.

### NATIONAL MARROW DONOR PROGRAM®

The National Marrow Donor Program® (NMDP) offers financial assistance through its Be The Match Foundation® Patient Assistance Program (the fund-raising partner of the NMDP). The Patient Assistance Program helps patients pay for searching the NMDP Registry and/or for some post-transplant costs. Applications for Patient Assistance Program funds must be submitted by an NMDP transplant center. Eligible patients may ask their transplant center coordinator to apply for one or both programs (search assistance and/or transplant support assistance). **For more information, call (888) 999-6743 or log on to [www.marrow.org](http://www.marrow.org).**



United Way engages the community to identify the underlying causes of the most significant local issues, develops strategies and pulls together financial and human resources to address them, and measures the results. **To apply for financial assistance, log on to [www.unitedway.org](http://www.unitedway.org).**



The Association of Jewish Families and Children's Agency is a vital force in Jewish life; providing social and human services to the most vulnerable in our community. **For more information, call (410) 843-7573 or (800) 634-7346.**



Angel Food Ministries is a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to providing grocery relief to communities throughout the United States. For more information, log on to [www.angelfoodministries.com](http://www.angelfoodministries.com) or call (770) 267-7015 or (888) 819-3745. Angel Food Ministries also has a 24 hour hotline for questions, menu information, and host site contact information. You can reach the hotline at (877) 366-3646.



The Food Stamp Program helps low-income individuals and families buy the food they need for good health. You apply for benefits by completing a state application form. Benefits are provided on an electronic card that is used like an ATM card and accepted at most grocery stores. **To apply, log on to [www.fns.usda.gov](http://www.fns.usda.gov).**



Cancer Fund of America helps cancer patients by providing items such as liquid nutritional supplements and vitamins, lotions and ointments, food items, various medical supplies, and non-prescription medicine, toys, clothing, and hygiene items. **For more information, visit [www.cfoa.org](http://www.cfoa.org) or call (800) 578-5284.**



CDF is a nonprofit charitable organization that helps underinsured patients with chronic disease, cancer, or life-altering conditions obtain the expensive medications they need. They assist patients throughout the United States who meet income qualification guidelines and have private insurance or Medicare Part D plan but cannot afford the co-payments for their specialty therapeutics. **For more information, visit [www.cdfund.org](http://www.cdfund.org) or call (877) 968-7233.**



Feeding America network provides food assistance to more than 25 million low income people facing hunger in the US. They have a network of more than 200 food banks serving all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. **For more information, visit [www.feedingamerica.org](http://www.feedingamerica.org) or call (800) 771-2303**



Meals on Wheels provides home-delivered meals and services to seniors. **For more information or to find a local affiliate, visit [www.mowaa.org](http://www.mowaa.org) or call (703) 548-8024.**

**Cancer Copay Relief** is a non-profit organization which is committed to the amelioration of suffering in the cancer community. Cancer Copay's mission is to share the burden of cancer by providing financial assistance to those currently undergoing treatment. **To complete an application for possible financial assistance, visit [www.cancercopayrelief.com](http://www.cancercopayrelief.com) or call (888) 257-0485.**

**Brenda Mehling Cancer Fund** provides financial assistance for patients ages 18-40 who are going through cancer treatments. Grants are awarded to cover co-payments, rent/mortgage, transportation, car insurance, repairs, and groceries. **For more information, visit [www.bmcf.net](http://www.bmcf.net) or call (800) 878-9184.**

**The Caregivers Marketplace** offers a cash back program for eligible products that are not typically covered by insurance or Medicare. **To apply, visit [www.caregiversmarketplace.com](http://www.caregiversmarketplace.com) or call (800) 888-0889.**

**The National Leukemia Research Association** provides financial assistance to leukemia patients of all ages for x-ray therapy, chemotherapy, and leukemia drugs, as well as for laboratory fees associated with leukemia. **For more information, visit [www.childrensleukemia.org](http://www.childrensleukemia.org) or call (516) 222-1944.**

**The National Transplant Assistance Fund** provides fundraising assistance to cancer patients in need of transplants. Additionally, the Fund provides some financial assistance. **For more information, visit [www.transplantfund.org](http://www.transplantfund.org) or call (800) 642-8399.**

**Sensational in Survival** gives financial assistance, essential services and quality life enhancements during treatment to those battling breast cancer. **For more information, visit [www.sensationalinsurvival.org](http://www.sensationalinsurvival.org) or call (585) 586-5680.**

**Modest Needs** provides assistance for small, emergency expenses which an individual could not have anticipated or prepared for. **For more information, visit [www.modestneeds.org](http://www.modestneeds.org) or call (212) 463-7042.**

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