

Ideas for assistance for those with Cancer

American Cancer Society – www.cancer.org – 1-800-227-2345

Insurance (medical)

- Social Security Disability Programs – www.socialsecurity.gov 1-800-772-1213
- Medicaid – 1-877-267-2323 www.cms.gov/medicaid/consumer.asp

Medicaid is a insurance program for people who need financial assistance for medical expenses – Medicaid coverage includes: part time nursing, home care aide services, and medical supplies and equipment.

- Medicare – 1-800-633-4227

Medicare is an insurance program to those who are disabled under the age of 65. Medicare is divided up into two parts. Part A pays for hospital care, home health care, hospice care, and care in medicare-certified facilities. Part B covers medically necessary services, including diagnostic studies, physician services, durable home medical equipment and ambulance transportation.

- Veterans Administration provides eligible veterans and their family members (limited coverage for family members) with treatment for service connected injuries and other medical conditions.
1-877-22-8387 www1.va.gov/health

Food assistance –

Food Banks – contact the Community Action Agency for your county (refer to the “Georgia Community Action Agencies listing” located on either Captiva or GDC Public Website under Employee Support)

Food Stamps – 1-800-869-1150 or contact your local Department of Family and Children Services office (<http://dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov>)

TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) - 1-800-869-1150 or contact your local Department of Family and Children Services office (<http://dfcs.dhr.georgia.gov>)

Financial assistance-

- CancerCare is a national CancerCare is a national nonprofit agency that offers free support, information, financial assistance, and practical help to people with cancer and their loved ones. Financial assistance is given in the form of limited grants for certain treatment expenses. Services are provided by oncology social workers and are available in person, over the telephone, and through the agency's Web site. CancerCare's reach also extends to professionals—providing education, information, and assistance. A section of the CancerCare Web site and some publications are available in Spanish, and staff can respond to calls and e-mails in Spanish. Information about financial assistance for all cancers is available at http://www.cancercare.org/get_help/assistance/cc_financial.php on the Internet.

Telephone: 1–800–813–4673 (1–800–813–HOPE)

web site: <http://www.cancercare.org>

CancerCare has also partnered with Susan G. Komen for the Cure to create the Linking A.R.M.S. program, which provides limited financial assistance for hormonal and oral chemotherapy, pain and antinausea medication, lymphedema supplies, and durable medical equipment for women with breast cancer.

- NeedyMeds is a 501(3)(c) nonprofit organization with the mission of helping people who cannot afford medicine or health care costs. The information at NeedyMeds can be obtained anonymously and is free of charge. NeedyMeds is an information source similar to the Yellow Pages; it does not supply medications or financial assistance, but helps people find assistance programs and other available resources.

Web site: <http://www.needymeds.com/>

Financial assistance-

(continued)

- The Patient Advocate Foundation (PAF) provides education, legal counseling, and referrals to cancer patients and survivors concerning managed care, insurance, financial issues, job discrimination, and debt crisis matters. The PAF also conducts outreach to African American and Hispanic/Latino American populations.

Telephone: 1-800-532-5274

Web site: <http://www.patientadvocate.org>

- The Co-Pay Relief Program provides limited payment assistance for medicine to insured patients who financially and medically qualify. For more information about the Co-Pay Relief Program, visit <http://www.copays.org> or call 1-866-512-3861.
- Patient Assistance Programs are offered by some pharmaceutical manufacturers to help pay for medications. To learn whether a specific drug might be available at reduced cost through such a program, talk with a physician or a medical social worker or visit the drug manufacturer's Web site. Most pharmaceutical companies will have a section titled "patient assistance programs" on their Web site.
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is administered by the SSA and supplements Social Security payments for aged, blind, and disabled people with little or no income. It provides cash to meet basic needs for food, clothing, and shelter. Information on eligibility, coverage, and how to file a claim is available from the SSA. The Benefit Eligibility Screening Tool is available at <https://s044a90.ssa.gov/apps7/best/benefits/> on the Internet.

Web site: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/ssi>

- The Road to Recovery is an ACS service program that provides transportation for cancer patients to their treatments and home again. Transportation is provided according to the needs and available resources in the community and can be arranged by calling the toll-free number or by contacting the local ACS office.
- The LIVESTRONG™ SurvivorCare partnership between CancerCare and the Lance Armstrong Foundation provides financial assistance to cancer survivors. For patients who are 6 months post-treatment with no evidence of disease, limited financial assistance is available for transportation to follow-up appointments, medical copays, cancer-related medications, and neuropsychological evaluation

Telephone: 1-866-235-7205

Web sites: <http://www.cancer.org>
<http://www.livestrong.org>

Community voluntary agencies and service organizations such as the United Way of America, Salvation Army, Lutheran Social Services, Jewish Social Services, and Catholic Charities may offer help. These organizations are listed in your local phone directory and help all people, not just of the specific faith. Some churches and synagogues may provide financial help or services to their members.

Two such examples:

Catholic Charities of Atlanta

Archdiocese of Atlanta

680 West Peachtree Street, NW.

Atlanta, GA 30308-1931

404-885-7212

www.catholiccharitiesatlanta.org

Catholic Social Services (Savannah)

Diocese of Savannah

601 E. Liberty Street

Savannah, GA 31401-5118

912-201-4067

www.diosav.org/socialservices

Hospice:

National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization – call toll free 1-800-658-8898 or visit website www.nhpc.org

Articles:

Center for Disease Control and Prevention – www.cdc.gov/cancer - 1-800-232-4636

