

KITSAP CANCER SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT

21







KITSAP CANCER SERVICES

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2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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KITSAP CANCER SERVICES

A MESSAGE FROM **OUR DIRECTOR**

JACKIE SMAHA



Once again, 2021 was another trying year for all of us. Cancer did not stop, nor did Covid, leaving in its wake much stress, depression, and lack for everyone, let alone cancer patients, sick and unable to work or to provide for their families. So many faced ill-health and death in an already death-defying pandemic with health providers that continue to be overworked, overwhelmed, and struggling from burnout.

“[We are] extremely thankful for longtime friends and continued support from very special donors who have kept us afloat so we could continue to help a cancer public with more needs than ever before.”

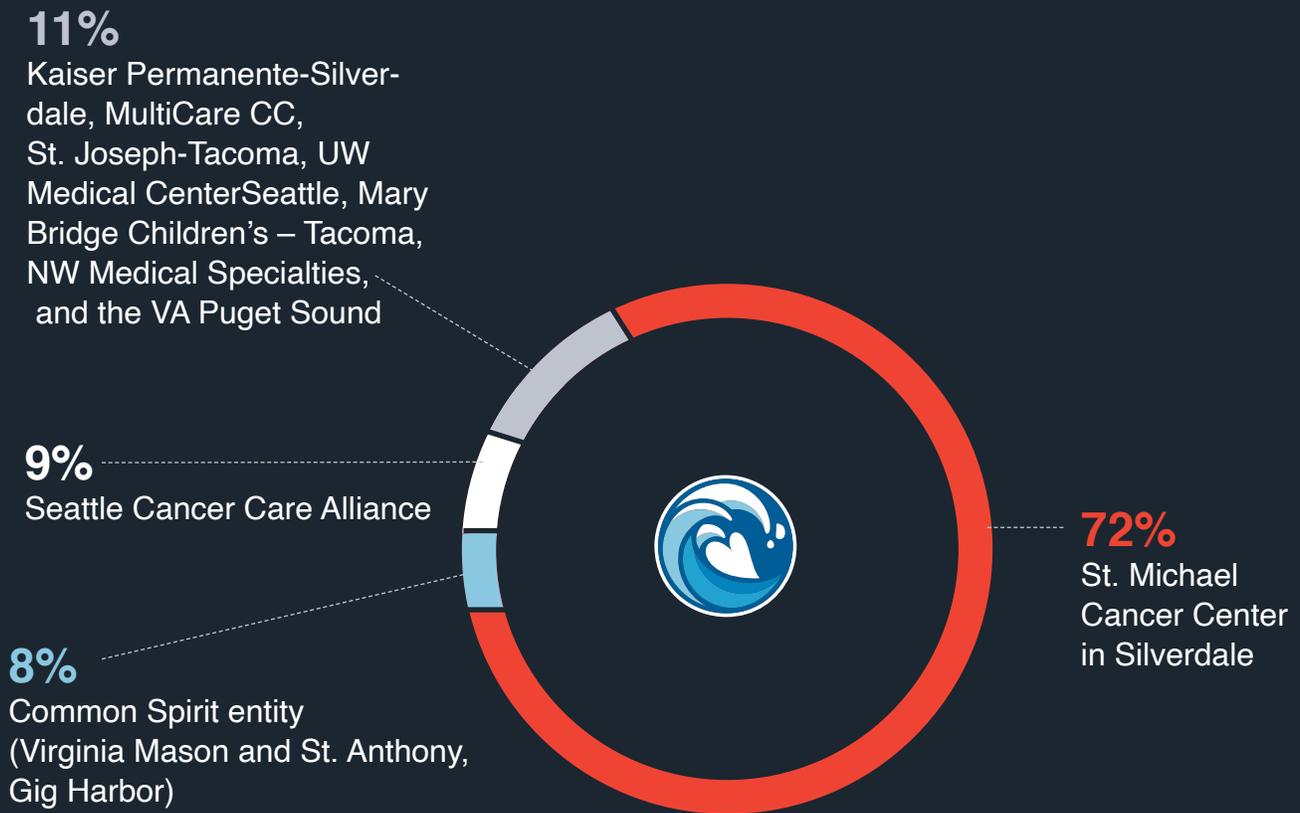
The nonprofit world has taken huge hits as well, having to cancel indoor fundraisers, relying on creative marketing, online pleas, and grants from generous local foundations.

KCS has not been exempt from these issues but extremely thankful for longtime friends and continued support from very special donors who have kept us afloat so we could continue to help a cancer public with more needs than ever before.

We were fortunate enough to have been able to host our annual KCS Golf Challenge fundraiser in the amongst of uncertainty and many supply shortages. Thanks to our loyal sponsors, donors and with the help of the wonderful Kitsap Golf & Country Club Pro and event crew, we were able to raise enough money to leave no one behind.

We look forward to an even bigger, better event this summer.

CANCER CENTER REFERRALS



COMPASSIONATE CARE GRANTS

The last year presented us with exceptional needs. Grant checks went out to 140 cancer patients who were not only struggling with a cancer diagnosis but facing the stress of being unable to provide for themselves or their families. Most of these individuals were unable to work or had lost jobs because of illness, forcing them under Federal Poverty Levels.

Over \$68,000 was paid out in \$500 grants for patients utilizing monies for items such as rent, utilities, medications, copays, transportation and medical specialty items. Of that, \$2465 was used for patients needing dental clearance prior to receiving their treatment and KCS is thankful for those participating dental groups who were able to see them and provide treatment in a timely manner. Another \$625 was utilized for those needing counseling and coping tools as they faced uncertain futures. Local agencies that normally provide free services to Medicare and Medicaid patients were booked out as much as a year.

\$68,000



COMPASSIONATE CARE GRANT **DEMOGRAPHICS**

GENDER

Male – 52 (37%) | Female – 88 (63%), one of which identified as LGBTQ

AVERAGE AGE

60 (youngest, 6 years of age / oldest, 86)

PLACE OF RESIDENCE

55% of our patients resided in South Kitsap
(Port Orchard, Bremerton, Olalla)

21% - North Kitsap (Poulsbo, Hansville, Indianola, Kingston, Suquamish,
Bainbridge Island)

14% - Central Kitsap

10% - lived outside of Kitsap County but were receiving treatment in Kitsap
County. Jefferson, Clallam, Pierce, Mason and Grays Harbor
were represented.



COMPASSIONATE CARE GRANT
DEMOGRAPHICS
CONTINUED

ETHNICITY

87% of the referrals to KCS were white.
13% were represented by Asian, Pacific Islander, Latino, Native and African American

INSURANCE AND INCOME

KCS is dependent upon the hardworking oncology social workers and patient navigators to refer those patient households that are within 250% of the Federal Poverty Level. This means that an individual can have a household income of \$2,683/mo. or \$37,050/yr. to qualify for a grant. We know that someone who is living comfortably above the FPL prior to their cancer diagnosis can have their financial world devastated by the loss of an income or out of pocket medical expenses. Many have lost businesses and homes.

The majority of our referrals had Medicare Medical Insurance (33%), Medicaid (29%) or a combination of Medicaid and Medicare (14%). Many were in the process of being fast tracked to one or both. Over 15% had private insurance and/or Medicare plus private coverage. Approximately 10% had VA coverage or no insurance at the time of applying.

Approximately 60% of the applicants were relying on Social Security and/or Social Security Disability income alone.

20% had no income at the time and were in the process of applying for social services.

20% had some form of salary, much of which was ending, a spouse's salary, paid leave or unemployment that was temporary.

KCS has served patients with a broad spectrum of cancer types, all having different needs and specialty medical items that can deplete cash funds and savings accounts.

In 2021, Lung cancer (17%) has preceded Breast cancer (15%) in the numbers of patients we have helped financially.

Blood cancers were also prevalent at 10% colorectal cancer at 10% pancreatic cancer (9%) head & neck cancers (7%), female cancers other than breast (7%) and prostate cancer (7%) The remaining 19% was represented by a myriad of other cancers in smaller numbers.

**These numbers do not reflect national statistics.*

VIVIEN BLYTH FUND



This is a program in which KCS purchases 80, \$50 Safeway gift cards for local oncology social workers to dispense at their discretion, to cancer patients on the frontlines who are financially depleted and in emergent need of gas, groceries, or medications involving copays.

Vivien Blyth was one of the first oncology social workers that KCS had the pleasure of working with and this was her wish upon retirement – to be able to provide a patient with a small token that could go a long way in an emergency.

Money spent was \$3800.

\$3,800

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HOLIDAY SHARING

Local Oncology Social Workers suggested six families that were especially in need for the holidays. Either a mom or dad had cancer and were unable to provide the food and gifts most normal families would enjoy at Christmastime with situations involving a spouse having to quit work to become a caretaker for the other. Families received monies from KCS in hopes of providing some sort of normalcy during the holidays which are always difficult times for people living with cancer.

Money spent was \$2000.

\$2,000



KITSAP CANCER SERVICES

IN CONCLUSION
THANK YOU



Kitsap Cancer Services is constantly working on creative ways to raise more money in this challenging time to help more cancer patients in a variety of ways. Financial services have been the greatest demands in our cancer community, and the need is exceptional as our Compassionate Care grant program has continued to exceed 2021 projections.

COMPASSIONATE
CARE GRANTS

+

VIVIEN BLYTH
FUND

+

HOLIDAY
SHARING

\$73,800

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