



CANCERcare®

800-813-HOPE (4673)  
info@cancercaare.org  
www.cancercaare.org

# fact sheet

## SOURCES OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The financial costs associated with cancer are often overwhelming. Even having health insurance doesn't guarantee you'll be able to afford treatment. It's best to start researching your options before a financial crisis develops. This fact sheet lists various sources of financial assistance available to people with cancer. Check with each agency or organization to see if you qualify for help.

### GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

There are a number of federal and state programs that provide financial benefits to individuals and families. These benefits, known as entitlements, are primarily set up for low-income households, the elderly and the disabled. Each entitlement has eligibility requirements. There are also programs administered through state governments that can help with health care-related needs. Government assistance programs include:

**U.S. Department of Health & Human Services**  
*Information on public assistance and food stamps*  
[www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov)

**U.S. Administration on Aging**  
*Benefits for older adults*  
800-677-1116  
[www.eldercare.gov](http://www.eldercare.gov)  
*(Eldercare Locator finds resources in your community)*

**Social Security Administration**  
800-772-1213  
[www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services**  
800-633-4227  
[www.cms.gov](http://www.cms.gov)

### PHARMACEUTICAL PATIENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Programs and services differ among drug manufacturers but may include:

- Help with insurance reimbursement
- Referrals to co-pay relief programs
- Help with the application process
- Discounted or free medications for patients who do not qualify for other assistance

**Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA)**  
888-477-2669  
[www.pparx.org](http://www.pparx.org)

To see if the drug company that makes your medication has a patient assistance program, check its website. You can also ask your doctor or check with the Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA). PPA has a list of pharmaceutical programs and other resources for financial assistance.



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## NONPROFIT PROGRAMS FOR CO-PAY RELIEF

A number of nonprofit organizations provide help for expenses such as drug co-payments, deductibles and other medical costs. These programs have their own eligibility rules and may cover only certain cancers. Contact each organization to learn more.

**CancerCare® Co-Payment Assistance Foundation**  
866-55-COPAY (26729)  
www.cancercarecopay.org

**Good Days**  
877-968-7233  
www.mygooddays.org

**HealthWell Foundation**  
800-675-8416  
www.healthwellfoundation.org

**The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Co-Pay Assistance Program**  
877-557-2672  
www.lls.org/copay

**National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)**  
800-999-6673  
203-744-0100  
www.rarediseases.org

**Patient Access Network Foundation**  
866-316-7263  
www.panfoundation.org

**Patient Advocate Foundation Co-Pay Relief Program**  
866-512-3861  
www.copays.org

**Patient Services Incorporated**  
800-366-7741  
www.patientservicesinc.org

In addition to needing help managing the cost of medicines and treatment, people with cancer often need assistance with expenses like transportation, home care and child care. A number of nonprofit organizations have useful programs or referral information to help with these and other practical needs.

## CANCER ORGANIZATIONS

**CancerCare**  
800-813-HOPE (4673)  
www.cancercare.org

**American Cancer Society**  
800-227-2345  
www.cancer.org

**The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society**  
800-955-4572  
www.lls.org

**Lymphoma Research Foundation**  
800-500-9976  
www.lymphoma.org

**Be the Match (National Marrow Donor Program)**  
888-999-6743  
www.bethematch.org

**Patient Advocate Foundation's Colorectal CareLine**  
866-657-8634  
www.colorectalcareline.org

**Sarcoma Alliance**  
415-381-7236  
www.sarcomaalliance.org

## GENERAL ORGANIZATIONS

**United Way**  
www.unitedway.org

**Community Organizations**  
To find local resources, check to see if there is a 211 information and referral service (www.211.org) in your area.

## CANCERCARE'S ONLINE HELPING HAND

CancerCare's Online Helping Hand at [www.cancercare.org/helpinghand](http://www.cancercare.org/helpinghand) is a searchable, online database of financial and practical assistance available for people with cancer. This comprehensive online tool features up-to-date contact information and descriptions for hundreds of national and regional organizations offering financial help to people with cancer. You can search by diagnosis, zip code and type of assistance.

## CancerCare® Can Help

Founded in 1944, CancerCare is the leading national organization providing free support services and information to help people manage the emotional, practical and financial challenges of cancer. Our comprehensive services include counseling and support groups over the phone, online and in-person, educational workshops, publications and financial and co-payment assistance. All CancerCare services are provided by professional oncology social workers and world-leading cancer experts.

To learn more, visit [www.cancercare.org](http://www.cancercare.org) or call **800-813-HOPE (4673)**.  
**Facebook:** [facebook.com/cancercare](https://www.facebook.com/cancercare) | **Twitter:** @cancercare

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National Office • 275 Seventh Avenue • New York, NY 10001

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