

Annual Impact Report 2024



CANCER SUPPORT
COMMUNITY
NORTH TEXAS

Making a difference in 2024 - and beyond!

Thanks to your support, we saw an increase in participants served and total visits for all programs from 2023 to 2024. There also was an increase in the number of support group sessions and donors who gave 2+ consecutive years. We're helping people impacted by cancer thrive and taking the scary out of cancer through social, emotional and educational support services. Cancer Support Community North Texas is made up of incredible people with cancer and their families, talented staff, local partners and supporters, like you. We're making a big difference, thanks to you!

1,405

**Participants
served**

6,948

Total visits

80%

**of surveyed participants feel less
anxious as a result of engaging in
2024 programs at CSCNT**

Cancer survivor: CSCNT 'resuscitated me'

Aredia Denise Taylor describes fellow participants in CSCNT's Living with Advanced Cancer support group as "close-knit brothers and sisters" both in and outside the clubhouse.

"I don't care what you have going on – you don't want to miss group," Aredia says. "We know each one of us is looking out for the other."

Diagnosed with multiple myeloma in 2014, Aredia has been coming to Cancer Support Community North Texas ever since. She sees the clubhouse as a second home where she can come for peace, to read and have fellowship with other cancer survivors and their families.

Aredia has benefited from what she calls the "phenomenal" speakers providing cancer education, nutrition and other useful information. She also enjoys CSCNT's movie nights, potlucks, gardening, playing games, walks in the park and more.

Taking her involvement a step further, Aredia joined the CSCNT Member Advisory Council.



Aredia Denise Taylor, right, enjoys a CSCNT holiday party with Claire Douglas and Carol Schmidt

"I have that longevity at CSCNT and know what cancer survivors are looking for and what we need," Aredia shares. "There's some things the staff may not realize, so that's why it's always good to sit down and talk and bring awareness of what the need is for people who need support."

Along with advising staff, Aredia says, "I'm like a salesperson for CSCNT, and I don't sell false hope. I've encouraged a lot of people to come."

When she was first diagnosed in 2014, Aredia read that the life expectancy for multiple myeloma was three to five years. "It took my breath away," she says. "I felt like an elephant was standing on my chest. CSCNT resuscitated me. It has allowed me to breathe. I want to keep on breathing."

Aredia adds that CSCNT has been with her during dark hours when she felt she couldn't do this anymore. She credits CSCNT for being an "avenue that has allowed me to make it as long as I have with my diagnosis. I don't want to imagine walking this journey without CSCNT."

2024 Highlights

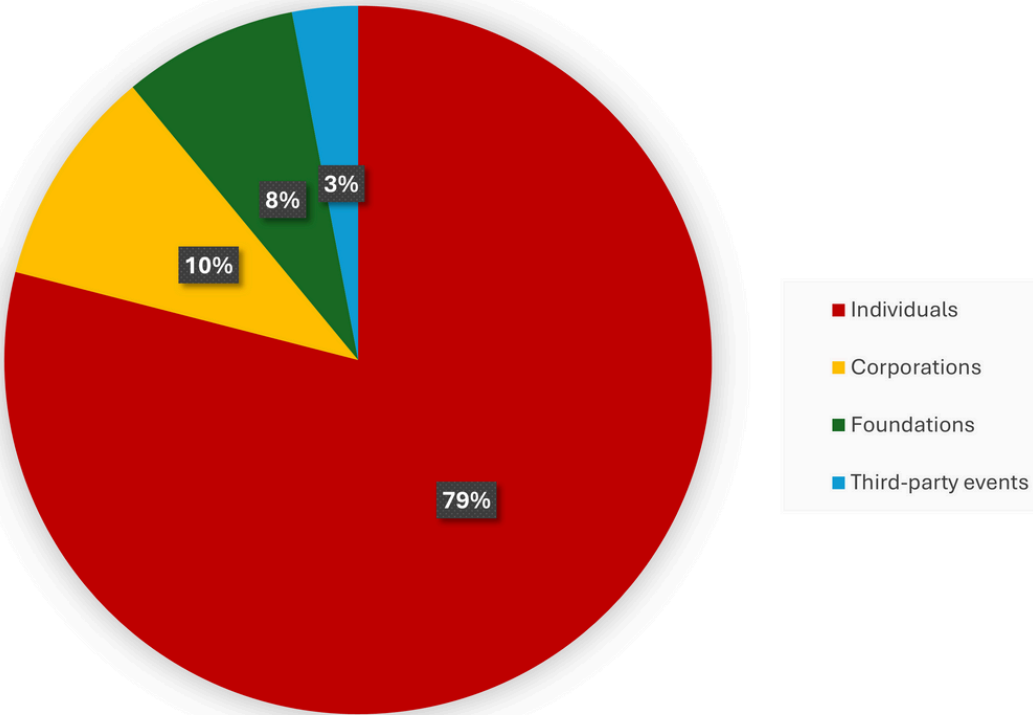
561
Support
group
sessions

165
Individual
counseling
sessions

105
Social
events

387
Healthy
lifestyle
programs

Where Our Support Came From



CSCNT donations reach far beyond cancer patients

Breast cancer survivor Wanda Tooker gives to CSCNT in honor of her mother, who died suddenly from a late-stage cancer. She uses the inheritance she received from her parents for CSCNT gifts as a meaningful way to utilize these funds. Wanda's first gift to CSCNT was during North Texas Giving Day 2024.

“Donations to CSCNT go further than just the person who has cancer,” Wanda says. “It also helps their families. Everyone who receives help can then support others in similar circumstances. The impact grows and is significant.”

Along with becoming a donor, Wanda also has participated in CSCNT's Living with Cancer and Life After Treatment support groups. She is in remission from breast cancer.

“With a new cancer diagnosis, people supported us, but eventually, most walked away,” Wanda shares. “CSCNT stays with you throughout the whole cancer journey.”



Cancer survivor and CSCNT donor Wanda Tooker

Going from the current treatment to post-treatment support groups, Wanda says CSCNT helps her answer, “I had cancer. Now what?” and to accept her “new normal.” There also are the yearly tests to check whether the cancer has returned, which gives Wanda and many cancer survivors like her anxiety – making the Life After Treatment support group essential. Wanda's group members have a tight bond and connect with each other outside of group. If she has a medical test coming up, she'll receive at least three texts saying they hope it goes well.

While family members mean well, Wanda says they don't always know what to say or how to react. She feels like she can be more open in CSCNT support groups. She also is encouraged by group members who are living well years after their initial cancer diagnosis.

“I recommend anyone with a cancer diagnosis to try out the support groups,” Wanda says. “You might need to share things that are difficult, but know that people will understand the hard times that you're going through in a way that people without cancer cannot.”



\$260,000

Dollars raised

267
Attendees

50
Sponsors

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woot!

We appreciate your support!

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