

Cancer-related care items not covered by insurance were provided. Items like ointment and dressings ease discomfort after radiation therapy; formula and feeding tube transition kits and products that decrease dry-mouth symptoms for neck and throat cancer patients make a profound difference in people's lives.

- 116 patients received various cancer-related medical supplies.

"Thank you! I wouldn't have been able to purchase these medical supplies on my own without the Asante Cancer Compassion Fund."

- Cathy Bartow, Patient

Nutrition is an important component of healing for people with cancer. For those in financial need, securing and preparing nutritious foods can seem like a luxury rather than an essential part of their care. With your help, patients received nutrition support in several ways:

- More than \$5,000 in grocery gift cards were distributed to cancer patients in need.
- 12 patients received supplies associated with nutrition.

"A patient was diagnosed with small cell lung cancer... [He was] unable to swallow solid foods. His wife and him had to give up everything and move in with their daughter in Crescent City during his treatment. The first time I saw him, he was very depressed and thinking to have his pace maker taken out and be done with life. He had been drinking one Boost per day because they could not afford to buy protein drinks and did not know what else to do.

I explained to the patient that he had very poor nutritional intake at this time and that may be clouding his thinking. Being on a full liquid diet is very hard on patients. There is no variety and patients get tired of the diet fast. I set his goal for calories at 2,400-2,800 per day and 96-120 grams of protein. If the patient was on boost that would be 8 Boost Plus per day. That was not an option due to the cost. The best option for this family was a Magic Bullet...to help our full liquid diet patient with healthier calories and ease the burden of cleaning a blender 6-8 times per day. I gave the patient and his wife a Magic Bullet and high calorie high protein recipes. I started them with some Boost for a few days until they could get to the store to purchase the ingredients needed for the high calorie recipes. The patient hugged me and thanked me for the hope that he was feeling.

This patient has continued with treatment. He continues to travel from Crescent City bring his magic bullet with him during his stay to keep his calories and protein up.

As a dietitian I am very grateful for the generosity of this community that gives me a health option to help my patient meet their nutritional needs."

- Sheri Sexton Parsons, RD (Dietitian)

Travel to treatment remains a significant barrier for cancer patients in need. With your support, we have been able to remove this challenge in a number of ways:

- 12 patients received gift cards travel and fuel expenses.
- 74 patients were assisted with transportation to and/or from treatment appointments via taxi or medical transport service.

"A patient with lung cancer metastasized to the brain had started a course of palliative radiation when she had a sudden deterioration in her ability to ambulate. She became unsteady on her feet, experienced falls and needed a wheelchair within a week. Her two sisters, who she was staying with,