

were physically unable to safely transfer her into the car to get to appointments. This left them relying on wheelchair accessible transportation which her insurance did not cover, and they could not afford. The patient had just begun radiation treatment, with several days left. They live in a rural area that is not served by Valley Lift. We were able to hire Meraki's wheelchair accessible transportation using Asante Cancer Compassion Funds to help her complete treatment. They were tremendously grateful for her to be able to complete treatment."

- Jennifer Lewellyn, RN (Nurse Navigator)

Housing expenses have been paid, easing the financial burden of patients who were unable to work during their treatment.

- 1 patient was assisted with rent or housing costs.

"Unfortunately, access to affordable healthcare is not a given for all individuals in our community. I had the opportunity to work with a gentleman who discovered in the emergency room that he had multiple myeloma. The patient, though quite ill, was able to begin chemotherapy treatment immediately and was able to purchase life-saving commercial health insurance, though it exceeded the cost of rent for his family's home each month!

While accessing treatment here at Asante, this patient consulted with local oncologists as well as oncologists at OHSU and Providence Portland. Ultimately, it was determined that a stem cell transplant would be an important next step. Though our patient was relying on his brothers and wife to make ends meet while he was unable to work, money was incredibly tight.

We were able to use Compassion Funds to pay for 1 month of rent while patient was preparing to undergo his stem cell transplant. I worked with the SW at Providence Portland, who facilitated assisting for three additional months' rent while patient recovered. Providing this assistance took a huge weight of worry and concern off this man's shoulders and allowed him to focus on healing, resting and spending time with his wife and 6-year-old daughter.

This fund has been one of the most amazing resources I am honored to share with our cancer patients!

- Lona Dillard, CSWA (Social worker)

As the Hillcrest Committee celebrates the success of the 2019 Ball, please know that your hard work equates to life-changing resources for local people with cancer. Thank you for your support and partnership.

Sincerely,



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