

Your American Cancer Society

Making a Difference In New Hampshire

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy, and service.

Cancer Information, Emotional Support, and Help Managing Day to Day

- More than 4,500 New Hampshire residents called 1-800-ACS-2345 for cancer information, support, and local resources last year.
- 2,500 rides to and from treatment were provided to New Hampshire patients through our Road to RecoverySM transportation program in 2007.
- One-to-one personal support matching breast cancer patients with breast cancer survivors is provided through our Reach to Recovery[®] program.
- More than 250 women in all stages of breast cancer have attended the Adventure Weekend outdoor retreat in Peterborough since it was founded in 1996.
- Weekend retreats offer support to families facing cancer, at two events open to New England residents – in South Hadley, MA, in June and Nashua, NH, in August.
- Hundreds of women attended Look Good...Feel Better[®] workshops in 2007 to help with the appearance-related effects of cancer treatment. Through our 15 wig banks, many women without insurance coverage for a new wig have received one.



American Cancer Society in Action

Joan became a Road to Recovery volunteer driver after retiring from nursing two years ago. After her mother needed rides to cancer treatments, Joan realized the challenges people without help from friends and family can face.



Photo: AAA Horizons

Bob, who is legally blind, is very grateful for volunteers like Joan, who have made it possible for him to make it to his 36 treatment appointments. Overall there were seven volunteers whose time allowed Bob to focus on recovery without the worry of how he would get to treatment.

"The program was excellent," said Bob. As a volunteer, Joan couldn't agree more, and said, "Becoming a driver is one of the best things I have done. It has been inspiring."

Lifesaving Cancer Research

- The American Cancer Society is the nation's largest private funder of cancer research, with \$3.4 billion invested since 1946.
- More than \$1.8 million in grants has been awarded this year to researchers at Dartmouth College, Dartmouth Medical School, and the Norris Cotton Cancer Center.
- \$59.8 million in grants in New England support 136 scientists at 33 hospitals and universities in 2008.
- 42 researchers funded by the American Cancer Society have gone on to win the Nobel Prize, including 11 from New England.
- The American Cancer Society has played a role in every major cancer research breakthrough, including the discovery of recombinant DNA, the Pap test, tamoxifen, Herceptin, Gleevec, and cancer-causing oncogenes.
- The five-year cancer survival rate has risen from 51 percent to 66 percent since 1975. Thanks to advances in research, there are 10.8 million cancer survivors living in the United States.



Contact us anytime, day or night: 1.800.ACS.2345 / www.cancer.org

Preventing Cancer through Early Detection and Education

- For more than 30 years, the Great American Smokeout® has helped millions of people quit smoking.
- Agreements with the Norris Cotton Cancer Center, Catholic Medical Center, Concord Hospital, Elliot Hospital, Parkland Medical Center, Portsmouth Regional Hospital, St. Joseph Hospital, Frisbie Hospital, and Cheshire Medical Center promote American Cancer Society educational programs, patient support, and advocacy initiatives. In selected hospitals, we are offering Patient Navigation programs that provide trained assistance in navigating the cancer experience.
- More than 14,000 people walked in Making Strides Against Breast Cancer® in eight New Hampshire communities in October 2007, raising \$2.0 million for breast cancer awareness, early detection, and research funding to find cures. Making Strides Against Breast Cancer has been taking place in New Hampshire since 1993.
- The American Cancer Society awarded a second consecutive \$10,000 grant to the New Hampshire Minority Health Coalition and the Manchester Health Department for a continuing program to increase mammogram rates in Manchester.
- 20 Relay For Life® events are planned in New Hampshire this year, mobilizing communities in the fight against cancer. In 2007, more than \$1.7 million was raised to fund cancer research, education, advocacy, and patient support programs.
- Our colon cancer awareness campaigns are working to prevent cases of the third most common cancer among women and men by promoting early detection and screening.
- The Society is a leading partner in New Hampshire's Comprehensive Cancer Collaboration, working to reduce the burden of cancer for New Hampshire residents.



Advocating to Prevent Cancer and Protect Those Affected by It

- The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is a sister organization to the American Cancer Society, focusing on advocacy work both nationally and in New Hampshire. Through the efforts of ACS CAN members the following legislative efforts in New Hampshire were accomplished during the 2007 session:
- The New Hampshire legislature approved \$6 million in funding for the New Hampshire Comprehensive Cancer Plan. The Comprehensive Cancer Plan is a collaborative effort to reduce the burden of cancer in the state. Priorities of the plan include tobacco prevention, early detection of breast and colon cancer, survivorship, obesity prevention, prostate cancer, and minority health.
- New Hampshire bars and restaurants are now smoke-free. This legislation ensures a safe and clean environment for bar and restaurant workers.
- The tobacco tax was increased \$0.28 in New Hampshire. Through this legislation and other initiatives, ACS CAN and the American Cancer Society continue the effort to protect youth from tobacco products.
- Our network of volunteer advocates also led the effort in New Hampshire to raise awareness of the need for access to health care. By leveraging New Hampshire's position as the first in the nation presidential primary, ACS CAN members let the candidates know that addressing our nation's health care crisis should be a top priority.

Volunteer to Help

We work in collaboration with dozens of organizations and institutions to achieve our mission. And there is more work to be done.

To volunteer, or for more information, visit www.cancer.org, call 1-800-ACS-2345, or stop by your local American Cancer Society office.

