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Dear Friend,

It is hard to believe that six months have passed since I joined the Cancer Assistance Program as Executive Director. I am constantly in awe of the many clients, volunteers and donors that stop by our office daily. Whether it's to say "hello," return a piece of equipment, or register for CAP's programs and services, it is amazing how these interactions between strangers develop into so much more.

In the case of our client Khalihah Elliot, strangers do in fact become instant friends, as she quickly discovered each time she stepped into the car of a volunteer CAP driver.

The amiable chatter that CAP's "amazing" drivers greeted her with each time became a welcome distraction from the purpose of those rides — to treat breast cancer. For eight months in 2017, Khalihah relied on this "invaluable" transport to and from her Binbrook home and the Juravinski Cancer Centre. "When you're going through treatment, you don't always have the means or support of someone to take you back and forth, which can be stressful to think about," she said.

As a newcomer to the city, knowing she wouldn't have to figure out how to traverse through unknown territory also eased her stress. "It was one less thing to worry about because Lord knows, at a time like that, you don't need any additional stress."

This is why Khalihah carries with her the CAP brochure that a social worker initially gave to her, so that she can share information with other patients about CAP's "truly wonderful" services. In addition to CAP's Drive & Ride service, Khalihah also benefitted from a supply of oral nutritional supplements.

"While all the drivers were cheerful, encouraging and pleasant to be around," among her favourites was Dan Penrose, a volunteer driver and drive co-ordinator at CAP.



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Please make cheque payable to Cancer Assistance Program  
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