



Dear

**"The minute I heard the "C" word all rational thought was sucked out of me."**

– CAP Client

Those are the words of a Cancer Assistance Program (CAP) client who recently registered in our program, but they could have been the words of any of the **seven** clients that were registered with CAP back in 1994 when we first opened our doors. Today, 25 years later, we continue to support cancer patients in our community who hear those awful words – "it's cancer."

And the need for support isn't going away. The stark reality is that **one in two** Canadians will be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime and **one in four** will die from the disease.

The number of newly diagnosed cancer patients continues to rise every year and **twelve per cent** of all those newly diagnosed in Ontario are from our own community.

With advances in medical care and treatment, cancer patients are living longer with the disease, but associated with that is a huge emotional, physical and financial cost.

The visible side effects of cancer treatment rob the patient of their privacy – their choice to divulge whether they received a cancer diagnosis or not.

**"The loss of my hair from endless chemo treatments screamed  
'I have cancer' to everyone that I came in contact with."**

– CAP Client

The physical toll from the drugs and related treatments are overwhelming. What was once a simple task can now require such substantive effort that the patient is left exhausted.

**"I don't know what I would have done without the fantastic CAP drivers. They took me  
to my all-too-numerous appointments when I was too weak to drive myself."**

– CAP Client

Then there are the financial challenges, which only come to light once treatment begins. Patients and their families are not prepared for the reality that not all costs are covered. Even with private health insurance, the cost of cancer drugs can be crippling.

(PLEASE TURN OVER)

Yes, I want to make a one-time gift to CAP to continue the 25-year legacy of support to cancer patients and their families in our community.

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$150 ☐ \$200 ☐ Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ I have enclosed my cheque made payable to **Cancer Assistance Program**.
- ☐ I authorize CAP to charge my credit card in the amount indicated at left.
- ☐ Please send me more information on making a Legacy Gift to CAP.

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheque payable to Cancer Assistance Program.  
To make your gift online please go to [www.cancerassist.ca](http://www.cancerassist.ca).  
Charitable Registration Number 14026 2759 RR0001



**"There's no sort of preparation for that aspect of a cancer diagnosis...  
You're thrown into this whirlpool and in addition to coping with a life-threatening illness,  
you are all of a sudden faced with additional expenses."**  
– CAP Client

Dr. Chris Longo, DeGroote School of Business, McMaster University, in his earlier research (2001-2003) suggested that in Ontario the total financial burden – travel, parking, lost work and out-of-pocket costs – was close to \$1,000 per month. By 2018, his research showed that the total monthly costs had more than doubled since 2003.

For 25 years the Cancer Assistance Program has been providing services to help cancer patients and their families manage these very real issues as their cancer journey unfolds. It is human nature to want to be at home in times of sickness. Our services are ensuring that many patients can return home sooner and remain at home during their cancer treatment.

From wheelchairs to wigs to transportation, we provide equipment and services that cancer patients need to live at home and get the help they require without worry and added financial stress. Everything we offer is completely FREE. When a cancer patient or family member walks through our doors, our dedicated volunteers take care of everything that is needed.

This difference we are making, however, is coming at a cost. The ongoing demand for our service is challenging us to both meet it and to fund it. On a daily basis, we have at least five patients on the Drive & Ride waiting list. The number seeking parking assistance rises every year, but with limited spots available, that too is a service where demand exceeds supply. With no sustainable government support, we are faced with the daily reality of needing to raise more and more funds to meet demand.

**AND WE CANNOT DO IT ALONE.**

We need to work together to continue our legacy. Today I am asking you to consider making a one-time gift or a monthly commitment of \$25 in honour of our 25-year history of serving cancer patients in our community. A monthly gift is a hassle-free way to show your ongoing support and provides us with annual gifts that we can use to increase our critical services. An annual monthly gift of \$25 will purchase two new wigs. An annual monthly gift of \$50 will provide 24 rides to appointments for those that need transportation. An annual monthly gift of \$75 will provide 45 reserved parking spots. And an annual monthly gift of \$100 will purchase 120 six-packs of nutritional supplements. Please know that ALL gifts make a difference.

Research in cancer treatment is continuing to make advances but the reality is cancer is not going away. Every day we hear about someone in our circle of family or friends who has received a diagnosis. The Cancer Assistance Program is here to help as it has for the last 25 years. With your continued support, we will be here for the next 25 years.

Thank you for your past gifts and for your gift today. You are an important part of our 25-year legacy of support to cancer patients and their families in our community.

Thank you,

Debbie Logel Butler  
Executive Director

**Yes, I want to make a monthly gift to CAP to continue the 25-year legacy of support to cancer patients and their families in our community.**

I authorize CAP to charge my credit card on or after the 15th of each month, commencing in the month after I date my request in the amount of:

- ☐ \$25 monthly = 2 new wigs
- ☐ \$50 monthly = 24 rides to appointments
- ☐ \$75 monthly = 45 reserved parking spots
- ☐ \$100 monthly = 120 six-packs of nutritional supplements
- ☐ Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Visa   ☐ Mastercard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Please send me more information on making a Legacy Gift to CAP.



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905.383.9797  
inquiries@cancerassist.ca  
**cancerassist.ca**

**Thank You!**

An official tax receipt will be issued for all gifts of \$20 and above. Monthly donors receive one tax receipt at the end of the year for the full amount.