

# Wilma Ochoa, cancer patient

"Cancer Navigators not only navigate you throughout your journey, if necessary, they take the helm for you. Because you sometimes have so much going on that you yourself cannot navigate."

#### Finances at a Glance

Cancer Navigators Inc. financial summary for Fiscal 2013 for year ended Dec. 31, 2013.

#### Revenue

#### **Where Money Comes From**

Grants \$163,130 Individual and Business Contributions \$138,874 Fundraising and Special Events \$145,012 Total Income \$447,016

#### **Expenses**

#### Where the Money Goes

Program Services (navigation, education and assistance)

Operations, Facility, Equipment

Fundraising and Development, PR and Administration

Total Expenses

Net Profit &Loss

\$347,431

\$44,429

\$79,587

\$471,447

-\$24,431

Figures cited are based on unaudited financial reports from Cancer Navigators Inc. board CPA

**Cancer Navigators Annual Report** 

## Our Heartfelt Thanks to Our Major Supporters

Admirals

Admirals Contribution of \$20,000 or more a year

Floyd Healthcare Foundation\* Harbin Clinic\*

Dee Yancey and State Mutual Insurance Company\* Dr. To

Dr. Matt Mumber\*
Dr. Tommy and Ann Simpson\*

**A** 

**Captains** Contribution of \$10,000 or more a year

Buddy and Darlene Bagley Cyndy Ferguson's Canter 4 Cancer Floyd Medical Center

State Mutual Insurance Battle of the Bands Tillotson-Menlo Charitable Foundation

Redmond Regional Medical Center\*

Dot Williams\*



**Lieutenants** Contribution of \$5,000 or more a year

Dr. Paul and Joan Brock\* Ethel Evans\* Dr. and Mrs. Skip Howse\*\* Dr. and Mrs. Chris Kligora\* Dr. and Mrs.

Dr. and Mrs. Roman Gaylsh\* Virginia Harman\*\* Dr. Steven Hom\*
Dr. and Mrs. Dilowar Khan\* Dr. and Mrs. Kelly Mayfield\* Rome Radiology\*



First Mates Contribution of \$1,000 or more a year

Reed Biggers\* Brinson Askew Berry Attorneys at Law Alan Budlong Dr. Brenda Budlong Mr. and Mrs. Helmut Cawthon Community Action Partners Mr. and Mrs. Bob Grizzard Bonnie Hammond\* Harbin Clinic Volunteers Heritage First Bank Mohawk Carpet Foundation Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Phillips Dan Sweitzer and Denise Powers\* Rome Area Council for the Arts Safigan Family\* Lee and Jackie Walburn\* Thad Watters United Way of Rome-Floyd County The UPS Store \*\*

Georgia Society of Clinical Oncology Georgia CORE

\*Denotes those who made multiyear pledges

\*\*Denotes In-Kind Accounting, Legal and Business Services

# 2013 Annual Report

# Cancer Navigators Inc.



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## **Board of Directors**

Dee Yancey, Chairman

Reed Biggers

Bonnie Hammond

Virginia Harman

Skip Howse

Kim Mauer

Dr. Matt Mumber

William Murdock

John Quinlivan

Mimi Richards

Dr. Tommy Simpson

Dan Sweitzer Lee Walburn

Thad Watters

Dot Williams

Charlotte Atkins, executive director

The late Kandi Riddle and Wesley Johnson are Legacy Members who were part of our board of directors when they each died of cancer.

#### **OUR MISSION**

Cancer Navigators, a
nonprofit organization, serves
the community as a
complement to the medical
expertise of cancer care
providers by guiding those
affected by cancer toward a
better understanding of
diagnosis and care and
connecting them with needed
resources in their journey.

## 2013 was a year of innovation, new programs

In 2013, the Cancer Navigators team helped 689 newly diagnosed cancer patients and their loved ones as well as those we were already navigating as the year changed.

Of those, 80 percent were from Floyd, Polk and Chattooga counties with the remainder from surrounding counties. Some 38 percent of our patients were breast cancer patients, 16 percent were lung, 7 percent were colorectal and the remaining 39 percent were all other cancers.

This year, we worked through the Lean Six Sigma process to refine our internal workflow and referrals to make sure every patient was evaluated for both nurse and service navigation services. The result is that 79 percent of our patients used both our nurse navigation and service navigation programs, which made for more thorough and focused navigation and interventions.

In 2013, Cancer Navigators expanded our education navigation in some innovative ways to give cancer patients and their loved ones more support and tools for coping with and managing their journeys.

Perhaps the most notable was our part in MyJourney Compass, a federally funded pilot program that is a collaboration of Georgia Tech, the Northwest Georgia Regional Cancer Coalition, Harbin Clinic, Floyd Medical Center, Redmond Regional Medical Center and Cancer Navigators under the auspices of Georgia's Department of Community Health and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology.

MyJourney Compass "empowers patients to actively participate in managing their cancer through the use of mobile technology."

Cancer Navigators' role is to enroll breast cancer patients, set up the Nexus 7

computer tablets with apps, breast cancer information and resources and then train enrolled patients on how to use the mobile technology to help manage their cancer care.

MyJourney Compass puts information at patients' fingertips and also provides a conduit for communicating with their healthcare providers and for tracking symptoms during treatment. In 2013, we enrolled 56 breast cancer patients in the program that is a prototype likely to be replicated around the nation in years to come.

We also added From Cancer to Health to our programs for patients. It's a stress management and coping intervention that aims to reduce the stress of the cancer diagnosis and treatment for breast cancer patients. Researchers have empirical evidence that this bio-behavioral approach reduces emotional stress and enhances immunity. Cancer Navigators was the first in Georgia to offer this 26-week group to newly diagnosed Stage 2 and Stage 3 breast cancer patients. We also added monthly Caring for the Caregiver workshops.

Of course, as a nonprofit we spend most of the year fundraising since our mission is 100 percent supported by donations.

We are so fortunate that our healthcare partners -- Harbin Clinic, Floyd Medical Center and Redmond Regional Medical Center -- and the community at large step up to help us raise needed funds. Our major event and donors are celebrated inside.

All of this dedication, teamwork and innovation resulted in Cancer Navigators being honored with the state's Matt Mumber Visionary Award at the 2013 annual meeting of the Georgia Society of Clinical Oncology (GASCO) and Georgia CORE – the Center for Oncology, Research and Education.

## Events raise awareness, funds for our mission

Cast Off Against Cancer is our signature benefit where dozens of community teams raise money for our core mission. The teams each decorate an oar to showcase our cause and their spirit. There are several other events year-around hosted by community supporters and partners. The biggest include:

The State Mutual
Insurance Battle of the Bands
saw area bands compete for
the chance to perform at
Rome's Historic DeSoto
Theatre. The event is presented
by 95.7 FM The Ridge and is
the brainchild of Matt Davis.
The collaborative event
included the Historic DeSoto
Theatre Foundation and the
Rome Area Council for the Arts
. It was the most successful

Cyndy Ferguson's Canter 4 Cancer returned and the annual horseback ride for Cancer Navigators raised \$10,200.

BOTB ever raising \$16,000.

Later in the summer, supporters mounted their motorcycles instead of horses for the annual Ride for Cancer Navigators in Adairsville organized by Buddy Bagley in honor of his beloved late wife Darlene. It raised \$13,200.

Harbin Clinic's Plastic Surgery Department held its second annual **Powder Puff Football Tournament** in honor of Roy Philpot, raising \$8,000.

Once again the Harbin Clinic Tony E. Warren, MD, Cancer Center played host to its annual holiday **Masterpiece Wreath Auction & Sale** that showcased hand-crafted Christmas wreaths by designers, florists, artists, survivors and supporters, raising almost \$6,000.

Our heartfelt thanks for each dollar raised for our mission.



The Cancer Navigators team (from left): Lena Crooker, Charlotte Atkins, Scharla Battle, Julie Brown, Katie Weisbecker, Denise Powers and Angela James.

#### You have cancer ..."

Lives are immediately changed forever with those three simple words. Our community is fortunate to be home to an impressive array of professionals, technology and facilities to address the needs of those affected by cancer. But even with state-of-the-art healthcare, the journey can be a challenging one for patients and their families.

Cancer Navigators was founded as an answer to that challenge. The questions and needs of those affected by cancer are diverse. They encompass navigating unfamiliar medical processes and treatment as well as coping with the practical effects a cancer diagnosis has on everyday life. It is also vital to find ways to nurture and renew oneself during and after the treatment process A dedicated team of nurses. educators and social workers

renew oneself during and after the treatment process. A dedicated team of nurses, educators and social workers as well as volunteers have been working cooperatively with local healthcare partners for more than five years and making a tremendous difference in the lives of those with cancer. Healthcare professionals in

Northwest Georgia are increasingly gaining recognition for their pursuit of world-class oncology care.

An important aspect of that goal has been the involvement and collaboration of Cancer Navigators, our patient-advocacy organization providing access to important resources that touch all levels of the healing experience — body, mind and spirit. Attention to the whole person often creates increased endurance and confidence that assists patients' responses to their medical treatment.

#### **Our Services**

### Nurse Navigation Experienced Nurse

Experienced Nurse Navigators provide free assistance to all who seek help from our organization.

The nurses work with local cancer care providers to provide a single, consistent point of contact for medical questions and concerns. Nurse Navigators effectively advocate on behalf of patients and their loved ones. Nurse Navigators know where to look and who to call to get questions answered. They help patients and their loved ones better understand their diagnosis and treatment and track them through their care. They help identify barriers to care for help and intervention.

#### **Service Navigation**

A cancer diagnosis happens on top of whatever else is going on in people's lives and creates a daunting array of needs. Patients may need help with transportation to treatments, wigs or prostheses, help with insurance or other paperwork or counseling to help with the emotional punch cancer packs. During a time many patients

most
challenging of
their lives,
Service
Navigators
identify and help
secure needed
resources and
services.

describe as the

#### **Education Navigation**

"Because no

one should have

to journey

alone."

Education Navigation provides group sessions like
Sustainable Wellness, From
Cancer to Health, and Caring for the Caregiver as well as our
Renewal Retreats. All focus on a full range of positive behaviors that may affect clinical outcomes.

A variety of educational programs and information centered on prevention and demystification of treatment is available to patients and caregivers to help navigate treatment and survivorship.

# Providing resources, reassurance and renewal for patients

Our team of nurses, social workers and educators work in tandem with area healthcare providers to make the cancer journey less stressful, more manageable.



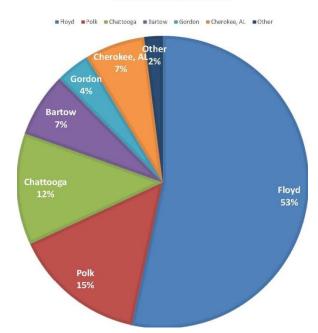
## Partnerships, collaboration key to integrative patient care

**COUNTIES SERVED IN 2013** 

#### Our Partners

Cancer Navigators is an independent, community-based 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization funded by donations from citizens and businesses of Northwest Georgia and by grants from private and public organizations. We have the endorsement and support of Harbin Clinic, Floyd Medical Center, Redmond Regional Medical Center, Polk Medical Center, the Northwest Georgia Cancer Coalition and Georgie CORE.

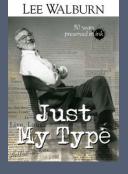
These partnerships and collaborations are vital to making sure area patients get personalized cancer care and that they go through the journey with tools and support for managing and coping with the challenges and stresses of cancer.



### Just Our Type

of-year benefit and good read

Our end-of-the-year fundraiser was a book "Just My Type: 50 Years Preserved in Ink." It's an anthology of columns and stories by acclaimed journalist Lee Walburn, who's also a Cancer Navigators founding director and cancer survivor. With many public appearances and book signings around Georgia, we managed to raise \$27,000 by year's end and hope to raise at least another \$8,000 with the book project in 2014.



Though he's currently a popular columnist for the Rome News-Tribune, Walburn's writing and editing chops are known throughout Georgia and beyond. He was editor of Atlanta Magazine for 15 years, a sportswriter in Macon and Atlanta and PR director for the Atlanta Braves. He has won national, regional and state awards for his magazine stories and for his columns.

The book's printing was underwritten by a donation from fellow cancer survivor and longtime Cancer Navigators volunteer Ethel Evans.

A minimum \$25 donation gets the donor a copy of the book. For more information on the book, call 706-295-4119 or email catkins@cancernavigatorsga.org

#### **LEADERSHIP**

Hammond wraps up years of service
Bonnie Hammond is a

founding board member of Cancer Navigators. She started with this mission as a board member for our predecessor organization Many Streams Healing Systems. After almost a decade of service, Bonnie wrapped up her last term with Cancer Navigators in December, but says she wants to stay involved with our mission on a more personal level. We so appreciate her support and service!

# Budlong, Mayfield join CN board

Elected to the Board of
Directors for 2014 are:
Dr. Kelly Mayfield, Harbin
Clinic surgeon and
chairman of Rome's
Cancer Committee; and
Dr. Brenda Budlong,
Floyd Primary Care
physician, Georgia
Regents University
medical faculty member
and cancer survivor.

# Crooker heads up state CNPG

Nurse Navigator Lena Crooker was state cochairman of Cancer Patient Navigators of Georgia in 2013 and continues in 2014.