

The American Cancer Society Awards \$8.3 Million To Provide Transportation and Lodging Support for People in Cancer Treatment

ATLANTA, April 4, 2023 – To alleviate the financial burden of cancer treatment, the [American Cancer Society](#) (ACS) recently awarded \$8.3 million in transportation and lodging grants to 411 health systems nationwide. The funding will allow these health systems to provide eligible patients an estimated 577,350 rides to treatment and 24,750 nights of free lodging during treatment.

Why Transportation and Lodging Funding is Needed

Lack of transportation and proximity to treatment prevents many people living with cancer from getting high-quality care which worsens cancer outcomes.

- In a study presented at the 2022 American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) Quality Care Symposium, American Cancer Society researchers found that 2.8% of cancer survivors reported delays in care due to transportation barriers. Cancer survivors who delayed care due to lack of transportation were more likely to use the emergency room and had the highest risk of all-cause and cancer-specific mortality.
- According to the American Cancer Society's [Cancer Treatment and Survivorship Facts & Figures 2022-2024](#), cancer survivors experience greater financial hardship than the general population for many reasons including the inability to work. They also have higher out of pocket medical costs compared to people without a history of cancer. The economic burden of cancer is more profound in survivors who are younger or were diagnosed in childhood, underinsured or uninsured, and have lower incomes.

“Not having access to high-quality cancer treatment due to where you live contributes to the disparities we see in cancer outcomes. It’s important to provide the funding and programming needed to keep a lack of transportation or the cost of a hotel room from impacting survival,” said Dr. Arif Kamal, chief patient officer for the American Cancer Society. “The local health systems we partner with across the country use this funding to deliver assistance directly to the patients who need it most.”

The American Cancer Society believes all people should have a fair and just opportunity to live a longer, healthier life free from cancer regardless of how much money they make, skin color, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability status or where they live. In addition to providing transportation and lodging funding to health systems, the American Cancer Society runs over 30 [Hope Lodge](#) communities that provide a free place to stay during treatment and a [Road To Recovery](#) program that provides free rides to and from treatment.

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About the American Cancer Society

The American Cancer Society is a leading cancer-fighting organization with a vision to end cancer as we know it, for everyone. For more than 100 years, we have been improving the lives of people with cancer and their families as the only organization combating cancer through advocacy, research, and patient support. We are committed to ensuring everyone has an opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer. To learn more, visit [cancer.org](#) or call our 24/7 helpline at 1-800-227-2345. Connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

For further information: FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: American Cancer Society, Darrya.lipscomb@cancer.org

