American Cancer Society and Methodist Healthcare Ministries Celebrate Opening of New Hope Lodge in San Antonio

40-suite facility will provide free lodging for people traveling to San Antonio for cancer treatment, with first guests expected in January 2027

SAN ANTONIO, Nov. 17, 2026 – The American Cancer Society and Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas, Inc. yesterday celebrated the ribbon cutting of the new American Cancer Society Methodist Healthcare Ministries Hope Lodge in San Antonio, marking a major milestone in expanding access to cancer care for patients who must travel away from home for treatment. Following the ribbon cutting, ACS staff will be onsite preparing the Hope Lodge to welcome its first guests in January 2027.

While the ribbon cutting represents significant progress, the work is not finished. The American Cancer Society is continuing its campaign to raise more than $6 million to support the Hope Lodge and its ability to serve people traveling to San Antonio for cancer treatment.

“This Hope Lodge will make San Antonio’s world-class cancer care more accessible to people who must travel for treatment,” said Shane Jacobson, chief executive officer of the American Cancer Society. “It will offer patients and caregivers more than free lodging, it will offer a welcoming community and one less barrier to lifesaving care. We are deeply grateful to Methodist Healthcare Ministries and our many supporters whose generosity brought us to this milestone. Now, we are asking the Hill Country and South Texas community to help us finish what we started so this Hope Lodge can serve patients and caregivers for years to come.”

Each year, an estimated 200,000 people in the U.S. travel 40 miles or more for cancer treatment, a number that continues to grow. For patients undergoing a typical six- to eight-week course of surgery and radiation, lodging alone can cost as much as $17,000. For some families, those costs can become another barrier to care, leading patients to delay or miss treatment or preventing them from participating in clinical trials. The challenge is particularly acute for people in rural communities and areas without a high-quality cancer center nearby.

More than 7,500 people with cancer travel to San Antonio for cancer treatment each year. The new Hope Lodge is expected to provide up to 14,600 nights of free lodging annually and save patients more than $2.1 million in lodging costs each year. The facility includes 40 private guest suites with private bathrooms, along with living and dining areas, a library, recreation space and an outdoor garden. Guests will also have access to free transportation to and from treatment.

“Methodist Healthcare Ministries is committed to advancing health equity and ensuring people across South Texas have access to the care and resources they need,” said Jaime Wesolowski, president and chief executive officer of Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas. “The opening of this Hope Lodge is an important step toward removing a significant barrier for people who must travel to San Antonio for cancer treatment. We are proud to stand alongside the American Cancer Society in bringing this resource to our community, and we hope others will join us in supporting patients and families who will depend on it for generations to come.”

There are currently 31 American Cancer Society Hope Lodge communities in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. In addition to relieving the financial burden of lodging, Hope Lodge communities provide patients and caregivers with a supportive environment where they can connect with others facing similar experiences.

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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 110 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, X, and Instagram.

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