HopeWell is a community that offers hope, education and support for adults with cancer, as well as for their loved ones. We don’t provide medical treatment or services. Rather, our offerings address the effect of a cancer diagnosis on the whole person (physical, emotional, social, spiritual) and include support groups, mind/body/spirit classes, expressive arts, educational presentations, and programs for families with children who have an adult loved one with cancer. We also provide bereavement services to adults, children, and teens who have had an adult loved one die from cancer. All focus on improving the quality of life for people with cancer and their families, and all are offered at no charge.

Programs take place in our serene natural setting - or virtually, from the comfort of participants’ homes. Our medically endorsed, research-based and ever-evolving psychosocial programs are facilitated by licensed clinicians and credentialed instructors specializing in cancer support. We continue to enhance our unique and responsive programming to best support those whom we serve.

At HopeWell, a safe space is created. We view people as participants, not patients, and welcome all equally. Participants share honestly and learn from one another how to cope with the realities of dealing with cancer. They form bonds that go beyond the programs. They become a community.

Who we are

What we do

585 unique individuals were served

Participant Type

- 61% Persons with Cancer
- 18% Other/Unknown
- 21% Support Persons

Geographic Area

- 43% From Baltimore County
- 23% From Baltimore City
- 23% From other Maryland Counties
- 7% From Surrounding States
- 4% Unknown

Support Groups:

- Adult bereavement
- Art & Healing
- Blood Cancer
- Breast Cancer
- Couples
- Family and Friends
- Lung Cancer
- Metastatic Breast Cancer
- Ovarian Cancer
- Pancreatic Cancer
- Young Adults Facing Cancer
- Yarn, Needles and Hooks

Mind / Body / Spirit Classes:

- Art Class
- Awaken Yoga – new!
- Common Sense PT
- Gentle Yoga
- Qigong
- Relaxation & Meditation
- Seated Qigong
- Strength & Tone
- Sound Meditation
- Tai Chi

Programs for Families & Children:

- 4-Week Series – Feeling & Dealing Support Groups
  - Raising Children, Facing Cancer
  - Parenting Through Grief: Learning to Thrive
- Educational program - Parenting with Cancer: How to talk with your Children

We held 13 House Calls Speaker Series presentations, as well as 4 other educational programs
Dear Friends,

Because of the lives you have touched in our community, you indeed are a friend of HopeWell; our community of friends helping friends.

What I find curious is that the reasons we came are overtaken by the reasons we stay. So often, fear or pain or need yield to hope and giving and growth. Even purpose.

The year 2023 marked our 30th anniversary—which you may know. How grateful I am—we are—for the people, talent, vision, and generosity that transformed an idea into three decades of kindness, learning, innovation, and purpose; measured more by the people whose lives have been touched than by the passage of time or organizational milestones.

We celebrate the passion, insight, and commitment over 30 years of Founding Executive Director Suzanne Brace. We continue to grow through the foresight, wisdom, and sustaining generosity of our first Board Chair Dr. John Saunders. And we thrive on the astounding breadth and depth of the gifts of so many others.

Yes, new doors open as others close. What’s next won’t look exactly like what’s been. But the centerpiece of HopeWell’s first decades—a community of caring people helping others, with many on the same journey—remains the centerpiece now as it will for decades to come.

Our new Executive Director Veronica Land-Davis has a vision for growth; brightening and strengthening the fabric of our warm and welcoming community with new threads. Energizing our outreach and opening our doors still wider to people who may struggle to find us. Building on what we learned and gained from a pandemic that made us a generation of “Zoomers.” Restoring our campus even as we, together, step beyond our grounds to touch lives who may never visit here.

Our reconstituted and energized Board of Directors, led by new Chair Donna Clare, CFRE, is in place to guide, support, and look to the future. Remarkable gifts from the Milton J. Dance Jr. Endowment and many others are restoring our campus and our capacity.

Yet, as we close this period of transition, I invite you to remember why you came and to reflect on why you might remain a member of our community. There is no less fear, pain, or need in the world of cancer. Your participation in HopeWell’s community of kindness, learning, and innovation is as cherished as ever. And as for purpose, it’s “what’s next” for all of us. I invite you explore or discover it here at HopeWell as part of our future together.

In Friendship,

Richards (Rich) R. Badmington
Chair of the Board of Directors (2019-2023)
Dear Friends of HopeWell,

Because of you, HopeWell’s programs have interconnected with the medical system for 30 years by helping people with cancer and their loved one’s cope with the life-changing impact of a cancer diagnosis. Some of you have been part of our community as the architects laying the foundations for a compassionate and caring community; some of us are new, and others have come and gone. Yet, we remain rooted in hope and wellness regardless of when you joined our community. Many of us initially arrived on Hopewell’s beautiful grounds, unaware that an inclusive community awaited us.

Trust, integrity, and good stewardship are values interwoven throughout HopeWell. Despite our challenges and changes this year, we have worked hard to use your donations to grow this community and honor our pledge to impact all touched by cancer without charging a fee. We bid farewell to Suzanne Brace, the previous executive director, as she began her retirement.

The community welcomed me as the new executive director; we brought on new key staff, created new community partnerships, and renewed old alliances. We started restructuring the Board of Directors to welcome our new members in the next fiscal year. We installed state-of-the-art web-based conference equipment to provide hybrid programming to ensure we continue to execute our mission and reach all who require our services. Our facilities and grounds underwent the beginning phase of addressing significant repairs to continue providing a warm environment. With a robust 30th-anniversary committee, we hosted several successful fundraisers and continued with anniversary activities and events into the next fiscal year.

As we write the next chapter, we look forward to increasing the number of hybrid groups, educational workshops, and classes we can offer you and the larger community.

“One of the marvelous things about community is that it enables us to welcome and help people in a way we couldn’t as individuals. When we pool our strengths and share the work and responsibility, we can welcome many people, even those in deep distress, and perhaps help them find self-confidence and inner healing.” – Jean Vanier. We hope you will join us in pooling our strengths to maintain this special place for anyone touched by cancer, regardless of the diagnosis.

Warmly,

Veronica Land-Davis, LCSW-C
Executive Director
FISCAL 2023 SOURCES OF REVENUE

- Contributions: 93%
- Investments: 6%
- Fundraising Events: 1%

FISCAL 2023 SOURCES OF EXPENDITURE

- Programs: 73%
- Fundraising: 20%
- General and Administrative: 7%

Trust, integrity, and good stewardship are values interwoven throughout HopeWell.
September 2022 – Yoga Nidra Returns

In response to a participant survey, we brought back Yoga Nidra as an evening class and it quickly became one of our most popular Mind Body Spirit offerings.

November 2022 – Change of Leadership

HopeWell’s founding Executive Director, Suzanne Brace, retired after 29 years of leadership and service at HopeWell Cancer Support. Veronica Land-Davis stepped in as the new Executive Director. A transition campaign raised substantial amounts of money to ensure a smooth transition of leadership and to hire a Development Director.

March 2023 – Theresa’s 19th Annual Tea Party

Over 120 people gathered together at the beautiful Lord Baltimore Hotel for a festive afternoon of cucumber and finger sandwiches and “high” tea at the Annual Theresa’s Tea Party on March 2, hosted by Dorothy Yeager, Cindy McGee and Jennifer Weber. Young and old alike enjoyed the camaraderie of spending the afternoon together while celebrating Theresa Bruzdoski who died of breast cancer almost 30 years ago and was a participant of HopeWell Cancer Support. A very generous donation was made to HopeWell from event proceeds.

April 2023 – HopeWell’s 30th Anniversary

April 26, 2023, marked the 30th Anniversary of HopeWell Cancer Support. HopeWell staff and board members observed our 30th Anniversary by creating a theme of Celebrating 30 Years of Community, Compassion, & Hope.

April 2023 – Family Circle Fun Day

HopeWell held its first in-person event since the Pandemic in our Amish-built barn and barn patio. We welcomed families to enjoy music, games, food, face painting, a scavenger hunt, line dancing, and beautiful weather. A good time was had by all who attended.

April 2023 – Run 4 Life Event

The Run 4 Life run/walk fundraiser was a dream come true for Ella Mitchell, a junior at The Bryn Mawr School. Ella hosted this event at her school to benefit HopeWell, and many gathered in support and camaraderie. Inspired by the cancer connection within her family, Ella created this awesome event including marketing materials and event shirts. We are so grateful for her wonderful dedication and lovely spirit, which made this event a highlight of our year!

May 2023 – 30th Anniversary Planning Committee

A 30th Anniversary Planning Committee was created to help plan anniversary activities and events each month from June 2023, through May 2024. The committee was chaired by Dorothy Fuchs Yeager, a long-time HopeWell donor and supporter. Committee members included HopeWell participants, board members, community representatives, and HopeWell staff.

May 2023 – HopeWell is Hybrid Ready

HopeWell installed state-of-the art technology and equipment that enables clinicians and facilitators to offer hybrid programming to participants, including in-person at HopeWell, or virtual from a remote location. The funding of this equipment was made possible with a grant from a local foundation.

June 2023 – 30th Anniversary Kick-Off Event

HopeWell staff and board hosted an event in the barn to launch 30th Anniversary special events and activities that occurred monthly, starting in the next fiscal year. The event was also an opportunity for our major donors, funders, elected officials, and numerous friends of HopeWell to meet Veronica Land-Davis for the first time.
YEARS
Celebrating
30
YEARS
of Community, Compassion, & Hope
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All those I know in my group
Marilyn and Leonard Kopelson
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Marta Alvarez
Amy Ackerson
Andrea Levine
Geraldine (Geri) Levin Anderson
Theodore Anderson
Michael Ballard
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3rd Party Fundraisers
Premiere Aquatic / Heather Boos and Greg Russell – Hair for HopeWell
Bill Kidd’s Toyota – Donations from October Car Sales
International Marketing Inc. (IMI) – for Lung Cancer Awareness
Orion Filippazzo – Super Caveman book fundraiser
Hamilton Elementary Middle School – Breast Cancer Fundraiser donation
Mouth Party Caramel – Percentage of monthly sales of gift basket item
Bryn Mawr School / Ella Mitchell / Run 4 Life Event
Theresa’s Tea Party – Dorothy Fuchs Yeager and sisters Cindy McGee & Jennifer Weber

30th Anniversary Planning Committee
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Jill Asch
Donna Clare
Teri Clayton
Ginny Corson
Arlinda Harris
Wanda Harrison
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(December 2022)

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Danielle Eichner, ATR-BC  
Coordinator for Family, Children’s and Young Adult Programs

Wanda Harrison, MSW  
Program Manager

Terry Weigel  
Development Director

Veronica Land-Davis, LCSW-C  
New Executive Director  
(November 2022)

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Gwen Myers  
Database Manager

Jeremy Roman  
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Doria Wiedel, CPA  
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Our Mission

To create a community for all people with cancer, their families and friends, that encourages an exchange of information, the development of a support system, and the presence of hope.

Our Community Core Values

Inclusiveness • Trust • Openness • Respect • Integrity

Diversity • Empathy • Sense of Security • Sensitivity

Understanding • Confidentiality • Heartfelt Commitment

Care & Compassion • Flexibility • Determination • Camaraderie

Acceptance without Judgment • Action with Intention • Genuine