



SUPPORTING PATIENTS • FUNDING CARE • PROVIDING HOPE

A breast cancer diagnosis sends a patient's life into turmoil, posing a range of challenges even for those who are employed and fully insured. Ellie Fund fills the gap between doctors, insurance, and family support to provide essential, non-medical services during the grueling treatment regimen.

Breast cancer is **widespread and costly**

- **1 in 8 women** in the US will be diagnosed with breast cancer over their lifetime.
- **6,700 women** in Massachusetts are diagnosed with breast cancer each year.
- **40%** of cancer patients nationwide report depleting their savings during treatment.
- **63% of patients** we serve report experiencing significant financial stress during treatment.

Breast cancer is **disruptive and affects the whole family**

- **47% of survivors** took unpaid time off during their breast cancer treatment.
- **20% of survivors** quit or lost their jobs during treatment. 30% stayed in jobs and 24% avoided changing jobs to retain health insurance.
- **28% of patients** report they and their families had fewer nutritious meals during treatment.
- **71% of patients** report reduced or no ability to maintain their normal daily activities.

OUR SUPPORT IS VITAL

- **Healthy food on the table** with grocery assistance and delivering nutritious prepared meals
- **Safe transportation** to and from appointments for patients with weakened immune systems
- **Childcare reimbursement and housekeeping services** to support family responsibilities
- **Integrative therapies** to relieve side effects and stress like acupuncture and oncology massage

\$1 million in services provided to patients in 2019

Over 200 patients per month served in Massachusetts

2,980 months of grocery assistance for patients in 2019

FROM OUR PATIENTS



“I cannot express how much [the Ellie Fund] has carried me through a most difficult time. I am a single, 60-year-old woman so self-reliance has been my life. You helped to bridge the 90-day wait period for my Short Term Disability. I made it and can concentrate on treatment because of people like you.” - Anonymous

The Ellie Fund provided me with home care and grocery gift cards during my chemotherapy treatment for breast cancer. Since my diagnosis, my emotions have been a roller coaster. Ellie Fund helped alleviate the additional expenses incurred driving back and forth to the hospital, paying for parking, copays, etc. I am truly grateful you offer these services. - Ziporia

“When I was re-diagnosed, I was hospitalized for a week, missing my son’s birthday. The pre-school program my son was in could not handle his emotional struggles from the stress at home. They kicked him out... we found a program that was a perfect fit but the tuition was quite a bit higher. I needed something to go right and the Ellie Fund stepped in to help us. - Abby

“My husband of 40 years and I are raising our 12-year old grandchild on a fixed income. Then I found out I have breast cancer and lost my part-time job as a crossing guard due to COVID — we were getting hit from all sides. The gift card from Ellie Fund was very welcome.”- Anita

“My first treatment got me extremely ill, and I used up all my sick time at work. Since then, I’ve had to take time off unpaid. I couldn’t have gotten by the last few months if not for your kind, extremely helpful organization.” - Sharon

Sources include:

American Cancer Society, <https://cancerstatisticscenter.cancer.org/#!/state/Massachusetts>

American Cancer Society

Insurance Coverage, Employment Status, and Financial Well-Being of Young Women Diagnosed

with Breast Cancer,” Florence K.L. Tangka, Sujha Subramanian, Madeleine Jones, et al., Cancer Epidemiology, Biomarkers & Prevention Prev 2020;29:616-624.

Association of Oncology Social Work

Tangka et al

www.elliefund.org

200 Reservoir Street, Suite 300 | Needham, MA 02494 | 781-449-0100