

CANCER LEGAL CARE

LAWYERS ON YOUR CANCER CARE TEAM

2017 Annual Report



THANK YOU FOR 10 YEARS OF LEGAL CARE

In 2017, Cancer Legal Care

celebrated ten years of providing legal care services to the Minnesota cancer community! ***Thank you for being a critical part of our work together.***

Highlights from our tenth year include:

- Changing our name from Cancer Legal Line to Cancer Legal Care
- Providing legal care services to 440 Minnesotans affected by cancer who experienced 535 different legal issues, including the need for extending employment leave, reversing insurance coverage denials, navigating Social Security Disability Insurance, and assisting with end-of-life legal planning
- Speaking at the 2017 Minnesota Cancer Summit and guiding the inclusion in Minnesota's Cancer Plan 2025 of an objective to reduce the financial and legal burdens faced by cancer patients and survivors
- Beginning the Foreclosure Prevention Program to assist our lowest income clients in maintaining their employment, securing insurance coverage, and navigating disability issues in order to shore up their financial future and prevent the loss of their homes

Each year, we serve a greater number of clients thanks to the dedication of our volunteer attorneys and to the generosity of our donors, supporters, and foundation partners. The combined efforts of many make our mission come to life, and have resulted in over \$8.4 million in free legal care services provided to the Minnesota cancer community during our first ten years.

Thank you for making Minnesota a place where legal care happens!

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10th Anniversary Event

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“Can we call you back
as things come up?
We are all new to
this and don’t know
the answers. This is
so helpful. We want
to make sure we are
talking to the right
people and getting
the right answers.”



THANK YOU!

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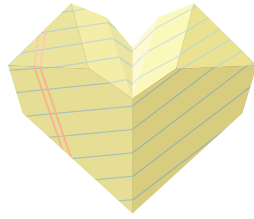
Learning that I had Stage 4 cancer was probably the most stressful event of my life. Finding the will to keep living life knowing that one day this evil disease could take it away was too much to bear, and my mind did not have much room for any other stress.

Not long after receiving my diagnosis, I began receiving phone calls from debt collectors regarding a 5 year old “debt” from a home security contract that I had thought had been ruled as “not valid” by previous collectors. I tried my best to reason with them, sent out all the necessary paperwork multiple times and had numerous phone conversations, but they were relentless. I was mentally exhausted and felt victimized. I reached out to Cancer Legal Care not sure what to expect. After we got off the phone with them, I just sobbed with relief that it finally felt like someone was on my side. They took care of the matter swiftly and I have had no issues from the creditors since.

Living on one income with three children and medical bills piling up, hiring a lawyer would not have been an option for us. In addition to helping with the debt collector issue, Cancer Legal Care has been an invaluable resource in helping me understand and navigate the process of obtaining Social Security and now the process of the return to work program. I cannot express the relief that this organization has given me. Living with cancer is hard and complex, but knowing there is someone on my side just a phone call away takes some of the weight off my shoulders.

**BRENDA W
CLIENT**

On May 1, 2017 we changed our name
from Cancer Legal Line to:



CANCER LEGAL CARE

LAWYERS ON YOUR CANCER CARE TEAM



THANK YOU!

To the following organizations and people for making legal care happen

Corporate and Association Support

Allina Health
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Ultra Creative, Inc.

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Langworthy &
David Langworthy
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Chris & Lisa Gemlo
Resa Gilats
Valerie Gilbert
Dr. Liat Goldman
Charles & Dina
Goodman
Jake Grassel

INCOME

Foundation Grants	161,371
Contributions	58,777
Program Service Revenue	50,848
Net Event Income	63,479
Total Income	\$ 334,475

EXPENSES

Programs & Services	250,994
Administrative	27,737
Fundraising	36,044
Total Expense	\$ 314,775
Net Income	\$ 19,700

ASSETS

Cash	122,891
Accounts Receivable	18,991
Prepaid Expenses	10,996
Total Assets	\$ 152,878

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Accounts Payable	8,450
Net Assets	144,428
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 152,878

Full financial statements and governance documents are available to view at the Cancer Legal Care office.

Providing legal care has always been our focus.

Now the legal care we provide
will be reflected in our new name and look.

By changing our name to better reflect our work,
we look forward to advancing the
key role legal care plays in whole patient cancer care.



Thank you to Ultra Creative Inc.
for donating their incredible creative
services to Cancer Legal Care.

On September 28, 2017, over 200 friends of Cancer Legal Care gathered to celebrate 10 years of legal care to the Minnesota cancer community.

Keri Noble performed, we recognized our medical, legal, and community partner champions, and shared stories of the transformational power of legal care in our clients' lives.



VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR



Greg Deckert, Esq

We simply could not do what we do without a growing group of volunteer attorneys. Their dedication has made it possible for us to provide legal care to people with any type of cancer.

In addition to the legal expertise needed, our volunteer attorneys have the generosity of spirit and heart that compels them to give of their time simply because someone needs their help.

Greg Deckert is a shining example of this dedication in action. Greg is an estate planning attorney and in the years he has been a volunteer, Greg has never once said he was too busy or couldn't help out when we reached out to him to help a client with estate planning. In fact, it has become a game in office to see just how many ways Greg can say "yes" with "Yes, I'd be happy to", "Yes, I can help with that", "Sure, I'd be happy to"—claiming the top three spots.

Almost every pro bono client Greg has helped, happened to have a Stage IV diagnosis. Several of these cases involved doing guardianship planning for a single parent who was at the end of their life and needed to make plans for the care of their minor children. In addition to creating the legal documents they needed, Greg's generosity also gave them the immeasurable gift of peace of mind and heart that comes with knowing that their wishes will continue to provide care to their children even after they have passed away.

We know, without a doubt, that every client we send to Greg will receive expert legal care along with a great deal of heart.

When we asked Greg if he would accept this recognition, the always humble Greg said, "I have mixed feelings about being so honored. I'm just thankful for the opportunity to serve with Cancer Legal Care."

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“I wish I had called
you weeks ago! This
is incredibly helpful!”

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MEDICAL CHAMPION OF THE YEAR



Nancy Hutchison, MD

Nancy is a physiatrist, who specializes in cancer rehabilitation. In that role, she sees first hand cancer's physical, financial, and legal devastation long after active treatment might be over.

At every turn, Nancy seeks to change systems and policies that are unjust, impractical, and just plain don't make sense.

Seeing the pain and debilitation of lymphedema in so many of her breast cancer patients, Nancy has become staunch advocate for the Lymphedema Treatment Act, which has languished in Congress for seven years. The Act seeks to have the most basic of medical devices—compression stockings—covered by Medicare. Currently, compression garments, which are the cornerstone for lymphoma treatment, are not covered by Medicare, and consequently not often covered by other insurance providers' policies.

Nancy refers many of her patients to Cancer Legal Care, and has become a go to champion for us, educating colleagues on the need for greater integration of legal care into health care and writing letters of support which have accompanied our grant requests.

Seeing cancer's financial toxicity and its attendant legal issues in so many of her patients, Nancy became a key ally in the move to reduce the financial and legal burdens Minnesotans with cancer face.

All of us would want a doctor like Nancy behind us while going through cancer. Nancy's patients also have her beside them, and that is what makes all the difference.

Volunteer Attorneys

Thank you to our volunteer attorneys who give so generously of their time and expertise.

Frances E. Baillon
Margaret Barrett
Stuart Bear
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“It is great to be able to talk to someone about all of these things and know that they don’t have an agenda and are fully and only looking out for my best interests.”

**Legal care provided to
440 clients on
535 different legal matters**

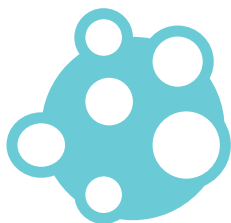
“I can’t thank
you enough!
You explained
things in a way
that I could
understand
everything.”

Legal Issues

Insurance—16%
Housing & Financial-17%
Employment—11%
Legal Planning—25%
Public Benefits—19%
Other—12%

Type of Cancer

Breast—27%
Lymphoma/Leukemia/
Multiple Myeloma—13%
Lung —12%
All other cancers—48%



71% of clients who
shared the stage of
their diagnosis are
living with **Stage IV**
cancer



61% of clients
are **homeowners**

“The fact that you exist tells me there are lots of legal issues when people get cancer.”

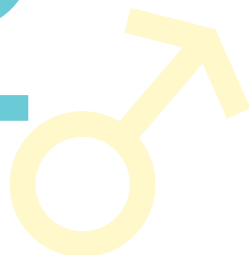
“I really appreciate the legal advice!”

Legal care’s impact on our clients’ health outcomes

- 94%** have reduced stress and improved well-being
- 90%** have an improved ability to prioritize their health and health care
- 58%** have an improved ability to maintain their continuity of care
- 51%** have a mitigated risk of homelessness
- 48%** have an improved ability to obtain or maintain their insurance coverage

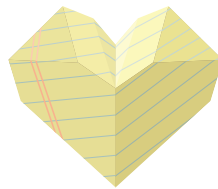


58% Women
42% Men



Average age
57 years

“You are a godsend!
I think I’m going to cry again! It’s a great relief!”



CANCER LEGAL CARE

LAWYERS ON YOUR CANCER CARE TEAM

6 Pine Tree Drive, Suite 120 // Arden Hills, Minnesota 55112

CancerLegalCare.org

