



Serving Isabella County in Patient Support, Education and Research

www.isabellacommunitycancer.org

Summer 2025

Teamwork

By: Laurie Peters

It takes many moving parts to run our 5013 (c) (3) non-profit organization, Community Cancer Services. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated board of directors. This team makes up the bones of our group....providing the best services for our clients, creating and running our website and social media pages, meeting with sponsors, grant writing, the accounting. The list goes on and on. Along with this very dedicated board there are so many others that help us to provide the services we do. We are so very grateful for what these people provide. Our Into the Light event, which takes place every September is built upon these people.....the chairs of the event, Suzanne Courser, and Sue Corrington. These ladies move mountains as they gather together a strong group of volunteers, sponsors and teams to attend the event. I'd like to recognize these people who strongly believe in our mission and contribute their time as well as many, many dollars to help provide our client services. Last year we had 16 teams sign up to participate in our ITL walk. In no specific order I'd like to highlight these teams: Team Dennis; Nancy Carey Support Group; Wendy's Warriors; Lumey Tunes; Mid Michigan Hula; My Mid Michigan Cancer Center; Team Curtiss; Bosoms, Babes & Beaus; Courser's Caring Crew; Team McDonald; Cancer Crushers; Peace, Love and JESUS; Kiwanis Club - Mt. Pleasant; The Bait and Tackle Cancer; Stacy's Stampede; Pink Paradise and JX Gives Back.

In addition to our team support, we've been fortunate to have the financial support of business and personal sponsorships over the past year. Thank you to our Hope Sponsors: Morey Foundation; Bill Fish Entertainment; Coyne Oil & Propane; Strickler Resources, LP; United Apartments - The McGuirk Family; Bandit Industries; Muskegon Energy Co.; Krapohl Ford & Lincoln; WCZY-104.3; Buck92-92.3; WCFX-95.3; Miles for Miracles; Isabella County Fairground; JX Gives Back; Isabella Bank; The Bird Bar & Grill; Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe; and Lions Club - Mt. Pleasant.

Thank you for believing in our mission, and thank you for your spiritual and financial support as we continue our mission of supporting our neighbors in Isabella County as they traverse the journey/battle that cancer has laid before them. We want everyone to feel that they are not alone. It takes all of us and no one fights alone!



CCS Makes a Difference in Isabella County

Helping Isabella County cancer patients since 1982

An all volunteer organization

Almost every penny earned goes to meet client needs

Pays transportation and some out of town lodging and expenses

Supports the Nancy Carey Support Group

Your tax deductible donations, gifts, and memorials stay in Isabella County for patient support, education and research

During the first half of 2025 provided over \$66,000 in financial support to cancer patients in Isabella County

Has an agreement with I-Ride for free transportation to local treatment

We are your local cancer organization

Check out our website:

www.isabellacommunitycancer.org

or visit our Facebook page



facebook.com/isabellacountyccs



Zora Walsh
Oct. 2, 1941 - March 27, 2025
Zora: A Beacon of Light and Friendship
by Suzanne Courser

I met Zora in the fall of 2001, just six months after surviving breast cancer. It was at the Into the Light Cancer Walk at Island Park where our paths first crossed. From the moment I was introduced to her, Zora made me feel incredibly welcome, as if I had walked into a gathering of old friends rather than strangers united by the shared experience of cancer. There were those still fighting, those who had survived, and those cherishing the memories of loved ones lost. Zora, with her caring, kind, and helpful nature, brought us all together.

Over the years, Zora and I became the dearest of friends. We shared countless phone calls, enjoyed lunches, and, most significantly, worked side-by-side on the Into the Light walk. One year, it was just the two of us handling all the planning. I remember feeling overwhelmed, but Zora, with unwavering faith, assured me that God would be with us. And she was right - that year turned out to be one of our most successful walks, all thanks to Zora's guidance, knowledge, and incredible patience.

Eventually, I took on the role of chairperson for the Into the Light walk, but Zora never left my side. She continued to guide and support me for many years, a true mentor in every sense of the word. Even when she became ill and could no longer actively participate in the walk, she remained my rock. She knew she had trained me well, and her encouragement and praise kept me going, especially when I felt like giving up.

Last September 6, 2024, we had the honor of celebrating Zora at our walk. Little did we know, it would be the last walk she would ever attend. On March 27, 2025, Zora "went into the light," following her Savior to the gates of eternal life.

Though she is no longer physically with us, the light she shared with me will glow forever. I miss you, Zora. This "little light of yours" will continue to shine brightly at each and every one of our cancer walks, a testament to your enduring spirit and the profound impact you had on so many lives.



Betty Campbell
March 2, 1940 - Jan. 11, 2025

Betty was a Board Member and was the Board Secretary of Community Cancer Services (CCS) for over twenty years. Her passion to help people gained her much praise and a lot of work! Betty was the recipient of the Eagle Award for her volunteer work. Betty was an administrative assistant at CMU in the accounting department. One of her mentors was the Treasurer for CCS at the time and asked her to help type the Treasurer's reports. After a while, she got to the point where she had become very familiar with the Organization's financial status and began going to meetings in the Treasurer's absence. Her knowledge was evident, and everyone thought very highly of her and her abilities.

Betty not only served on the CCS Board, but also served as the Secretary and Treasurer of the Pardee Cancer Treatment Fund of Isabella County for over 15 years. Both Organizations held a special place in her heart.

In addition, she helped direct the Isabella County Youth and Farm Pageant for many years. She was a member of the Farwell American Legion Ladies Auxiliary and Sacred Heart Parish. Betty loved to make handmade items for those she loved. Most of us have beautiful quilts, cross stitch work and porcelain dolls. We will miss her deeply. God rest our sweet angel.

Current CCS Board Members

President

Tina Powell989-289-3456

Vice President

Suzanne Courser989-644-2504

Immediate Past President

Richard Fleming..... 989-772-5556

Treasurer

Becky Trombley..... 989-621-2165

Service Coordinator

Vanda Barker.....989-772-2524

Secretary

Deonna Kremsreiter 989-330-1978

Publicity/Newsletter Editor

N/A

Memorials Coordinator

N/A

Community Liaison Director

Diane Fleming.....989-775-5556

Public Education Coordinator

Norm Eifler989-773-7789

Historian

Jane Clark989-773-3596

Board Members

Melody Miles

Carol Feltman

Mary Shoemaker

Darlene Kniffen

Paul Bigard

Honorary Board Members

Bill Odykirk

Harold Cook - Past President

Don Bertsch



Support for local
cancer patients

Your cancer-related expenses should be the least of your worries. We can help.

If you're an Isabella County resident who has been diagnosed with cancer, Community Cancer Services can help you with:

- Financial reimbursement for treatment-related transportation costs. Other needs considered on request.
- Speakers and presentations
- Transportation coordination and assistance for cancer treatments.
- Referrals to other agencies, when needed.
- Support groups

CCS is an independent, volunteer-driven, 501(c)(3) organization that has provided more than \$1 million in assistance to cancer patients in Isabella County since 1982. Support is provided through grants and donations. Nearly 90 cents of every dollar goes to cancer patients in our county.



For assistance, to volunteer or to contribute, call Service Coordinator Vanda Barker at 989-772-2524 or visit isabellacommunitycancer.org.

Krapcho Ford & Lincoln is a proud partner of Community Cancer Services

26th Annual

Into the Light
Cancer Awareness Walk

SEPT 5
FRI

Isabella County
Fairgrounds
(500 N. Mission Rd., Mt. Pleasant)

4:00
to
9:00 p.m.



Walk in Memory or Honor of a Loved One
Walk as a Survivor • Walk for a Survivor • Walk because you CAN

- EVENT INCLUDES:
- Survivor Celebration (7:00 p.m.)
 - Survivor Walk followed by Memorial Walk
 - Entertainment
 - Food
 - Raffles

For information on how to:

- FORM a TEAM
- Purchase a LUMINARY
- Make a MONETARY DONATION
- VOLUNTEER

CONTACT: Suzanne Courser, (989) 621-4096 or (989) 644-2504 / scourser@mcn.com
Susan Courington, (989) 621-3883 / scourin@charter.net
Mary Shoemaker, (512) 657-9843 / marykaycna@yahoo.com

Lighting the Way for Cancer Survivors

Isabella County Community Cancer Services | P.O. Box 36, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48864-0036 | www.isabellacommunitycancer.org



Mileage and Lodging Reimbursement Program

Cancer can be overwhelming in many ways. Community Cancer Services (CCS) can help pay your mileage to and from cancer treatments as well as help with out of town lodging. Last year CCS provided over \$120,000 in medical mileage and lodging. We are your local cancer organization and are here to help you during this difficult time. Our CCS Service Coordinator, Vanda Barker, can help guide you to services you need. Each case is considered individually to ensure that the most appropriate aid is given. Call Vanda at (989) 772-2524. All calls and clients are kept confidential.

CCS is not affiliated with American Cancer Society

Miles for Miracles

In May 2025, the Mt. Pleasant West Intermediate School students presented a check for \$3,750 to Community Cancer Services from their Miles for Miracles event.

The hard work and support of these students, make a real difference in the Isabella County residents that we serve. It is inspiring to see these future young leaders stepping up to help others. Thank you to these thoughtful students and we are proud to have them as part of our community.



CCS Board of Directors Meetings

The CCS Board of Directors meets the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm the Commission On Aging building, 2200 S. Lincoln in Mt. Pleasant. Prospective members are invited to call President Tina Powell at 989-289-3456 for more information. Please join us!

Important Phone Numbers

Pardee Fund of Isabella County.....(989) 772-6895
Community Cancer Services.....(989) 772-2524
Nancy Carey Support Group for Women.....(989) 513-7827

Pardee Cancer Treatment Fund

Isabella County residents are fortunate to have the Pardee Cancer Treatment Fund available to help with the expenses of cancer. Pardee provides financial support for cancer treatment expenses not covered by insurance. Call 989-772-6895 for more information.



Vanda Barker
Service Coordinator
989-772-2524

www.isabellacommunitycancer.org
facebook.com/isabellacountyccs

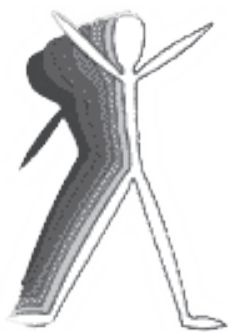
Community Cancer Services is made up by a dedicated board of volunteers. Recently, several members of our organization were recognized for their services to CCS as well as many other causes.

At the 68th Annual Awards banquet, Suzanne Courser was awarded with the Shirley M. Decker Eagle Award for her work with Community Cancer Services and the Into the Light Cancer Awareness Walk.



Sandra Smith was awarded the Live United Award presented by United Way of Greater Central Michigan. She is a long time, very hard working member of the Into the Light committee. Sue has dedicated many hours to making this yearly event a success!

www.isabellacommunitycancer.org
facebook.com/isabellacountyccs



26th Annual Into the Light Cancer Awareness Walk

Friday, September 5, 2025

4:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Isabella County Fairgrounds

500 N. Mission Rd., Mt. Pleasant



Team Registration / Individual Walker Form/Luminary Form

Community Cancer Services (CCS) is an all-volunteer, non-profit, tax-exempt organization which has been serving Isabella County residents dealing with cancer for over 37 years! Since no salaries are paid, approximately 90 cents out of every dollar goes directly to help cancer patients in our county. CCS provides financial help to Isabella County cancer patients to pay their cancer-related expenses. Services include financial assistance for transportation cost for trips to receive treatments and consideration of individual requests for other expenses.

Team members will receive an event t-shirt (limited sizes available). Ask family, friends and co-workers to pledge their support. ALL proceeds benefit Community Cancer Services for cancer patient support. Team name will be included on event t-shirt if team information is submitted prior to August 10, 2025. T-shirts are also available for a donation.

Name: _____ Team Name: _____

Address: _____ Team Captain: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Donations from (List Name)	Donation Amount	Donations from (List Name)	Donation Amount
1.		6.	
2.		7.	
3.		8.	
4.		9.	
5.		10.	
TOTAL \$ _____			

LUMINARIES	
List name to be put on the luminary bag	
1.	6.
2.	7.
3.	8.
4.	9.
5.	10.

(If necessary, attach additional sheets)

Please make checks payable to: Community Cancer Services
P.O. Box 36
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804-0036

Thank you for your support! All gifts are tax-deductible.

Community Cancer Services 501(c) number 38-2415496

Suzanne Courser,
(989) 621-4096 or (989) 644-2504
tscourser@msn.com

CONTACT:
Susan Courington,
(989) 621-3883
spcour@charter.net

Mary Shoemaker
(512) 657-9843
marykaycna10@yahoo.com

www.isabellacommunitycancer.org

Community Cancer Services-Into the Light luminary walk is not affiliated with the American Cancer Society-Relay for Life event.



Dear Friends,

The Community Cancer Service "Into the Light" Cancer Awareness Walk has been successful because of friends like you! Volunteers have started planning the 26th annual event that benefits cancer patients of Isabella County who need help paying for their cancer-related expenses.

Community Cancer Services (CCS) is an all-volunteer, non-profit, tax-exempt organization. For over 37 years, we have been serving Isabella County residents dealing with cancer. Since no salaries are paid, approximately 90 cents of every dollar goes directly to help a patient in our county. Services include financial assistance for transportation cost for trips to receive treatments.

Our annual walk is scheduled for Friday, September 5th from 4:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Isabella County Fairgrounds. The walk includes a survivor celebration, luminary ceremony, entertainment, food, raffles and more! 100 percent of the proceeds from "Into the Light" benefit Isabella County cancer patients that are in need of our services.

Please know how much your support means to those that are affected by cancer. We hope that you will consider sponsoring this year's walk, with a monetary contribution. If you have any questions or would like information for forming a team, please contact one of the individuals below.

Gratefully,

Suzanne Courser,
(989) 621-4096 or (989) 644-2504
tscourser@msn.com

Susan Courington,
(989) 621-3883
spcour@charter.net

Mary Shoemaker
(512) 657-9843
marykaycna10@yahoo.com

Please complete form below and send to: Community Cancer Services, P.O. Box 36, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804-0036. *If you have any questions, please contact one of the people listed above. Community Cancer Services 501(c)3 number: 38-2415496 www.communitycancer.org*
Community Cancer Services-Into the Light luminary walk is not affiliated with the American Cancer Society-Relay for Life event.

----- **Into the Light 2025 Donation Form** -----

Opportunities (please check one)

☐ **Hope Sponsor \$1,000+**

Includes business name on the back of the event t-shirt and name listed in the program.

☐ **Empowerment Sponsor \$500**

Includes business name on the back of the event t-shirt and name listed in the program.

☐ **Friends of CCS Sponsor \$250**

Includes business name listed in the program. (no name on t-shirt)

Yes, I would like to support Community Cancer Services Into the Light Cancer Awareness Walk

☐ Payment enclosed (make check payable to Community Cancer Services)

☐ Please invoice me

Individual or Company Name _____

Contact Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

As part of the event, luminaries will be made in the memory of those who have passed from cancer, those currently fighting cancer or those who have survived cancer. Anyone making a donation may have names written on luminary bags.

Names for the luminaries: _____, _____, _____, _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT | ALL GIFTS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE

Form must be received by August 10, 2025 for business name to be included on event t-shirt.

COMMUNITY CANCER SERVICES OF ISABELLA COUNTY

"Your Local Cancer Organization"

PO Box 36
Mt. Pleasant MI 48804-0036

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Ithaca, MI
Permit No. 35

www.isabellacommunitycancer.org



"Your Local Cancer Organization"

Thank you Jay's Furniture Barn!



It is with great pleasure and sincere gratitude that we thank Jay's Furniture Barn. Jay's Furniture Barn donated \$3,119 to Community Cancer Services in April. Annually, Jay's holds a fundraising event to support local charities. Customers were asked to choose one of three charities in which to donate the profits from their purchase. Jay's Furniture Barn has made it a priority to give back to organizations in the communities that support their business. They support many local events and even advertise other local businesses on their Facebook page. Most people know the ads that end in "Hugs and Kisses, Ma!" We are here to tell you that this family and their business is as downhome and friendly as the commercials say. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!