

Maine Breast Cancer Coalition

2017 Support Service Fund Annual Summary

The Maine Breast Cancer Coalition *Support Service Fund* provides financial assistance for breast health or breast cancer related needs to qualified Maine residents. The Fund assists low-income, uninsured, and underinsured people, including those newly diagnosed with breast cancer, who don't qualify for, or whose particular needs aren't covered by other assistance programs.

Support Service Fund milestones:

- Number of years since the Fund was started: 18
- Number of applicants the first year: 50
- Number of applicants in 2017: 337
- Total amount awarded to qualified applicants in the past 18 years: more than \$1,850,000
- Number of Maine people helped by the Fund since it began: 3,800+

Statistics from the 2017 Support Service Fund program:

- Number of approved applications: 332
- Counties represented: all 16 Maine counties
- Total amount awarded: \$155,782
- Average grant amount: \$469
- Age range of approved applicants: 21 to 87

Representative items and services funded in 2017:

- breast imaging (mammography and ultrasound)
- lab/pathology
- radiologist readings
- surgeon/physician fees or copays
- lymphedema compression garments (lymphedema is a side-effect of breast cancer treatment)
- prescriptions
- breast prostheses
- wigs
- temporary living expense support for people in breast cancer treatment
- travel expenses to treatments
- many other support services

To find out more about the [Support Service Fund](#) or to apply for a grant, download an easy-to-complete, printable application from our website at www.mainebreastcancer.org/support, or call Maine Breast Cancer Coalition at 207-945-0008 to request that an application be mailed to you. Call us if you need help completing the application.

Support Service Fund recipients wrote:

- "This program is wonderful. At a time of uncertainty and high stress, this help really matters."
- "The easiest application ever! Thanks for easing my burden some."
- "I am so grateful for this program, dealing with the treatments and cancer. Also, the after-effects can be very emotionally and financially straining. This wonderful organization takes some of that stress away."

The 2017 Support Service Fund was supported by the [Maine Breast Cancer Specialty License Plate Program](#); [CDC Maine Breast and Cervical Health Program](#) contract funds supported by a Cooperative Agreement from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; dedicated fundraisers by many Maine organizations and businesses, including long-term supporters Greater Bangor Women's Ski and Snowboard Club, York Hospital Breast Cancer Survivors Group, Maine Fraternal Order of Eagles Groups, F.R. Carroll Concrete, Douglas Dynamics (Fisher Engineering), and Hannaford Supermarkets; individual contributions by members and supporters of MBCC, and the dedication of our volunteers and our Support Service Fund program assistant.

The Maine Breast Cancer Coalition is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.