When Getting There Is Half the Battle . . .

With high gas prices and the great distance many Maine residents must travel to medical facilities, getting to breast cancer treatment or services can create a financial hardship.

If you (or someone you know) need to travel to and from breast cancer treatment, support services or diagnostic services, and live in any of the counties listed below, you may be able to receive free transportation or mileage reimbursement.

Volunteer drivers can pick up individuals at their homes and bring them to treatment or services. The programs also provide mileage reimbursement for those who transport themselves or are transported by a family member or friend. Contact the individual program to find out more.

Androscoggin, Franklin, or Oxford Counties: Community Concepts
800-866-5588 or 207-795-6073
http://www.community-concepts.org/transportation/susan-b-komen-for-the-cure/

Hancock or Washington Counties: Sunrides to Wellness 877-374-8396 or 546-7547 or 664-0012

Penobscot or Piscataquis Counties: Ride To Wellness 973-3695 or 1-866-853-5969.

York County: Connecting to Cancer Care
207-324-5762
http://www.yccac.org/yccac-transportation-home.html

Maine Breast Cancer Coalition Representatives to Take Part in Breast Cancer Deadline 2020® Advocate Leadership Summit

Every 14 minutes, a woman dies of breast cancer in the United States. Worldwide, nearly half a million women and men will die this year from the disease. This must change, and with the help of trained advocates, it will.

Breast Cancer Deadline 2020® is the National Breast Cancer Coalition’s global initiative to end breast cancer by January 1, 2020. As a leader in the breast cancer movement and a supporter of Breast Cancer Deadline 2020®, the Maine Breast Cancer Coalition is committed to being a part of this important work. As leaders, we do all that we can throughout the year to support the plan of action to achieve our common goal of ending breast cancer.

We will not end breast cancer unless we have the right leadership . . . and that includes advocate leaders! We need educated, trained advocates to lead the Breast Cancer Deadline 2020® plan of action. And, we need to learn from one another.

Leaders in the breast cancer movement will gather in Washington, DC, May 4-7, 2013, to demonstrate their support for Breast Cancer Deadline 2020®. Maine Breast Cancer Coalition (MBCC) plans to send two representatives to represent Maine at the Summit and continue their training, but we need your help to raise the funds to make this happen! Please make a donation of any amount on the Advocate Leadership Summit fundraising pages of MBCC volunteers Laurel Bezanson or Bethany Zell. As advocate leaders, MBCC representatives Laurel and Bethany will:

- Learn the details of the Breast Cancer Deadline 2020® Blueprint and plan of action.
- Interact with scientists, thought leaders and innovators in small, intimate groups.

(continued on next page)
Sit down with top researchers in prevention and metastasis.

Discuss the post-election White House and Congress with public policy experts and then apply their knowledge on Capitol Hill in meetings with their members of Congress on Lobby Day.

Develop life-long leadership skills and create individual year-long action plans to mobilize and engage their communities in Breast Cancer Deadline 2020®.

You can find out more about Breast Cancer Deadline 2020® or the National Breast Cancer Coalition at www.stopbreastcancer.org.

Motorcycle Season is Just Around the Corner!

An exciting effort is under way to create the first ever Maine specialty license plate just for motorcycles!

Just like the companion specialty plate for automobiles, the beneficiaries of this effort will be the Maine Breast Cancer Coalition’s Support Service Fund, the Maine Cancer Foundation for their Women’s Cancer Research Fund, and the Maine Breast and Cervical Health Program for their mammogram fund. Since the pink ribbon specialty plate for cars was released in October 2008, more than 18,000 plates are now on the road, and over $542,000 has been raised for these important programs!

There is a formal legislative process that must take place to obtain final approval for the motorcycle plate. The next step is to obtain pre-reservations from 500 individuals during this legislative session. Click here for FAQs and a reservation form. You can also go to www.mainecancer.org and reserve your plate online.

Inside the Support Service Fund
by Ro LeGassé, Support Service Fund Program Assistant

Have you ever wondered what happens when a person applies to the Maine Breast Cancer Coalition’s Support Service Fund (SSF)? Do you know what would prompt a woman (or a man) to ask for financial assistance from an organization or group they don’t know? Many people go through the process, and sometimes that process begins with dialing 800-928-2644. We always listen to messages and return calls as soon as possible, even though the office is open on a part-time basis.

What we hear people say is that they have tried to get help from several sources and have met with disappointment. Most of the time we can find a way to provide a resource, either by giving out information about a program that can be more helpful than we can be, or by suggesting that a SSF application should be submitted, and then offer ideas as to how to complete the application.

A committee of five people (all volunteers) reviews a written summary of your application information that they receive via email. The committee members know you only as a number that has been assigned to your application. They respond within a couple of days, and we proceed by calling you if additional information or documentation is needed. You will always receive a letter from the committee explaining the decision. We try to assist applicants respectfully, kindly, and quickly. We believe we are not here to add more stress to your life, but rather to ease some of life’s more difficult challenges.

We follow strict policies that protect your identity and keep your application confidential. The amount of money we can provide fluctuates due to our funding sources and calendar. We started the Support Service Fund program thinking we would mainly help women pay for mammograms. We have expanded our activities to include financial help for people with breast cancer who may have an acute and strong need for assistance with expenses like medical co-pays, travel funds, or lymphedema compression garments, for example.

You can learn more about the Maine Breast Cancer Coalition and the Support Service Fund by visiting us at www.mainebreastcancer.org, or you can call us toll-free at 800-928-2644.

The PINK ALBUM: Great music for a great cause!

VETERAN PERFORMERS,
GRAMMY NOMINEES,
RISING STARS ...

This fantastic double CD featuring performances by top-notch Maine female singer/songwriters benefits the Maine Breast Cancer Coalition Support Service Fund.

Nearly 2 hours of music! Available at all Bull Moose Music locations and for online purchase at www.mainepinkalbum.com.

“Like” the PINK ALBUM on Facebook!
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, or underinsured people 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: 13
- Number of applicants the first year: 50
- Number of applicants in 2012: 392
- Total amount awarded to qualified applicants in the past 13 years: more than $1,200,000
- Number of Maine people helped by the Fund: 2,500+

Statistics from the 2012 Support Service Fund program:
- Number of approved applications: 367
- Counties represented: all 16 Maine counties
- Total amount awarded: $147,014
- Average grant amount: $400
- Age range of applicants: 25 to 87

Representative items and services funded in 2012:
- breast imaging (mammography and ultrasound)
- lab/pathology
- radiologist readings
- surgeon/physician fees or co-pays
- lymphedema compression garments
- prescriptions
- prostheses
- wigs
- temporary emergency living expenses for people in breast cancer treatment
- travel expenses to treatments
- many other support services

The Support Service Fund is currently made possible by grants from the Maine Affiliate of Susan G. Komen For the Cure®, the Borman Family Foundation; the Maine Breast Cancer Specialty License Plate Program; also funding through DHHS/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 organizations and businesses, including the following long-term donors: the York Hospital Breast Cancer Survivors Group, the Greater Bangor Women’s Ski and Snowboard Club, PATCO Construction, Maine Fraternal Order of Eagles Clubs, and their “Pink Sock Foundation”, Acapello Salons; also individual contributions by members and supporters of MBCC.

We would like to express our appreciation to the following individuals, groups, organizations, or businesses that held recent fundraising events to benefit MBCC or the Support Service Fund:

Acapello Salons and the Mensroom Salon “Get Pink’d” fundraiser
Bangor Area Women’s Ski and Snowboard Club
Bangor Savings Bank “Dress Down Day”
Brighton Collectibles “Power of Pink” bracelets sale
Shon Ellis annual pig roast fundraiser
Independence Association “Pretty in Pink” Campaign
Kennebec Federal Savings
Steven Kerner fundraiser
Kitchen Chicks Catering, DBA Cape Porpoise Kitchen
Old Town High School Boys and Girls Soccer
Oxford Federal Credit Union

PATCO Construction - “Pink Album” project sponsor
Peapod Jewelry
Peoples United Bank
Pepsi Beverages Company, Auburn, employee fundraiser with a PepsiCo Foundation matching grant
Portland High School Boys Soccer
Charles Ruff, DMD, dental office
Sia Bello Salon and Spa
Studio 59 Pilates and Fitness “Yogathon”
York Hospital Breast Cancer Survivors Group

We are grateful for recent individual donations from:

John and Lynn Edgecomb
K. Mann
André and Sandra Plette
Patti Pratt in honor of Jeanette Pratt
Allen and Nancy Cotter in honor of Courtney
MDI Medical Imaging in honor of Jeff

In memory of Nancy Oliveri:
Thomas and Margaret Brannen
Elise Brown
Sally and Gordon Brummer
Robert Carp
Olivia Chappell
Dave and Marian Crossman
Kyle Kane and Bill Henry
Genevieve and Dan Leach
Janet and Michael Vermehren

In memory of Lillian Anderson:
Cynthia and Wayne Cunningham
Wayne and Frances Upham

In memory of Evelyn Dana:
Terrence Sutton

In memory of Candace Allen:
Connie Allen
How You Can Help

Join us! A basic annual membership is only $15 (or more if you are able) for individuals and $100 for businesses.

... or please consider a tax-deductible donation of any amount to Maine Breast Cancer Coalition or our Support Service Fund. Make a donation of $50 or more and you will receive a free copy of the Pink Album. One hundred percent of donations will go to Support Service Fund recipients, as our low administrative costs are covered by our Maine Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure® grant. You can donate online by visiting the “Donate” page www.mainebreastcancer.org/donate.cfm of our website to make a secure donation using your credit card or PayPal account. If you prefer to use a check, you can mail it along with the membership/donation form below.

... or hold a fundraiser: If your community group, business, or organization would like to dedicate all or part of the proceeds from a fundraising effort to MBCC or the Support Service Fund, contact grants chairperson Christine Haiss at 207-938-4018 or info@mainebreastcancer.org.

Yes! I want to support the Maine Breast Cancer Coalition's work.

- I want to become a member of MBCC.
  (check membership level below)
  Individual annual membership levels:
  - $15 Basic Membership
  - $25 Friend
  - $50 Supporting Member
  - $250 Sustaining Member
  - Other (minimum of $15) _______________

  Business or Organization Basic Membership:
  - $100

- I want to make a contribution. Enclosed is a check for $________
  In honor/memory of: __________________________

Please make checks payable to MBCC. Mail your check for membership and/or contribution with this form to:

Maine Breast Cancer Coalition
499 Broadway
PMB 362
Bangor, ME 04401-3460

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