

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Doreen Perks

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

The impact of cancer is not just physical. The financial and emotional toll for some can be devastating. Easing that financial burden can make a difference. In 2023 the Bob Perks Fund did that for hundreds of families. 2023 was a record year for patient grants for the Bob Perks Fund. Almost \$275,000 was allocated to help cancer patients battle the financial side of this disease; assisting with expenses such as rent, utilities, food, gas, and more, for 424 patients.

The growth and success of the Bob Perks Fund can be attributed to the wonderful and dedicated staff, volunteers, and board of directors over the years...but it truly does take a village. And that is what we have seen, over and over, as the Fund grows and branches out. In addition to our Strategic Partners, Special Event Partners, and Sponsors, the last years have seen an impressive grassroots effort from the communities we serve, in the form of events of all sizes being held in support of the Bob Perks Fund. As the Founder of this wonderful organization, there is no greater compliment anyone can give to us, than to dedicate their own time and effort to raise funds to support our mission. Thank you to every person and group who spent their time making the Bob Perks Fund bigger and better in 2023.

HISTORY AND VITAL MISSION

The BPF was established in 2006 in memory of Bob Perks, a State College native, who passed away in 2005 after a long battle with melanoma. A Penn State baseball player and a founding member of Penn State Coaches vs Cancer, Bob died at age 42, leaving behind his wife Doreen and two young boys. To fulfill Bob's commitment to those battling cancer, Doreen and Bob's family, friends, and colleagues established the BPF. For cancer patients who receive this support while undergoing treatment, it is a lifeline to pay for their most basic living expenses.

Over \$2.7 Million Raised & Distributed Since Founding in 2006



SERVICE, GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Bob Perks Cancer Assistance Fund serves cancer patients in six central PA counties: Blair, Centre, Clearfield, Huntingdon, Mifflin, and Juniata. Cancer patients face hardships not only with their health challenges, but in many cases, also face extreme financial hardships. Patients often find themselves too weak from cancer treatments to be able to work, resulting in loss of critical income in the household. Bob Perks Cancer Assistance Fund is a life-line to many to avoid eviction, utility shut-offs, or to be able to put food on the family table or gas in their cars to get to treatments.

This past year was a record-breaking year for the Bob Perks Fund. Never before in our 18-year history have we received as many applications as we did in 2023. BPF awarded 424 cancer patients and their families nearly \$275,000 in grant awards. Thanks to our many referral sources for their hard work to help our mutual patient applicants. Not only was the BPF staff working hard to process a record number of applicants, but our referral source staff worked tirelessly to help their patients to apply for assistance from BPF.

In response to a sharp rise in the cost of goods, due to the current inflationary economy, BPF realized the need for an increase in financial assistance to our cancer patients. The BPF management team began to look at ways to be able to prepare to offer an increase in all quarterly grants. Thanks to the careful fiscal management by the Bob Perks Fund Board of Directors and Staff, and because of the incredible amount of support we receive from the communities we serve, BPF notified all referral sources of the planned increase in quarterly grant awards and also an increase in the lifetime limit, beginning in early 2024.

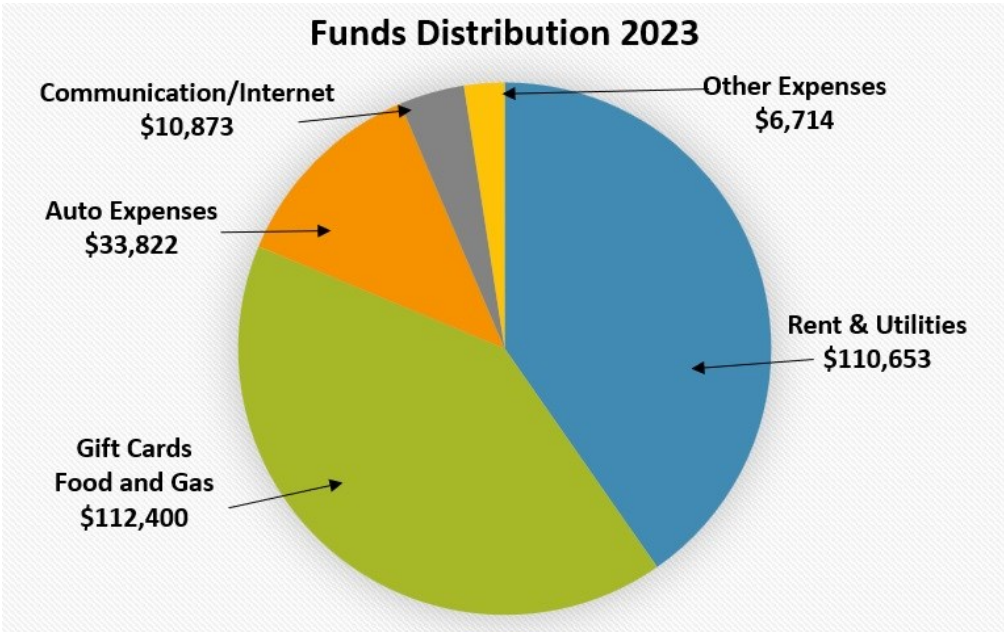
The addition of Mifflin and Juniata counties was made possible by funding from Geisinger Health Systems in 2021. BPF paid out nearly \$18,000 to cancer patients in Mifflin and Juniata counties in our first year serving this area. In July, 2022, BPF began receiving its first allocations from United Way of Mifflin and Juniata, after being awarded Partner Agency Status in 2021. The BPF is committed to fundraising in our six-county area with the long-term goal that donated dollars in each county equal the financial support needed for that county’s cancer community.

Since its humble beginnings in 2006, BPF has never turned away an eligible applicant for financial support. We have given more than 5000 applicants over \$2.7 million in our seventeen years of operation.

The following chart represents a breakdown by county of the number of patients receiving financial support from BPF in 2023:

Blair	Centre	Clearfield	Huntingdon	Mifflin	Juniata
136	83	66	92	36	11
Total Applications in 2023 = 424					

The graph below illustrates the five categories of basic needs. Our ability to assist local cancer patients is completely dependent upon fundraising and collaborative relationships with our referral sources. Without their support and commitment to our mission, the BPF would not exist.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

In 2023, BPF was extremely fortunate for the major financial support of eleven Strategic Partners who played an important role as donors and ambassadors of our mission. Without their steadfast devotion to our cause and their generous, ongoing patronage, our efforts to assist struggling cancer patients would be severely diminished. Our heartfelt thanks to our Strategic Partners for their long-standing commitment to our local cancer community.



SPECIAL EVENTS PARTNERS

Most of our Special Events Partners have a long-term relationship with BPF. Our Special Events Partners agree to sponsor our annual events. In return, their sponsorship is publicized throughout the year. Their unyielding dedication to our mission is truly appreciated.



Community Highlights

Blair County - We are so grateful for the relationships with our Strategic Partners (SP) from Blair County. Our newest SP, **Girls Night Out, Altoona (GNO)**, awarded us an incredible \$50,000 from their year-long fundraising campaigns to battle breast cancer. Our partners **Sheetz** and **UPMC Altoona**, who have been long-time Strategic Partners with the BPF, donated a total of \$35,000. These partners are paramount to the long-term sustainability of our program. UPMC Altoona, also supports our signature events as a Special Events Sponsor, with an additional gift of \$5,000.



Board & Staff at GNO 2023

Cove Cause for Cancer, serving southern Blair County, raised funds for BPF through various events throughout the year, donating \$20,000 to support cancer patients in the Cove region. The fabulous employees of **Veeder Root** in Duncansville, led by **Maureen Slovikosky** and **Amy Koepler**, held a Day of Caring at their plant, raising \$2,001. BPF was blessed to have been chosen by **Tyrone Area High School's Homecoming Court** as the beneficiary of this year's fundraising campaign, raising \$10,605 to support area cancer patients. **Linda Cruz** and her dedicated group of volunteers held a **Night at the Races** event in Tyrone, raising \$9,562 to benefit cancer patients in Blair County.

Centre County - Our champions for BPF in Centre County include our Strategic Partners, **Mount Nittany Health**, **Coaches vs Cancer** and the **American Cancer Society**, and **Kish Bank's, Kish for the Cure**. This amazing group helped to sustain the BPF mission, by donating a grand total of \$100,147. The unique, long-term relationship between BPF and American Cancer Society owes its success to the many Coaches vs Cancer sponsors, donors, and dedicated volunteers who give generously of their time and resources, sharing \$50,275 with Bob Perks Fund in 2023. Kish Bank's Kish for the Cure 2023 was a wildly successful event. Employees of Kish Bank are highly devoted, community-minded individuals who share Kish Bank's commitment to community improvement and support in all the communities they serve. Bob Perks Fund received an amazing \$39,872 from this annual employee-led event. Thank you to BPF's incredible friends from Kish Bank. Our long-time friend, Mount Nittany Health, generously donated \$10,000, with an additional \$5,000 in support of our 2023 Special Events.

Through the 2023 **Centre Gives** campaign, BPF received \$17,073 from our faithful donors, including an additional match-the-match gift from our generous supporters, **Blake**, and **Linda Gall**. The Centre Foundation also awarded BPF a **Field-of-Interest** grant of \$2,500 from the **Friedman Family Fund**. In addition, BPF was thankful to receive grants from the **State College Downtown Rotary Club** in the amount of \$2,000, and from the **Carl L. Fisher Memorial Trust** in the amount of \$5,000. The **Tailored Closet** and **PremierGarage of Central PA** also held a month-long fundraising campaign to benefit our local cancer community, raising \$2,000.



Kish for the Cure Check Presentation

Clearfield County - Strategic Partner, **Spitzer Subaru** and **Subaru of America** recognized Bob Perks Fund as their Hometown Charity during the 2022 **Share the Love Campaign**. BPF was extremely appreciative of the donation of \$15,000 in early 2023. Spitzer Subaru and Subaru of America continue to promote and support Bob Perks Fund in Clearfield County helping to ease the financial burdens of cancer patients.



Share the Love 2023 Check Presentation

Loyal Bob Perks Fund supporters, **Diane Evans, Jennifer Lanich**, and the entire **Lanich family** once again honored **Mike Lanich**, as well as **Chris and Buddha Lanich**, with a memorial motorcycle ride fundraiser. **Mikey's Old School Ride 2023** raised \$2,920, bringing the total of this event to \$23,696 since 2014. Jennifer Lanich's husband Mike was a BPF grant recipient before he lost his battle with cancer.

BPF was awarded a \$1,500 grant from **Clearfield County Charitable Foundation** to assist Clearfield County cancer patients to purchase groceries.

Huntingdon County - Strategic Partner, **Huntingdon County United Way** continued to support BPF in 2023. HCUW awarded BPF \$28,574 to serve cancer patients in Huntingdon County.



Huntingdon County Bob Perks Fund Event 2023

Our very important core group of volunteers in Huntingdon County, led by **Rickey Himes**, worked hard to fundraise for BPF. The annual **Bob Perks Fund event** (formerly known as the Survivor Event), which celebrates survivors, those presently battling cancer, and those who have lost their fight brought in \$4,014 to honor

Huntingdon County's cancer community.

Erica Blair and the devoted BPF Huntingdon volunteers held their **6th Annual Clay Shoot** at Shenecoy Sportsmen Club. This event raised \$1,000. Clay Glenny held his annual yard sale, resulting in an incredible donation of \$6,675 for area cancer patients. Our Huntingdon County volunteers worked very hard with numerous other events contributing an additional \$5,809 to support our cancer community. The **Huntingdon Holiday Bowl** held a bowling tournament to benefit local cancer patients, raising \$1,150. Our friends at **The Comfort Inn** held a **Labor Day Raffle**, offering the chance to win scratch-off lottery tickets, gift cards to local businesses, and overnight stays at local Comfort Inn hotels, generating an awesome return of \$4,000 profit for BPF.

Mifflin & Juniata Counties - Joining the BPF Strategic Partner supporters, for Mifflin, and Juniata counties is the **United Way of Mifflin and Juniata**. As a new member agency, BPF received funding from United Way of Mifflin-Juniata for a total grant award of \$12,000.



Shy Bear Sing for the Fight

The **A.B.A.T.E. of PA Chapter 53 Patriot Riders** held a Basket Raffle event to benefit BPF, raising \$3,444. For the third consecutive year, **Alltrista Plastics**, with the help of **Philips Electronics**, chose BPF as the beneficiary of their company-wide **Give Breast Cancer the Boot** campaign, raising \$4,743 to benefit local cancer patients. We were also blessed with the support of \$1,000 from the **Rotary Club of Mifflintown**, who helped us to introduce BPF services to the local cancer communities. In addition, BPF held the 1st Annual Sing for the Fight karaoke event at **Shy Bear Brewing** to celebrate Goose Day, raising \$1,700.



Veeder Root Walk-a-Thon



Coaches vs Cancer Raffle



Mikey's Ride Registration



Remembering Fighters



Mifflintown Rotary



JCHS Wellness Day

SPECIAL EVENTS & FUNDRAISING

ROCK THE 80's - The 11th annual **Rock the 80's** concert was held on February 11, 2023.



We had a sold out concert with people purchasing standing room only. The evening kicked off with the Totally Rad Reception at the **Kish Expect More Store** – Allen Street, featuring complimentary beer, wine and an array of appetizers for people who purchased the reception tickets.

We held an 80's costume contest that featured a single individual winner and a group contest winner. The group contest winners received gift certificate from **Gigi's Southern Table**, and the solo costume winner received a gift card from **The Tavern Restaurant**. The 2023 Rock the 80's concert raised \$22,014.

Rock the 80's Sponsors

Rock Stars \$2,500

UPMC Altoona

Lead Singers \$1,500

America's Carpet Outlet

First Citizen's Bank

Restek Corporation

Backup Singers \$1,000

Converge - In kind

McQuaide Blasko

Mount Nittany Health

Truist Bank

Bid for the Balcony

Larry Walker KBB

Breakdancers \$500

Frost & Conn Insurance

Blake & Linda Gall

Stocker Chevrolet Subaru

Buick & GMC

Groupies \$250

Ben & Robin Heim

Koch Funeral Home

Primary Health Network

State College Orthodontics

Fan Club

R. H. Dotts Energy

In-Kind

Hugh & Janyce Mose

Jeff Brown

Kish - Expect More Store

JR Mangan

James Miller

Joe Schall

State College American

Legion Post 245

W. R. Hickey Beer Distributor

Rock the 80's Bands

Anchor & Arrow - The Corner Brothers - The Extractors - The Long Afternoon

CRUSH - Spider Kelly - JR Mangan Band - Miss Melanie

Genuine Red and The Issues

NIGHT AT THE RACES - Excitement was in the air on May 20, 2023, as BPF held its annual Night at the Races! The event, held at Good Shepherd Parish Hall, in Port Matilda, PA raised an overwhelming \$31,486 for area cancer patients.



This fast-paced evening of virtual horse racing had guests cheering for their favorite horses as the races were called by a professional emcee. Attendees had the opportunity to “purchase” their own racehorse, name it, and receive a winner's share of the betting if their horse won. Guests enthusiastically watched as 10 horse races crossed the finish line.

This evening included dinner, drinks, a derby hat contest, silent auction items, grab n' go gift cards, and much more!

2023 Night at the Races Sponsors

Thoroughbred \$5,000

KCF Technologies

Mount Nittany Health

Triple Crown \$2,500

Truist Bank

UPMC Altoona

Preakness - \$1,500

Hugh & Janyce Mose

McQuaide Blasko Attorneys

Kentucky Derby - \$1,000

America's Carpet Outlet

First Citizens Community Bank

Linda & Blake Gall

Breeder's Cup - \$500

Frost & Conn Insurance

Stocker Chevrolet Subaru

Buick & GMC

Winner's Circle - \$250

J. Gordon Financial Services

Andy & Kelly Renfrew

In-Kind

State College American Legion
Post 245

Dolce Vita Desserts

Otto's Pub & Brewery

Jeremy Rose & Cindy Robinson

Otto's Pub & Brewery

Wegmans

Weis Markets

Gardner's Candies

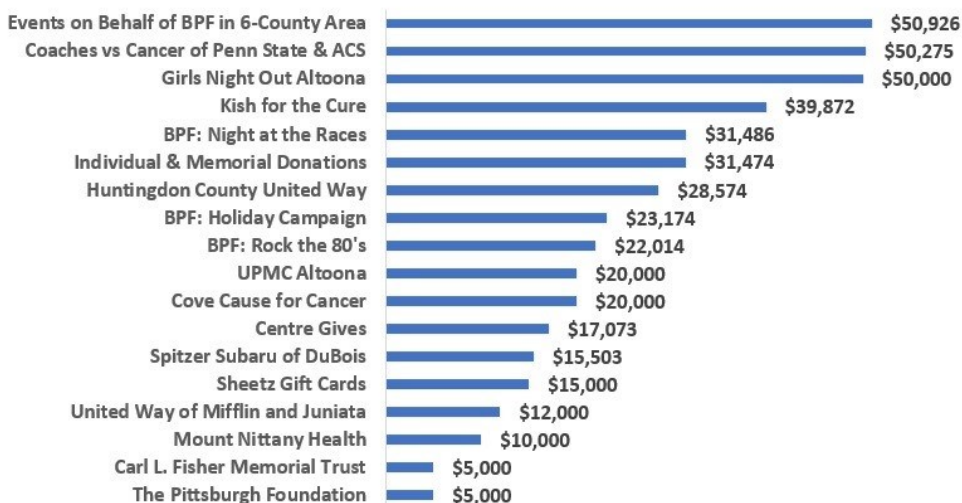
HOLIDAY CAMPAIGN - Because BPF assistance to local cancer patients is totally dependent upon donations, each year a Holiday Campaign is held to send warm holiday wishes to our donors, and provide an end-of-year opportunity to give.

In 2023, the Holiday Campaign raised a total of \$23,174. This is possible in part from the generosity of Linda and Blake Gall and Robin and Ben Heim, who matched dollar for dollar, up to the first \$10,000 of donations. Thank you to all donors who let us know how much they love our “snow people.”



SPECIAL EVENTS & FUNDRAISING Continued

Major Sources of Support during 2023



MEMORIAL DONATIONS

The following individuals who passed away were honored by their families and friends who made memorial contributions to the BPF. Because they honored their loss by supporting the BPF, we are able to assist more struggling cancer patients in Blair, Centre, Clearfield, Huntingdon Mifflin, and Juniata counties.

Jim McMullen
Ann McMullen
Marla "Suzy" Dyke
Joseph Cella
Robert "Bob" Lloyd
Deb Scalia
Carl Tranell
Denise Hlivia
Thelma June Snyder

Daryl "Beef" Booher
Cheryle McQuown
Charles Bump
Reuben Norris, Jr.
Elizabeth Bullett
Melinda Wilkins
Jean Mae Brooks
Audrey DeChellis

Herbert Fishbone
Dixie Keller
Lois Lee
Mike Mulhollen
Marcia Noll
Ken Schleiden
Doug Vonada
Bob Perks

VOLUNTEERS

The BPF is a small organization, with only three staff members. We could not accomplish all that we do on behalf of cancer patients, without the hard work, good will, and strong commitment of our volunteers in Blair, Centre, Clearfield, Huntingdon, Juniata, and Mifflin counties. They devote countless hours to raising money in support of cancer patients, and in addition, fulfill many important roles on our Allocations, Development, Governance and Finance Committees. The BPF Board of Directors and staff are eternally grateful for their contribution of time, talent and heart to our many years of success.

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Doreen Perks, *Founder*
Linda Gall, *Chair & CVC Liaison*
John Conroy, *Vice Chair*
Lamar Kunes, *Treasurer*
Kelly Renfrew, *Secretary*
Frank Ahern, *Immediate Past Chair*
Marilyn Byers
Madeline Hertzberg

Robin Heim
Rickey Himes
Heidi Lewis
Janyce Mose
Peter Ort
Lori Proper
Melissa Aungst

Bob Perks Fund Staff



Cindy R. Brown
Executive Director



Clay Glenn
Development Coordinator



Tami Hetrick
Allocations Coordinator

TESTIMONIALS

Sometimes, words cannot truly express how we feel. Know that you have been an answer to our prayer. Your paying our propane, plus the Weis and Sheetz gift cards have been God's way of providing for us. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

-Juniata County cancer patient & BPF recipient



We'll never be able to thank you enough for your help. We seem to be getting new bills in the mail every day, so every bit of financial assistance helps so much. We hope to return the help for someone else when we get through this.

-Clearfield County cancer patient & BPF recipient



I just wanted to say thank you for helping me out in the time of my health issues. It has taken some of the burden off my shoulders and given me peace of mind. May God bless all who help the foundation help people.

-Clearfield County cancer patient & BPF recipient



Thank you for the Weis gift card! It truly was a gift that helped me with items I very much needed. Your compassion, care, and thoughtfulness toward people facing treatment for cancer is truly appreciated. You make a tough time a little less lonely by extending a helping hand.

-Blair County cancer patient & BPF recipient



Thank you so much for your generosity and compassion. I am forever grateful to have such an amazing support system. May God bless you and your foundation.

-Huntingdon County cancer patient & BPF recipient



I would like to thank you very much for your generosity in paying my electric bill and the Weis/Sheetz gift cards. It is an enormous help in paying for gasoline and groceries.

-Juniata County cancer patient & BPF recipient



God bless you! You recently provided over \$700 to me and my family through gift cards and monthly bills. This goes a long way to offset travel costs, co-pays, vitamins, supplements, prescriptions, etc. The help you provide is a calming, stress-reducing gift!

-Centre County cancer patient & BPF recipient



Every single dollar provided to our local cancer community is a donated dollar

PHOTO GALLERY



Girls Night Out Check Presentation



State College Downtown Rotary Club



Tailored Closet and Premier Garage of Central PA



Rock The 80's Totally Rad Reception Attendees



PHOTO GALLERY



A.B.A.T.E. of PA Patriot Riders
Chapter 53 Check Presentation



Kish for the Cure
Check Presentation



Mifflin County Sing for the Fight
at Shy Bear Brewing



Tyrone High School Check
Presentation



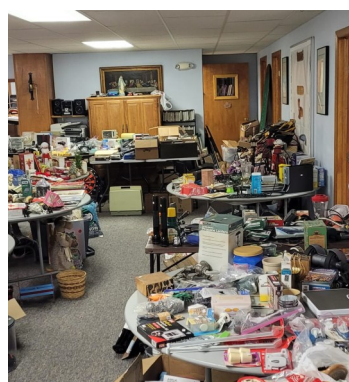
Linda Cruz NATR Blair County
Check Presentation



Staff participates in UWMJ Ugly
Sweater Contest



Huntingdon County Paint Party
Fundraiser



Clay Glenn's Massive Yard
Sale for Huntingdon County



11th Annual Mikey's Old School
Ride Benefit



2023 Night at the Races
Volunteers



Clay, Robin, Cindy, Janyce and
Tami at 2023 NATR



Group Costume Winners at the
2023 RT80's



Huntingdon County Holiday
Bowl Fundraiser



Huntingdon County United Way
Certificate of Appreciation



United Way of Mifflin-Juniata
Certificate of Appreciation

The BPF is a tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization, EIN Number 20-4220990 and is registered with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Charitable Organizations. Your questions and comments are welcome at: info@bobperksfund.org