

# **2022** ANNUAL REPORT



A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

The Bob Perks Fund was happy to welcome back many of our supporters this year for our first live events since early 2020. It was refreshing to finally start crawling out of the fog of COVID. Fans of Rock the 80's simply couldn't be held back from what was possibly the best Rock the 80's yet, and many more gathered to spend a Night at the Races with us. We couldn't be happier to be gathering with all of you again.

Doreen Perks

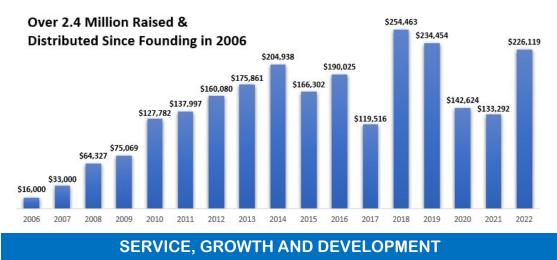
Over the years, the Bob Perks Fund has partnered with multiple organizations and businesses who have made a significant and ongoing financial commitment to our mission – our Strategic

Partners. While four of our cherished supporters weren't officially named Strategic Partners until early 2023, we were happy to welcome Kish Bank, Geisinger Health, Girls Night Out Altoona, and United Way of Mifflin and Juniata Counties to our family of SP's. Kish Bank has designated the Bob Perks Fund as a beneficiary or the Kish For The Cure event. Geisinger Health has been instrumental in supporting our expansion efforts into Mifflin and Juniata counties. Girls Night Out Altoona provided incredibly generous support for our breast cancer patients in all six of our service areas. United Way of Mifflin and Juniata Counties accepted BPF's application to become a Member Agency and began providing allocations from their annual campaign. We cannot thank our Strategic Partners enough for their continued support of our efforts.

The support of these Strategic Partners, and all our supporters, is appreciated by our applicants as well. COVID has impacted Bob Perks Fund and our applicants in many ways. Without events for multiple years, fundraising took a big hit. Applications were down during COVID, but have bounced back and even grown since patients are seeing their doctors again. Unfortunately, diagnoses are coming further down the line when cancer can be harder to treat. Inflation has hit everyone hard, but especially our cancer patients with limited funds. Without the Bob Perks Fund, these applicants would have nowhere else to turn. I am so grateful to everyone who helped us keep things going through this very challenging time.

# 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 the local 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.



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 a 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.

After pandemic fears resulted in fewer cancer patient applications during the 2020 and 2021 COVID years, the trend for 2022 showed a major increase in applicants. In 2022, Bob Perks Fund gifted grants totaling \$226,119 to 342 applicants in the six-county service area. In the sixteen-year history of BPF, there have only been two years with slightly higher numbers of applications.

# SERVICE, GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT Continued

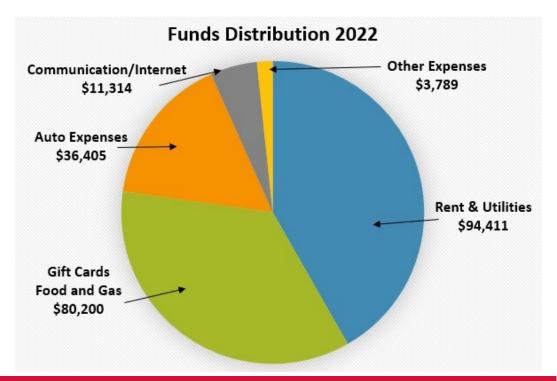
The addition of Mifflin and Juniata counties was made possible by funding from Geisinger Health Systems, through the award of a two-year grant which was awarded in 2021. This commitment by Geisinger Health Systems enabled BPF to pay out nearly \$17,738 to cancer patients in Mifflin and Juniata counties in 2022. 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 nearly 5000 applicants \$2.4 million in our sixteen years of operation.

The following chart represents a breakdown by county of the number of patients receiving financial support from BPF in 2022:

Blair	Centre	Clearfield	Huntingdon	Mifflin	Juniata
121	83	57	53	22	6
Total Applications in 2022 = 342					

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 2022, 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 longstanding commitment to our local cancer community.



# SPECIAL EVENTS PARTNER

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.



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# UPMC | ALTOONA

## **Bob Perks Fund Staff**

In 2022, BPF said goodbye to long-time Executive Director, Norma Keller. Norma retired after nearly a decade of devoted service to BPF. Norma will continue to be involved with BPF as a volunteer.



Cindy Brown was selected to replace Norma as BPF Executive Director. Cindy formerly served as Executive Director of Huntingdon County United Way, and has been a friend of BPF for many years.

BPF also experienced two additional staff openings. In the fall of 2022, Clay Glenny joined BPF as Development Director. Clay has been

Development Director. Clay has been a long-time volunteer for BPF.





The second staff opening was filled, by Tami Hetrick, as BPF new Allocations Coordinator. Tami works with all referral sources and processes BPF cancer patient applications.

### **Blair County** - In 2022, BPF added a new **Strategic Partner, Girls Night Out, Altoona (GNO).** GNO, along with long-time Strategic Partners, **Sheetz, Inc.,**



BPF Attending GNO 2022

and UPMC Altoona, provided \$75,000 to support area cancer patients. GNO, the newest of our Partners, surprised BPF representatives with an outstanding, and unprecedented first-time donation of \$37,500, which completely exceeded all expectations. We are very grateful for the continued support of Sheetz, Inc. who has provided a generous \$15,000 stipend of gas gift cards each year, to help our cancer patients get to their treatments. UPMC, Altoona is one of our most outstanding referral sources and generous Strategic Partners, supporting our mission to help

\_\_\_\_\_\_ local cancer patients continue to fight the battle against cancer, with a gift of \$22,000. UPMC Altoona also supports our signature events as a Special Events Sponsor with an additional gift of \$5,000.

Our dear friend and long-time supporter, Linda Cruz, also held two of her special bed-sheet sales in FY 2022, raising a total of \$2,057 for BPF. Cove Cause for Cancer, serving southern Blair County, raised funds for BPF through various events throughout the year, donating \$10,000 to support cancer patients in the Cove region. The fabulous employees of Veeder Root in Duncansville, organized by Maureen Slovikosky and Amy Koegler, held a Day of Caring walk-a-thon at their plant, raising \$2,450. BPF was blessed to have had the Hollidaysburg Lady Tigers Volleyball team hold a tournament on our behalf and donate \$1,010 to support area cancer patients.

<u>Centre County -</u> Mount Nittany Medical Center, Coaches vs Cancer, and the American Cancer Society were joined by Kish Bank, in 2022, as our Strategic Partners in Centre County. This amazing group helped to sustain the BPF mission, by donating a grand total of \$68,028. 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. Kish Bank's, Kish for the Cure 2022, 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. This year, over \$74,000 was raised by KFTC for BPF, PA Pink Zone, and Relay for Life Mifflin & Juniata Counties. Bob Perks Fund received an amazing \$39,228 from this annual employee-led event. Thank you to BPF's incredible friends from Kish Bank.



KFTC Reveal

Through the 2022 Centre Gives campaign, BPF received \$17,320 from our faithful donors, including an additional match-the-match gift from our generous supporters, Blake and Linda Gall. Additional support was received from Downtown Rotary Club, Centre Foundation's Ben Franklin Grant, and other generous donor-advised gifts.

#### <u>Clearfield County</u> - Our cherished Strategic Partner, Spitzer Subaru and Subaru of America recognized Bob Perks Fund as their Hometown Charity



Spitzer Subaru Share the Love

during the 2021 Share the Love Campaign. BPF was extremely appreciative of the donation of \$7,735 in early 2022, in spite of the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the auto industry and faced by the Share the Love campaign in December of 2021.

Loyal Bob Perks Fund supporters, Jennifer Lanich, Diane Evans and friends, once again honored Mike Lanich with a memorial motorcycle ride fundraiser. Mikey's Old School Ride 2022 raised \$3,170,

bringing the total of this event to \$20,776 since 2014. Jennifer Lanich's husband Mike was a BPF grant recipient before he lost his battle with cancer. Additional support was made available by Clearfield County Charitable Foundation when they awarded BPF a grant of \$1,200 to help supply groceries to Clearfield County cancer patients.

## Huntingdon County - Strategic Partner, Huntingdon County United Way

continued to support BPF in 2022. HCUW awarded BPF \$30,728 to serve cancer patients in Huntingdon County. Our very important core group of volunteers in Huntingdon County, led by Rickey Himes, worked hard to fundraise for BPF. The annual Survivor Event, which celebrates survivors, those presently battling cancer and those who have lost their fight, brought in \$4,244 to honor Huntingdon County's cancer community. Erica Blair, and the devoted BPF Huntingdon volunteers, held the annual clay shoot at Shenecoy Sportsman

Center. This event raised \$1,055. Aliyah Smith, junior Rotarian, held a paint party on our behalf bringing in \$1,085. Clay Glenny held his annual yard sale, resulting in an incredible donation of \$5,209 for area cancer patients. Our Huntingdon County volunteers worked very hard with numerous other events contributing an additional \$10,425 to support our cancer community. Our friends at The Comfort Inn held their first annual Holiday Lottery Ticket Tree Raffle generating a huge return of \$5,000 profit for BPF.



Shenecoy Clay Shoot

# Mifflin & Juniata Counties - Joining the BPF Strategic Partner supporters for



Mifflin and Juniata counties, were **Geisinger Health** and United Way of Mifflin-Juniata. As a new member agency, BPF received funding from United Way of Mifflin-Juniata (UWMJ) for the first time in 2022. Beginning in July, UWMJ awarded BPF \$6,000 of a total grant award of \$12,000 for their fiscal year 2022/2023. Our friends at Geisinger Health provided the second part of their two-year start up grant for

Mifflintown Rotary Club

— providing services to Mifflin and Juniata counties

cancer patients, with a gift of \$25,000. We are so very grateful for these two Partners' support, which enabled us to begin helping our neighbors in these two counties.

We were also blessed with support of \$1,000 from the Rotary Club of Mifflintown, who helped us to introduce BPF services to the local cancer communities.

# **SPECIAL EVENTS & FUNDRAISING**



ROCK THE 80's - Due to a COVID resurgence, the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Rock the 80's concert had to be postponed from the originally scheduled date of February 12, 2022.

> Out of an abundance of caution for our guests and performers, we decided it was best to postpone the 10th Annual Rock the 80's until Friday, April 22, 2022. The increase in COVID cases across the entire service area, in the heart of the winter, would have had a

dramatic impact on attendance at the event. As a health care agency, we realized we needed to follow the highest standards of safety, consistent with the then, current CDC guidelines and act in a manner that protected the public and demonstrated good judgement on the part of the BPF.

We were thrilled to be able to finally hold our live concert again. The entire COVID pandemic was very difficult for many non-profit agencies, who rely on fundraising efforts as part of their sustainability. The 2022 Rock the 80's concert raised \$16,860.

## Rock the 80's Sponsors

Rock Stars \$2500 UPMC Altoona Converge PC In-Kind Lead Singers \$1500 America's Carpet Outlet First Citizen's Bank Restek Corporation Backup Singers \$1000 McQuaide Blasko Truist Bank

Bid for the Balcony Larry Walker KBB Breakdancer's \$500 Frost & Conn Insurance Blake & Linda Gall Stocker Chevrolet Subaru Groupies \$250 Ben & Robin Heim Koch Funeral Home R.H. Dotts Energy

In-Kind Jeff Brown Kish - Expect More Store JR Mangan James Miller Joe Schall State College American Legion Post 245 Anonymous Beverage Donor

#### Rock the 80's Bands

Anchor & Arrow - Cone of Silence - The Extractors - The Long Afternoon Velveeta - Spider Kelly - JR Mangan Band w/Veronica - Miss Melanie In Loving Memory of Chris Hescox

NIGHT AT THE RACES - Excitement was in the air on July 30, 2022, as BPF held its annual Night at the Races! The event, held at Good Shepherd Parish Hall, in Port Matilda, PA raised an overwhelming \$21,000 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!

## 2022 Night at the Races Sponsors

<u> Preakness - \$1500</u> Truist Bank **UPMC** Altoona

Kentucky Derby - \$1000 America's Carpet Outlet M & T Bank McQuaide Blasko

Linda & Blake Gall Hugh & Janyce Mose Breeder's Cup - \$500 Stocker Chevrolet Subaru

Winner's Circle - \$250 First Citizen's Bank J. Gordon Financial Services Al & Jodi Pringle Kelly & Andy Renfrew Nittany Dental Associates

In-Kind

American Legion Post 245 Dolce Vita Desserts Otto's Pub & Brewery Jeremy Rose and Cindy Robinson Wegmans Gardners 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.

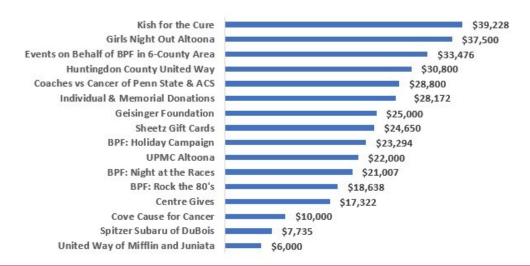
In 2022, the Holiday Campaign raised a total of \$23,765. This is possible in part from the generosity of Linda and Blake Gall and Robin and Ben Heim, who



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 2022



## **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.

Thomas C. Streb Daryl Booher

Maria Kaminek Joan Kunsman

**Barry Gilliam** Dr. Keith Waddle

## **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.

### 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Doreen Perks, Founder Linda Gall, Chair & CVC Liaison John Conroy, Vice Chair Ed Washell, 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 Lamar Kunes

## **TESTIMONIALS**

Starting treatment can be intimidating and life changing for some of our patients. Not only are they experiencing physical challenges but changes in the ability to work can impact them financially. Being able to offer tangible help from Bob Perks Fund has made an impact in the lives of our patients. The patient's stress level goes down and they are able to concentrate on treatment. Patients are so grateful for the unexpected financial help they receive from generous donors. We are so thankful for the ability to offer our patients tangible help and to work with a generous and responsive organization. lity to

Amy Grubb Oncology Social Worker, Geisir Bob Perks Fund

Kelly was diagnosed with lung cancer not long after caring for her mother who passed away from a terminal ill-ness. She received her care in Chambersburg, which is quite a distance from her home in Huntingdon Coun-ty. The addition cost of gas for travel as well as other costs for her care strained her fixed income terribly and she could hardly make ends meet. Through the Bob Perks Fund, Kelly received help to buy nourishing foods, gas to travel to treatments and help with utilities. Kelly passed away not too long ago, but she lived longer than expected and lived a better life with the help from the Bob Perks Fund. On her behalf, I thank you so very much. ~Laura J. Umbell, LPN, CN-BC Oncoley, Navgator Breast Patient Navgator Wellspan-Chembersburg, PA



I cannot say enough about the BPF and what they do for our patients. Cancer affects so much more than a patient's health. So many of our patients struggle with financial toxicity caused by their cancer diagnosis. Many times, patients are uninsured, or no longer able to work due to their cancer diagnosis leaving them with little to no resources. BPF has been a true blessing to those very patients, helping with utilities, rent. groceries, and gas. Many patients struggle with simply being able to afford the gas to make it to their cancer treatment. BPF makes it possible for those patients to have peace of mind that they no longer need to worry about how they will afford gas to get to their treatment. Helping take the financial burden off of patients allows them to focus more on their treatment and wellbeing. BPF helps make this possible[I!] Thank you BPF for your assistance in making our patient's cancer journey just a little bit easier with your support! "Sharmon Flanders Financial Navigator Penn Highlands HeadIncare Oncology" 

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our support: nders Financial Navigator s Healthcare Oncology

### **PHOTO GALLERY**



GNO Altoona, Inc Surprise Check Presentation



Kish for the Cure **Check Presentation** 



Mifflin County Rotary Presentation



Veterans For Kids Muddy Run Mudcats Fundraiser for BPF





**Bariatric Treatment Chairs** Dedication at UPMC Altoona



Spitzer Subaru Share The Love Christmas Raffle for BPF



UPMC Altoona Check Presentation



Ninth Annual Mikey's Old School Ride Benefit



2022 Night at the Races Doreen Doreen Perks Draws the Lucky and Norma



Cindy Brown - First Event as new Executive Director



Winner 2022 NATR



2022 NATR Betting Tables



Bob Perks Fund Crew at the 2022 NATR



Plaque Representative of the **Bariatric Chair Donation** 

The BPF is a tax-exempt 50l(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