

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER



What a year this has been! The Bob Perks Fund (BPF) has faced many challenges in our fifteen years, but none as great as "the year of COVID-19." We credit the backing of our Strategic Partners, Special Events Partners, sponsors and amazing donors for our ability to stay afloat during these tumultuous times. We can thank our terrific staff and volunteers for their commitment and flexibility. We were forced to revamp almost everything this year and find creative new ways to fund the great work that we do.

Many sources of funding were cut during the pandemic but a very successful Strive for 25 in 2020 and a hugely creative virtual Rock the 80's in early 2021 kept us on track. A special thank you to the bands who put together professional quality videos for the show. Thank you to all of our partners and sponsors who held fast to their sponsorship commitments despite modified or cancelled events. We don't know where we would be without you.

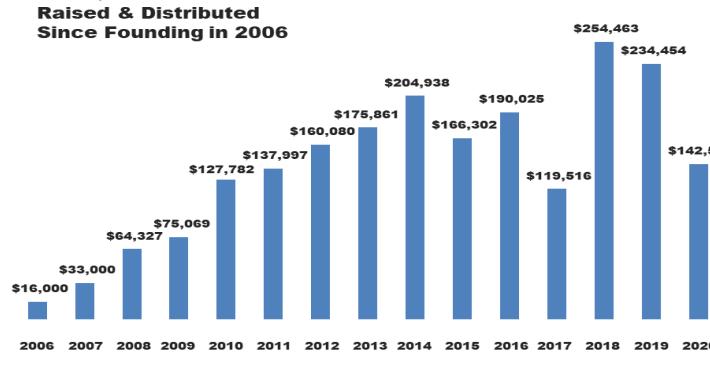
Thoughts on 2020 are not complete without including Coaches vs Cancer® of Penn State (CVC) our longest and most supportive Strategic Partner. CVC has supported the BPF every year since its inception. In 2020, the cumulative total of CVC grants to the BPF exceeded \$500,000. Without their help we could never have achieved the huge milestone of allocating over \$2,000,000 to cancer patients in need in our region. Thank you CVC – we truly appreciate your ongoing commitment to our mission.

Stay safe, stay healthy and we look forward to gathering when it is safe to do so.

Doreen Perks, Founder

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 CVC, 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.



SERVICE, GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

Cancer patients eligible for BPF financial assistance must live in Blair, Centre, Clearfield or Huntingdon counties and face financial hardship due to an increase in expenses or decrease in income, directly related to a cancer diagnosis. Referral sources verify eligibility and submit the application to the Allocations Coordinator. Once the Allocations Committee approves the application, payment of current bills often occurs within one week.

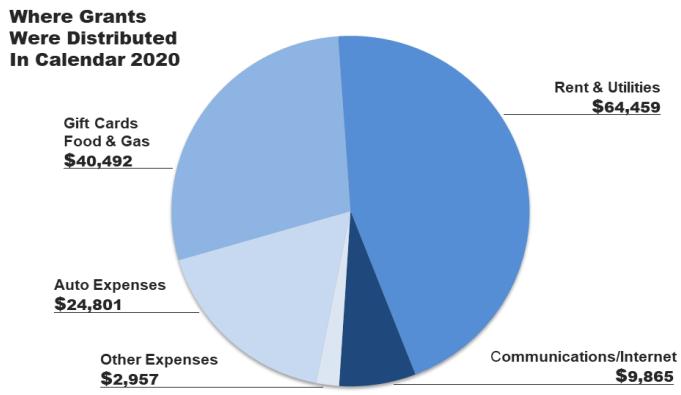
With the exception of 2020, the height of the pandemic, the BPF has seen a steady increase in the number of eligible cancer patient applications. In 2018, the BPF allocated \$256,913 to fund 412 applications and in 2019, the BPF allocated \$235,497 to fund 380 applications. Because of COVID 19, many cancer patients were fearful of leaving their homes so fewer traveled to hospitals and medical facilities for screening, diagnosis and treatment. As a result, the BPF received fewer applications, and ended 2020 having allocated \$142,574 to fund 225 cancer patient applications. Every year, the BPF is committed to fundraising in our four-county area with the long term goal that donated dollars will equal dollars needed in any given county. In its fifteen year history, the BPF has never turned away an eligible applicant although we continue to work toward the goal of each county raising the funds needed to support their neighbors battling cancer. The following paragraphs reflect efforts and successes to raise funds in each county, as we move closer to our goal.

A breakdown by county of cancer patients receiving assistance in 2020:

Blair County - 83
Centre County - 36

Clearfield County - 59
Huntingdon County - 47

The graph below illustrates the five categories of basic needs. Our ability to assist local cancer patients is completely dependent upon fundraising and successful, collaborative relationships with our referral sources, who are members of each cancer patient's treatment team. They are truly our partners in service to local cancer patients and the BPF would not exist without their support and commitment to our mission.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

The BPF is fortunate to have the major financial support of seven Strategic Partners. Without their unyielding devotion to our mission and their generous, ongoing funding, our efforts to help struggling cancer patients would be severely diminished. Our heartfelt thanks to our Strategic Partners.



SPECIAL EVENTS PARTNER

Most of these sponsors have a long-term relationship with the BPF and became "Special Events Partners," (SEP) when the program was established in 2019. Through this commitment, our SEPs agreed to write one check to sponsor our three major events held each year. In return, we agreed to publicize their sponsorship throughout the year. Due to COVID 19, two of our major fundraisers were cancelled in 2020. Each SEP agreed to maintain their level of sponsorship despite the cancellation of our two events. We value our SEPs and are grateful for their continuous generosity and commitment.



Blair County - Strategic Partners UPMC Altoona and Sheetz, Inc. donate the greatest level of support and continue to be our largest sources of financial support in Blair County, together donating \$40,000 in 2020. In 2019 and 2020, "Cove Cause for Cancer," a nonprofit serving southern Blair County, held several fundraisers to address cancer concerns in their region. Even though their efforts were seriously impacted by the pandemic, they raised \$17,000 specifically to help the BPF assist cancer patients living in Claysburg, East Freedom, Martinsburg, Newry, Roaring Springs, and Williamsburg. Additional Blair County support

was received through the efforts of Linda Cruz, and her family, and friends in Tyrone, who raised \$17,000 by holding "Night at the Races," selling sheets, candles and more. Also, former BPF recipient, Teresa Beisel of Tyrone, raised \$600 holding a Swarovski Crystal online jewelry sale. *Pictured: Doreen Perks & Linda Cruz*

Centre County - Strategic Partners Coaches vs Cancer® of Penn State and American Cancer Society, maintaining their fifteen year partnership with the BPF, generously donated \$52,520, a reflection of their highly successful 2019 fundraising efforts. The BPF is exceedingly thankful for the generous CVC sponsors, donors, and volunteers who have supported the Bob Perks Fund. With the support of **Strategic Partner Mount Nittany Health**, the BPF continues to receive financial support and enjoys supportive relationships with their patient navigators, who carefully screen cancer patients and refer those eligible for BPF assistance. We were honored to receive a grant from the J. Alvin & Vera E. Kepper Hawbaker Memorial Trust through the Centre Foundation. And, through "Centre Gives," campaign the BPF received \$20,060, with the generous support of Linda and Blake Gall who matched the proportional match awarded by Centre Foundation. Because of the pandemic, we were forced to cancel three BPF events in Centre County, however, we were fortunate to receive the continuing support from the State College Downtown Rotary Club, the Carl Fisher Memorial Trust, and donor-advised funds at Schwab, Fidelity, Benevity, Centre Foundation, and the Pittsburgh Foundation. And Kish Bank employees chose the BPF to receive a \$1,500 holiday donation to purchase grocery gift cards for cancer patients in their service area. In addition, we received covid related grants through PPP and Centre County Government. *Pictured: Doreen*



Clearfield County - Strategic Partner Spitzer Subaru continued the tradition of Johnson Subaru, holding its "Share the Love" event and raising \$5,709.

In the first six months of 2020, and for the first time since the BPF was established, Clearfield County donations equaled the dollars allocated by the BPF to Clearfield County cancer patients. Because the pandemic reduced fundraising opportunities, this was an important year to reach this milestone. Reaching that goal was made possible through the generous support of "Takedown for Cancer," held by Clearfield & Philipsburg Osceola Wrestling, "Buster's Dart Tournament," Spitzer Subaru's "Share the Love" campaign, the Fairman Foundation, Clearfield County Charitable Foundation and individual donors. Jennifer Lanich and friends, who have held "Mikey's Old School Ride," for the past eight years, helped the BPF by honoring the life of Jennifer's husband Mike, who died from cancer in his 30's, and was assisted by the BPF during his difficult journey. *Pictured: Curtis Smith, Spitzer Subaru & Marjann Young*

Huntingdon County - Strategic Partner Huntingdon County United Way allocated \$25,000 to the BPF in 2020 in spite of the pandemic. The BPF annual "Survivor's Event," honoring those who lost their lives to cancer, those battling cancer, and those who overcame this devastating disease, was postponed in 2020 because of the pandemic. Over the years, this event spearheaded by BPF Board Member Rickey Himes and her devoted volunteers has raised more than \$70,000. Every year, at this event, Rickey honors the lives of those who passed away by reading their names in her heartwarming luminary ceremony. BPF volunteer Erica Blair, spearheaded a successful third annual BPF "Sporting Clays Benefit," at Shenecoy Sportsmen. Additional support was received from Huntingdon County Rotary Club, Mill Creek United Methodist Church, Rodney B. Fleck Auctioneers, Love and Butter Bakery, Women of the Moose, and Clay Glenny family events. With the help of Huntingdon County United Way and many devoted donors, nearly every dollar allocated to benefit Huntingdon County cancer patients was donated by their neighbors in Huntingdon County. *Pictured: Volunteers, Erica Blair, Rickey Himes & Sue Flasher*



SPECIAL EVENTS & FUNDRAISING

ROCK THE 80's - In February 2020, the 8th annual Rock the 80's concert at The State Theatre was a resounding success. This event is possible thanks to the 10 local bands who dedicate their time and talents on stage engaging an energized audience. JR Mangan, the brainchild of Rock the 80's, and James Miller coordinate the bands. The Makery owner Amy Frank hosted the Totally Rad Reception prior to the concert. Sponsorships and ticket sales raised \$17,221.



Rock the 80s Sponsors

America's Carpet Outlet	Ben & Robin Heim	Restek Corporation
BB&T	Grane Hospice	Senator Jake Corman
Joel Confer Toyota/BMW	Kish Bank	Mitchell Schmidt
Converge	McQuaide Blasko	State College Orthodontics
First Citizen's Bank	R.H. Dotts Energy	Stocker Chevrolet Subaru
Frost & Conn Insurance		UPMC Altoona

Rock the 80s Bands

Burn Unit - Cone of Silence - Cousin Neddie - Feats of Strength - Frackwater Jack
JR Mangan - Spider Kelly - The Long Afternoon - Tongue & Groove - Velveeta

THANKS A TWO MILLION - In March 2020, we reached the major milestone of having raised and distributed TWO MILLION DOLLARS since the Bob Perks Fund was established in 2006 – that's \$2,000,000 to pay the basic expenses of local cancer patients and \$2,000,000 that was donated by the caring friends and supporters of the Bob Perks Fund. An expansive campaign touting our success and gratitude was implemented through mailings, social media, print media and phone calls. Through this effort, we were able to broadly express our deep appreciation to more than 1,000 donors, businesses, and foundations.



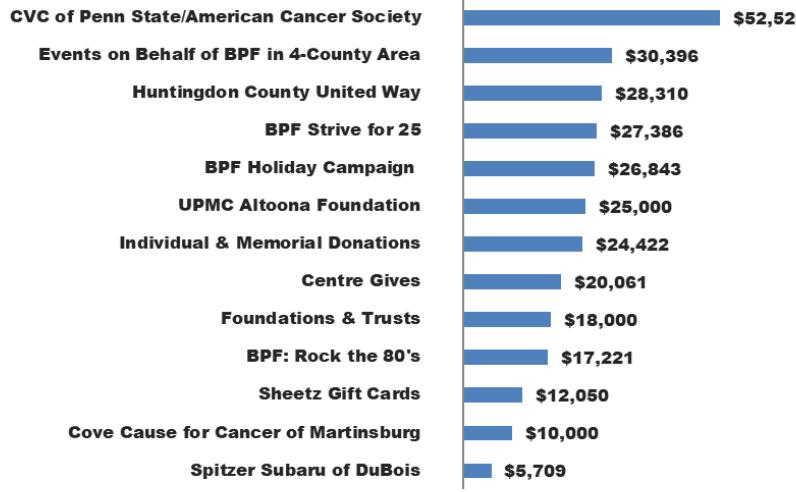
STRIVE FOR 25 - With the cancellation of BPF events due to the pandemic, we developed a special online fundraising event to ensure we had the funds needed to fulfill our mission through the end of 2020. With a goal of raising \$25,000 in 25 days, we launched "Strive for 25" on September 1. Support from our Strategic and Special Events Partners, combined with a grant obtained by Senator Jake Corman from the Anheuser Busch Foundation, a grant from the Louis E. Silvi Foundation, and many individual donations from the public at large, made it possible for us to reach our goal and raise a total of \$27,386.



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 1,000 donors and provide an end-of-year opportunity to donate. In 2020, the Holiday Campaign raised a total of \$26,843. This would not have been possible without 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."



Major Sources of Support During 2020



Despite the cancellation of two of our signature fundraisers and the postponement of fundraisers held in our four-county region, the money raised met the need for serving our local cancer community.

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 and Huntingdon counties.

Helen Butler
John Hippis
Herbert Fishbone
Anthony Scruno
Betty Jane Washell
Jerome Kline

Audrey DeChellis
Chuck Ross
Sarah Irvine Crecraft
Fred Morgan
Rosalie Lettiere

VOLUNTEERS

The BPF is a small organization, with only three part-time staff. 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, and Huntingdon 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.

2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Doreen Perks, *Founder*
Frank Ahern, *Chair*
Linda Gall, *Vice Chair & CVC Liaison*
Ed Washell, *Treasurer*
Kelly Renfrew, *Secretary*
Greg Hayes, *Immediate Past Chair*
Eden Bartlett, *CVC Liaison*
Marilyn Byers

John Conroy
Madeline Hertzberg
Rickey Himes
Gina Ikenberry
Lamar Kunes
Heidi Lewis
Cristin Long
Lori Proper

TESTIMONIAL

"When I tell my patients about the Bob Perks Fund, its humble beginnings, and how they assist cancer patients with non-medical expenses, they are just overwhelmed that someone out there cares so much. Without the Bob Perks Fund, many would not be eligible for help through any other organization and would fall through the cracks. The Bob Perks Fund offers hope, support, and relieves the financial burden to many who desperately need a gas card, grocery card or help with overdue rent or utility bills. This in turn helps the patient focus on what is most important; their health and fighting their cancer." - Cheryl Litzinger, RN, BSN, OCN, Oncology Patient Navigator, UPMC Altoona

PHOTO GALLERY



Mark McCracken, ED
Clearfield County
Charitable Foundation



2020 R80s Best Costume
"Cannonball Run"



2020 Mikey's Old School Ride
Longtime volunteer Diane Evans & Marjann Young



2020 Takedown For Cancer
Clearfield v. P.O. Wrestling



Clay Glenny & Rickey Himes
boosting Huntingdon County



2019 Blair County
"Night at the Races"

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