



2020

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

*The Power of
Staying Connected*





Dear HNC Living Friend,

It's hard to believe we're at the end of 2020 – one of the most challenging and unusual years we've ever experienced as individuals, communities or nations. In late 2019, I was sharing news of our move to a larger space that allowed us to offer more services to more clients impacted by head and neck cancer. This year our report focuses on how we pivoted and reinvented our ways of supporting clients, not only financially, but helping them actually find and access needed services in a shutdown world. Our HNC Living Foundation theme for this year (decided pre-pandemic) was *Connected*. I think we can all agree that's never been more important.

In 2020, we partnered with other agencies who support head and neck cancer patients/survivors to survey our collective constituents and non-profits/service providers to understand the biggest impacts and barriers to head and neck cancer patient care during the pandemic. In summary – increased demand for services and fewer resources were the most significant. The results of this survey can be found in this [journal article](#).

Americans across the country struggled with the challenges of COVID, unemployment, access to healthcare, and the shutdown of schools, dental offices and businesses and more. These challenges were significantly more complicated for people with a head and neck cancer diagnosis. Not only did necessary support services continue to be too costly for our clients, the shutdown actually closed off their ability to access to many services. In addition, some treatments for cancers for many of our clients are considered elective, and thus non-essential.

You may recall 18 months ago, we switched from funding organizational grants to serving as a direct resource for individual clients. This focus enabled us to source partners from a variety of areas to help, and during the pandemic, served as a lifeline to many clients. From ride-share services to continued financial support, we were able to help patients get to and pay for needed treatments. Over 2020, through support from you and others, HNC Living Foundation provided \$224,874 in support to patients across the United States. Although we were able to help many, this represents a 53% reduction of funding from 2019, largely due to the necessity of canceling events and fundraising initiatives.


We hope to gather again in 2021, but if we don't, we remain committed to connecting with each of you and continue to wish you all well and will continue to ensure your gifts go directly to supporting patients. Please be assured that 2020 activities may have looked totally different, but our charge remains the same – providing the resources that enable our clients to live life fully throughout their head and neck cancer treatment and recovery journey.


We thank you for staying connected and hope that you will continue to give charitably to support.


Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle Yearout". The script is elegant and cursive.

Danielle Yearout, Chief Executive Officer

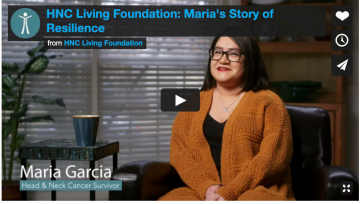



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HNC Living Foundation: Our Story

All too often, head and neck cancer patients are faced with ongoing costs associated with their diagnosis. HNC Living Foundation is here to help head and neck cancer patients connect to the care and support that they need during treatment.



Maria's Story of Resilience

HNC Living Foundation provided Maria with financial assistance as she was undergoing treatment for head and neck cancer. Maria explains how HNC Living Foundation let her breathe a sigh of relief.



Kaden's Story

HNC Living Foundation provided assistance to Kaden so he could get back to living life fully after his head and neck cancer.

OUR STORY

Learn more about HNC Living Foundation directly from Kaden and Maria, two patients you have helped to support. Follow the link to see the difference you are making in the lives of head and neck cancer patients. hncliving.org/news-and-events/videos/



MISSION STATEMENT

Help head and neck cancer patients live life fully during and after treatment by providing financial aid.

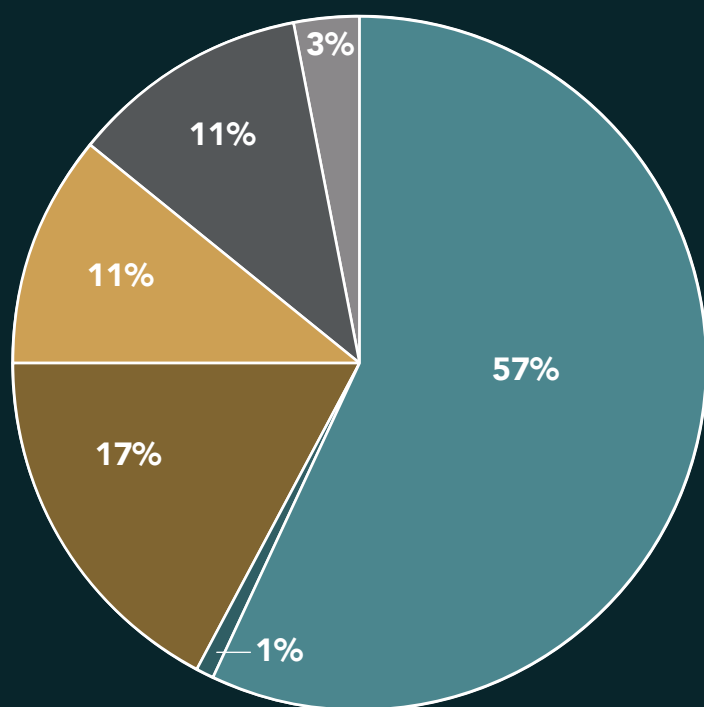
OUR IMPACT

HNC Living Foundation supports head and neck cancer patients who may be underinsured, or lack the financial resources necessary to remain physically healthy and able to function during treatment and into survivorship. To date, we have provided more than \$1.6 million to directly improve the lives of people living with head and neck cancers.

SERVICES

We provide financial support for individuals during their treatment and recovery, funding the following vital services:

- Medical expenses and copays not covered by insurance
- Patient-centered specialized therapies that aid in recovery
- Transportation to and from appointments
- Medical supplies needed for recovery
- Dental services
- Nutritional supplements and meal replacements
- Medication



INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE:

In 2020 alone, we provided \$224,874 in support to more than 300 patients across the United States. The number of patients we helped was not significantly fewer than in 2019, however, our gifts were down approximately 53%.

Dental Care	\$127,140
Prescriptions	\$1,514
Nutritional Supplements	\$38,884
Displacement	\$25,676
Equipment	\$25,044
Copays	\$6,616
Deductibles	
Therapies	

2020 TOTAL: **\$224,874**

Average per Patient: **\$750**

SUSAN'S STORY

When I was diagnosed with oral cancer, I was in shock with no idea what treatment was going to be like. It was a major surgery which took a year to completely heal from. If I could say one thing about head and neck cancer, I have much more empathy for my fellow survivors. I had to have my lower jaw replaced as well as half of my tongue removed to make sure all the cancer was gone and I feel so fortunate.

At times I thought it was impossible with my limited income and resources but I refused to give up hope. I researched off and on for months and eventually I saw your website and knew that y'all understood how head and neck cancer treatment affected people and I felt hopeful!



“When I found out HNC was going to help me I finally had hope again.”

When I found out HNC was going to help me I finally had hope again. I can never say enough about this Foundation and all of the people who support it. Without your help I would still feel broken inside and out. Today I can go out in public and not feel ashamed of how I look. Without your support, my full recovery wouldn't be possible. I finally look like a whole person again and feel I've been given a second chance.

Thanks to you I am looking forward to my future instead of being afraid to face it!

CRYSTINA'S STORY

My 80-year-old dad was diagnosed with Stage 4 throat cancer last March. While he was undergoing treatment, he had several bad bleeding episodes from the tumor in his throat so he was given a tracheostomy. Thankfully, HNC Living Foundation supported us with critical nutritional supplements not covered by insurance. My Dad is greatly missed. HNC Living Foundation was such a tremendous help to us and I hope we are able to help other people in a similar position by sending small monthly donations.

I'm a little scattered these days, but since I know how critical assistance is, and your foundation has been such a huge help to us, I'm planning on making these \$10 donations on a monthly basis. I saw your video ([A Walk Through Fire](#)) last year when researching his diagnosis, and that helped me know to reach out to you. Your support has been invaluable during this time, as has the information on your website. That video also helped prepare me mentally for what he would be facing during treatment. Hopefully by sharing the story of how you have helped us it will show the possibility of what you can do to help to another family who may need similar support.



“Thankfully, the HNC Living Foundation supported us with critical nutritional supplements not covered by insurance.”

OUR PARTNERS

CONNECTED TO PATIENT CARE

For many head and neck cancer patients, the financial challenges can seem just as overwhelming as the cancer itself. Rehabilitation and regular follow-up care are critical to long-term health, yet many do not have the financial means to afford quality-of-life treatments and therapies. Our generous donors and partners make it possible to support these patients with necessary services that help them regain their lives. Thank you to the service providers who discounted their goods and services totaling over \$44,957 to help head and neck cancer patients through treatment and recovery.

DELTA DENTAL® (KANSAS)

Delta Dental of Kansas has been exceptionally generous in this unprecedented time, committing \$100,000 above their original gifts to enable us to directly support low-income Kansans with the services to improve their oral health before and after treatment. This gift brings the organization's total support to \$350,000

DELTA DENTAL® (MISSOURI)

Delta Dental of Missouri has gifted the Foundation a \$50,000 grant which will be matched by the Foundation and other donors to support financially-vulnerable patients living in Missouri with critical oral care.



**THE UNIVERSITY OF
KANSAS HEALTH SYSTEM**



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Kansas City

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FINANCIALS

EXPENSES:

Program	\$417,960	(56%)
Fundraising	\$184,027	(24%)
Management	\$151,715	(20%)
TOTAL	\$753,702	

PROGRAMS:

Patient Grants	\$224,874	(54%)
Office / Salary	\$193,086	(46%)
TOTAL	\$417,960	

PATIENT GRANTS:

Dental	\$127,140	(57%)
Prescription	\$1,514	(1%)
Nutrition Supplements	\$38,884	(17%)
Displacement	\$25,676	(11%)
Equipment	\$25,044	(11%)
Copays	\$6,616	(3%)
Deductibles Special Therapies		
TOTAL	\$224,874	

SIGNATURE FUNDING PROGRAMS

ENDOWMENT FUND

HNC Living Foundation's endowment fund provides the opportunity for organizations and individuals to invest in the future of the foundation through gifts that will support our mission in perpetuity.

CHAMPIONS OF CARE

Our Champions of Care, generous donors to the operational side of HNC Living Foundation, continued to support the infrastructure and business operations that allow us serve our clients.

- Mariner Wealth Advisors
- Bank Midwest
- Skyline Property Management
- T Capital Partners II, LP
- Vivi Fund

HNC HIGH DESERT INVITATIONAL

The HNC High Desert Invitational is an invitation-only golf tournament hosted over two days in picturesque Santa Fe, New Mexico. This prestigious event serves as our primary fundraiser supporting HNC Living Foundation's endowment fund.



MASKS FOR AID™

HNC Living Foundation's premier fundraising event, MASKS for AID™, incorporates visual, culinary, and performing arts to raise funds to support those living with a head and neck cancer diagnosis. All proceeds raised at MASKS for AID™ go directly to benefit patient services, and in 2019, the event raised more than \$250,000 that will go directly to meet our patients' needs. This year's in-person MASKS for AID™ event was cancelled due to COVID but we remain grateful to the community's support. Together, we raised over \$200,000 for patient care!



M A S K S *for* A I D™





OUR HISTORY

In May 2013, Teresa Walsh was diagnosed with squamous cell carcinoma in her jaw. Terry Tsue, MD, FACS, physician-in-chief at the University of Kansas Cancer Center, and a team of exceptional doctors and care providers performed a fibula free flap procedure on Teresa, essentially removing her jawbone and rebuilding her jaw with a titanium plate and transplanted bone and tissue from her leg.

Throughout her journey of appointments with doctors and specialists, therapy sessions, and radiation

treatments, Teresa became acutely aware of the challenges and problems associated specifically with head and neck cancers. From a care perspective, these patients require ongoing dental services before, during and after treatment to maintain their oral health for basic daily activities. Often, these services are not adequately covered by insurance.

Teresa's firsthand experience with this cancer and witnessing the difficulties experienced by other patients inspired her and her husband, Tom, to establish HNC Living Foundation to help head and neck cancer patients across the country face the accompanying financial challenges. HNC Living Foundation remains committed to providing the support and resources for those impacted by head and neck cancer.

During the 2020 calendar year, we helped 197 newly diagnosed head and neck cancer patients.

OUR PEOPLE

HNC LIVING FOUNDATION STAFF

Danielle Yearout
Chief Executive Officer

Jodi Wilson
Director of Grants and Operations

Alyssa LaVelle
Director of Marketing and Special Events

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Teresa Walsh
Chairman and Co-Founder

Thomas J. Walsh
President and Co-Founder

Rachel Cannon, Treasurer
University of Kansas Health System

Janice Benjamin, Director
University of Kansas Medical Center

Banks Floodman, Director
Sunflower Development Group

Frank Friedman, Director
Deloitte (Retired)

Gail Gottlieb, Director
The University of Kansas Hospital

Mandy Roe, Director
Office of Kansas Insurance Commissioner

Brad Scott, Director
The Private Client Reserve of U.S. Bank in Kansas City

Marjorie Smelstor, PhD, Director
Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation Executive (Retired)

Dr. Terry Tsue, Director
The University of Kansas Cancer Center

Bill White, Director
Sprint Executive (Retired)

[Click here](#) to read their full bios.

MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD

The members of our Medical Advisory Board are specialists in the field of oral and head and neck cancer. Their leadership, expertise, and first-hand experience with patient treatment is a valuable resource for HNC Living Foundation and its Board of Directors. With their counsel, HNC Living directs grant funds to proven programs and treatments best suited to benefit head and neck cancer patients.

Brian Burkey, MD, FACS
Cleveland Clinic Head and Neck Institute

Mark Chambers, DMD, MD
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Bruce Cummings, DDS
Prosthodontist

D. Gregory Farwell, MD, FACS
University of California, Davis

Dennis H. Kraus, MD, FACS
*New York Head & Neck Institute
Northwell Health Cancer Institute*

William Lydiatt, MD
Methodist Estabrook Cancer Center

Terance Tsue, MD, FACS
University of Kansas Cancer Center

[Click here](#) to read their full bios.



Your support is critical to our mission – helping more head and neck cancer patients conquer the burdens related to their treatment and recovery. Join us in making a difference in the lives of head and neck cancer patients.

DONATE NOW



Join us in making a difference.

EMAIL: info@hncliving.org

PHONE: 913-402-6028

WEBSITE: hncliving.org

