

Seven doors. All of them free.

A diagnosis touches everything at once — the bills, the people around you, the questions nobody has answered yet. These are organizations that help with each of those.

If you only do one thing this week: ask your cancer center for the oncology social worker. A referral from them moves faster than any application you file yourself.

HELP WITH MONEY

Bills, rent, insurance



Pays rent or mortgage, utilities, insurance, transportation and groceries — directly to the creditor.

Michigan · any cancer · in active treatment

Ask your hospital social worker to refer you, or call

248-648-1105

foundationforfamilies.org



90 days of housing, transportation, utility and insurance payments while income has dropped.

Breast cancer · in active treatment · lost or reduced income

Pre-qualify online. A referral letter from your care team is required.

No patient phone line

pinkfund.org

HELP WITH THE WEIGHT OF IT

People who understand



Matches you one-to-one with a mentor who had your cancer type, near your age and stage.

Anyone — patients, previvors, caregivers · no referral needed

Request a match online or call

866-463-7626

imermanangels.org



Free support groups, education, wellness and bereavement care — in person and virtual.

Metro Detroit · Royal Oak, Detroit, Grosse Pointe · all ages, all cancers

Just call — no referral, no cost

248-577-0800

gildasclubdetroit.org

HELP FOR WHAT COMES NEXT

Research, testing, legacy



Seed grants to scientists working on early detection, and a support circle for Michigan patients.

Michigan · pancreatic cancer patients, families and researchers

Ask to be connected to a Sky Advocate

248-385-5143

skyfoundationinc.org



Patient financial aid for daily living and medical expenses, care packages, and research funding.

National · pancreatic cancer patients and families

Apply for patient aid online or call

203-714-6052

projectpurple.org



Helps you get germline genetic testing, and helps your relatives get tested once a mutation is known.

Uninsured and underinsured · family history suggesting a mutation

Call or request assistance through the site

844-307-8444

myfaultygene.org

Additional resources for everything else.

Rides, trials, nutrition, insurance appeals, pain relief and planning ahead — the practical things that come up alongside treatment.

RIDES TO TREATMENT

American Cancer Society

Volunteer drivers through Road To Recovery where available, plus lodging near treatment. Call several days ahead of the appointment. Also ask New Day about fuel and grocery cards.

800-227-2345 · 24 hours, every day
cancer.org

EATING, WEIGHT AND DIGESTION

Ask for an oncology dietitian

Your cancer center can refer you, and the referral is usually covered. Sky can also send plain-language guidance on eating through treatment and on enzyme replacement.

248-385-5143
skyfoundationinc.org

PAIN AND SYMPTOM RELIEF

Palliative care — ask your oncologist

Palliative care is not hospice. It runs alongside treatment to manage pain, nausea, appetite and fatigue, and patients who get it early often feel better and cope better.

Ask your oncologist for the referral
getpalliativecare.org

CLINICAL TRIALS

TriCan Health

Matches your specific case details to active trials you may be eligible for — Sky's recommended starting point. Worth doing early: some trials require that you have not yet started certain treatments.

Online matching tool — no phone line
TriCanHealth.com

DENIED CLAIMS AND APPEALS

Patient Advocate Foundation

A free case manager negotiates with insurers and employers on your behalf — denials, prior authorization, medical debt. A denial is not the end of the conversation.

800-532-5274 · Mon–Fri
patientadvocate.org

HOSPICE AND PLANNING AHEAD

CaringInfo

Free advance directive forms for Michigan, and plain-language guides to hospice, comfort care and the conversations families put off. Gilda's Club supports bereaved families too.

800-658-8898
caringinfo.org

Four questions worth asking at your next appointment

01 Can I meet the oncology social worker today?

02 Should I have genetic testing, and will insurance cover it?

03 Is there a clinical trial I should be screened for now?

04 Can I be referred to palliative care alongside treatment?