

Annual Report 2017 Calendar Year

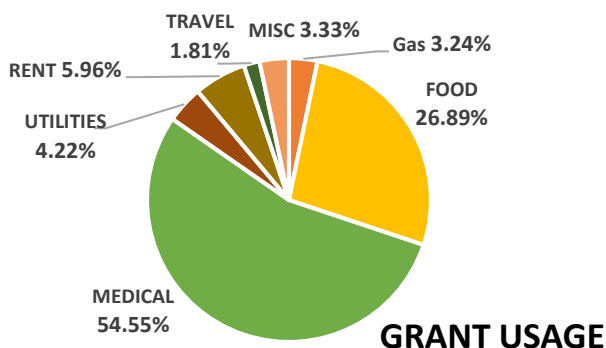
BPT Mission: To provide breast cancer prevention, education, support and advocacy for comprehensive, quality health care for all in the Cedar Valley and surrounding communities.

For the past 29 years, the Beyond Pink TEAM has worked toward accomplishing our mission by going **Beyond Pink** ribbons and trinkets to **Take** action, **E**ducate, **A**dvocate and **M**ake a difference. We will continue this commitment as we consider our 30th year in 2018.

TAKING ACTION

Beyond Pink TEAM (BPT) took action throughout the year, filling gaps in service for women and men with breast cancer, throughout our community. We turned donations into financial assistance, support groups, a free newsletter, education, prevention, and political action. More than ever, we need to fight for comprehensive, quality healthcare for all. Since BPT is an all volunteer organization, with no office or paid staff, all donations were used to further our mission.

We are saddened by the number of women and men that require financial assistance during breast cancer treatment from the Beyond Pink Fund. However, we were able to assist 78 individuals in Black Hawk and 10 surrounding counties with \$66,345 in grants to pay medical bills and/or essential living expenses. Even people with insurance get overwhelmed with the deductibles and co-pays that continue throughout their treatment. Funds stay local.



EDUCATE

Since 1996, the Beyond Pink TEAM has provided the community with a FREE quarterly newsletter. We print and distribute 650 newsletters to individuals, breast centers, surgeon offices, cancer treatment centers, mammography offices in six counties, and prosthetics providers. The newsletter is also included on our website along with previous issues. This enables us to cut the printing and mailing costs down from 1500 previously printed.

In 2017 the BPT participated in health fairs at Hawkeye Community College, University of Northern Iowa, the W in Waverly, and Black Hawk County YWCA. By using an interactive activity, individuals learn more about breast cancer statistics and our organization.



Our 2nd Ignite the Cancer Conversation event was held focusing on environmental issues. These included water quality and testing, lawn chemicals and pesticides, and radon incidence and testing. Radon kits were available for purchase.



ADVOCATE

Cancer prevention and eventual eradication of breast cancer is part of our mission. We have been an organizational member of the Washington DC based National Breast Cancer Coalition (NBCC) since 2005 and have recently completed a second three-year term on their board. We are fortunate to have a group of dedicated advocates who keep our Iowa Senators and Representatives focused on the goal of ending this disease.

BPT members attended the NBCC Leadership Summit in Washington DC. They met with Iowa legislators to encourage their support for the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program which was in jeopardy. Advocate efforts were successful in saving this important research program.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Touch of Courage, a breast cancer support group, has been meeting the first Monday of each month since 1988. The group has taken on a project – Hearts of Hope, for two years now. These are comfort pillows for under the arm adjacent to the surgical site and are supplied to all local breast centers.



Our other support group, Young Cancer Survivors, is a meet, mingle and learn event four times a year for all women with any type of cancer. They keep in touch with one another between meetings with our private Facebook group.

In order to provide the amount of financial assistance needed, the Beyond Pink Fund was established in 2006. The BPT is a 501(c)3 tax exempt charitable organization,

which depends on donations, both large and small, from our community and beyond.

Besides personal donations, the BPT received donations from events sponsored by individuals, groups, businesses and other organizations. From school-age children doing lemonade stands to the Pink Ribbon Run, the BPT has benefited.

Over 125 individual volunteers had a presence at 25+ events and activities benefiting BPT and its mission. These individuals give of their time and talents (planning before, during, and after) to these events. All for FREE! BPT had no paid staff



In spite of the rain, the 11th Annual Pink Ribbon Run was a record-breaking year! There were 925 registered participants who along with sponsors raised over \$57,000.00. Of the 925, 138 were breast cancer survivors for a total of 938 years of survivorship.



North Star hosted a bake sale, had a pop can drive, pie throwing contest and a pulled pork lunch all to give to the Beyond Pink TEAM!

Red Owl Tattoo offered pink ribbon tattoos after the Pink Ribbon Run and through the month of October. A local business supporting a local mission.



The Beyond Pink TEAM is pleased that because of the generosity of the community we were able to provide a multitude of services and assistance by **T**aking action, **E**ducating, **A**dvocating, and **M**aking a difference in the lives of so many. To learn more how you can learn more and become involved with the BPT visit our website at www.beyondpinkteam.org.