

# Beyond Pink TEAM 2020 Annual Report

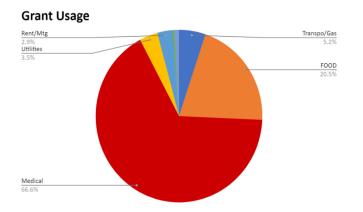
The 2020 was unlike any other in Beyond Pink TEAM's 32-year history. Thanks to our many generous supporters and donors, along with our volunteers making adaptations for safety, the Beyond Pink TEAM (BPT) weathered the pandemic very well. It helped that we are an all-volunteer 501(c)3 tax-exempt charitable organization, with no office, and no paid staff.

Our volunteers remain focused to our mission to *provide breast cancer prevention, education, support, and advocacy for comprehensive health care for all in the Cedar Valley and surrounding communities.* The Beyond Pink TEAM has gone beyond Pink ribbon and Pink trinkets to **T**ake action, **E**ducate, **A**dvocate, and **M**ake a difference.

#### **Take Action**

Beyond Pink TEAM (BPT) takes action by turning donations into financial assistance, support groups, a 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 are used to further our mission.

As breast cancer incidence continues to rise and the pandemic continues, we deal with the ever-increasing number of those needing financial assistance from the Beyond Pink Fund. In 2020 we eased the burden for 85 individuals in Black Hawk and 11 surrounding counties with \$77,214.69 towards medical bills and/or essential living expenses. Even with health insurance, the deductibles and co-pays are overwhelming and continue throughout extended treatment. Your donations stay local to make a real difference.



### **Educate**

Due to Covid-19 all Wellness Fairs were canceled. We continued to **educate** via Facebook and while our quarterly newsletter is not on display in medical offices as usual, we continue to print and distribute to individuals and organizations and always post it on our website, **www.beyondpinkteam.org**.



On November 12, the 5<sup>th</sup> annual *Ignite the Cancer Conversation* event was held virtually. *Body, Mind, and Soul* featured six speakers discussing chemo brain, intimacy after cancer, mindfulness, health disparities, and finding your strengths when facing cancer. Join *Ignite the Cancer Conversation* Facebook group to learn more.

#### **Advocate**

Cancer prevention and eventual eradication of breast cancer is part of our mission. The Beyond Pink TEAM has been an organizational member of the National Breast Cancer Coalition since 2005 and was recently voted to serve a fourth three-year term on the board.



We are fortunate to have a group of dedicated advocates all working to keep our lowa Senators and Representatives focused on the goal of ending this disease. Above are the advocates who met virtually with the lowa delegation.



Join Iowa Stop Breast Cancer on Facebook to keep updated on the latest research, upcoming legislation, and how you can help.

#### Make a Difference

Our Touch of Courage breast cancer support group chose not to meet in person due to Covid-19 but kept in touch by phone and email. They continue to make and distribute the Hearts of Hope pillows.



BPT All Cancer Support

Group (formerly Young Cancer Survivors) is meeting virtually. They keep connected between quarterly Zoom group meetings through a private Facebook group.

Cancer is expensive. Beyond Pink TEAM continues to **make a difference** through financial assistance through the Beyond Pink Fund. "I cannot begin to tell you what a relief it was to be accepted for this GRANT!! Beyond Pink Team ROCKS!!", a recent grant recipient shared.

Because we receive no government funding, we depend on donations, both large and small, from our community and beyond. From high school sporting events, casual dress days in offices, to the Pink Ribbon Run, the BPT has benefited.

## Fundraisers and Volunteers Make it Work

Since establishing the Beyond Pink Fund in 2006 at the Northeast Iowa Community Foundation, we have grown from the generosity of the Cedar Valley and Northeast Iowa. From 2012 to 2020 we have assisted 690 individuals in NE Iowa with \$538,790.92 for medical bills and/or essential living expenses. Our BPT members volunteer spent countless hours despite a pandemic. Many fundraising events were canceled, but our newsletter, support groups, and virtual events continued.

The Beyond Pink TEAM is successful due to the generosity of every donor and every volunteer member. We invite you to become a Beyond Pink TEAM member, volunteer, or donor at **www.beyondpinkteam.org**. Together we will make a difference.