



**ANNUAL REPORT FY2024**

# **Realizing the Vision**

**[cancercommons.org](https://cancercommons.org)**



**When I founded Cancer Commons thirteen years ago, patient navigation services were a rarity. Since then, Cancer Commons has filled a significant unmet need by guiding patients through the complex, often overwhelming landscape of cancer treatments.**

Today, the value of such services is widely recognized, but they remain out of reach for most patients. If we are to truly transform the oncology landscape, we must scale our services to reach many more patients and expand access to individualized, precision care.

Cancer Commons has come a long way on this journey. **In 2023**, we established the foundational processes and databases for our Learning Health System (LHS), supporting them largely through manual efforts and limited software. This groundwork laid the foundation for more sophisticated, scalable solutions.

**In 2024**, we launched a Minimum Viable Product (MVP) implementation of our LHS platform, to begin incrementally automating these processes. We also began building the Cancer Commons Network—a comprehensive alliance of experts and resources, including our physicians network, precision oncology services network, and a streamlined contract research organization (CRO) framework. This initial infrastructure ensures that our patients benefit from collaborative expertise and early access to cutting-edge tests and services, while providing our research partners with early access to patients and physicians, and affordable CRO services.

**Looking to 2025**, we will develop our MVP into a robust Learning Health System platform named Emma, in honor of Emma Shtivelman, Cancer Commons' founding Chief Scientist. We will grow the Cancer Commons Network by partnering with advocacy groups and community oncology centers to create a community-based, patient-centric, clinical research and care network. This new phase will directly connect patients with researchers, allowing patients to receive state of the art, precision oncology care close to home, and enabling researchers to conduct clinical studies at a fraction of the time and cost of traditional clinical trials at academic medical centers.

**With your support, Cancer Commons is poised to transform the oncology landscape, accelerating the journey from drug development to patient care and creating a future where each patient's experience drives faster, more personalized cancer treatment advancements.**

# Our DNA: Personalized Cancer Care for Better Outcomes

**Cancer Commons is a non-profit network of patients, scientists, and physicians united by a shared goal to optimize each patient's outcome and maximize collective learning to benefit the next patient.**

We offer personalized, evidence-based guidance at no cost, ensuring that every patient receives the best possible information based on the latest scientific advancements and precision oncology tests. Founded in 2011, Cancer Commons has empowered more than 10,000 patients and caregivers by providing expert recommendations and continuous support throughout their cancer journey.

## Guiding Principles

- **Transform cancer care** by combining expert insights, real-world outcomes data, AI, and the latest precision oncology tests to inform treatment decisions and reduce guesswork.
- **Accelerate cancer research** by connecting our patients and their physicians with researchers from industry and academia, who are seeking to study novel tests and treatments.
- **Prioritize collaboration over competition, data and knowledge sharing over silos, and improving patient outcomes over just approving new drugs.**

## Our Signature Services

**Comprehensive Treatment Review** Cancer Commons provides personalized support tailored to each patient's unique cancer profile in the form of a comprehensive treatment review. This report may contain clinical trial and/or off-label options, depending on eligibility. All recommendations are informed by the latest research, best practices, and data.

**Precision Oncology Expertise** We analyze data from cutting-edge technology platforms including comprehensive molecular profiling, liquid biopsy, and functional precision medicine drug screening. This information allows our staff scientists and external experts to recommend targeted therapies that offer the highest chance of success for each individual.

**Ongoing Support** Our commitment extends beyond initial recommendations. We provide periodic reviews and updates of past recommendations in light of changes to disease status, available treatments, and new research. We stay engaged throughout the patient's journey to adapt plans as needed. As resources permit, we can also assist in accessing therapies through clinical trials, expanded access, and reimbursement for drugs used off-label.

---

## Why Choose & Support Cancer Commons?

**Expert-Led** Our team includes staff PhDs and consulting medical professionals specializing in oncology, AI, and molecular biology who work collaboratively to provide the best possible outcomes for patients.

**No Cost to Patients** Supported entirely by philanthropy, Cancer Commons provides its services for free.

**Patient-Centric Approach** We prioritize each patient's needs, adapting our guidance and support to match their goals and circumstances. Our precision oncology services aim to maximize each patient's chances of success.

# Donor Impact—Our Thanks

## Serving Patients & Caregivers

With the generous support of our donors, Cancer Commons provided personalized guidance to **more than 1,100 patients and caregivers in FY2024**, helping those facing **more than 35 different cancer types**. Many who turned to us were dealing with advanced, challenging-to-treat cancers, including **more than 300 facing brain cancer** and **nearly 150 with pancreatic cancer**. We offered each individual timely, personalized support tailored to their unique situation, ensuring access to precision oncology insights and resources that help patients navigate their cancer journey, no matter how rare or complex their diagnosis.

## New Team Members to Enhance Our Mission

Cancer Commons welcomed a new **Medical Director** and additional scientific support through **consulting emeritus scientists** to meet the growing needs of patients. Thanks to generous donor support and advocacy partnerships, we laid the groundwork to bring on a **Nurse Navigator** and an additional **Senior Scientist** at the beginning of FY2025. These key team members bring critical expertise in clinical guidance and patient support, allowing us to deliver timely, personalized care to more individuals facing complex cancer diagnoses.

To secure industry partnerships and sponsors and develop sustainable models that extend our reach and impact, we brought on a **Director of Strategy and Business Development**. Additionally, a **Chief Development Officer** joined our team to expand our donor base, ensuring we have the resources to reach more patients and drive meaningful advancements in cancer care. Together, these new team members enhance Cancer Commons' ability to connect patients, oncologists, and industry leaders with cutting-edge tests and treatments, strengthening our network and elevating the support we offer to those in need.

## Strategic Growth & Recognition

Cancer Commons is honored to have been selected by **A Little Better Company's Unless Project** as the **Human Health & Wellness Grantee** from a pool of more than 600 applicants. This \$125,000 in-kind award will help strengthen our brand identity and online presence, supporting our growth as we thoughtfully and sustainably scale our services, partnerships, and overall impact in the cancer care community.

As we continue to build valuable partnerships across the oncology field, we are working with leading organizations to bring innovative, patient-centered care to those facing challenging diagnoses. These collaborations amplify our ability to provide advanced support and insights, helping us address the evolving needs of patients and the broader oncology community.

# 2025 Goals and Strategic Plan

## The Future of Cancer Care

### Cancer Commons Learning Health System (LHS)

In 2025, Cancer Commons will launch our AI-powered Learning Health System, focused on our first indication, glioblastoma multiforme (GBM). This platform seamlessly integrates clinical research and patient care to continuously learn from every patient, enabling rapid advancements in treatments and outcomes.

The platform will enable us to provide patient navigation services to more than 500 patients per month with only a minimal increase in staffing. The LHS automates routine tasks, including gathering and summarizing medical records, identifying treatment options that have proven effective for similar patients, and drafting personalized reports. Automating these time-consuming tasks will free our scientists to focus on delivering customized, data-driven guidance in just minutes per case, where it once took hours, without compromising quality.

### Cancer Commons Network

In support of the platform, we are assembling a robust partner ecosystem of precision oncology tests and services. This will allow physicians and researchers to minimize guesswork when treating patients with novel investigational therapies. The network will include a clearinghouse that connects patients who have exhausted standard options with researchers testing innovative therapies, along with CRO services to support these investigator-initiated studies. The Cancer Commons Learning Health System platform and Network will empower physicians to make more informed treatment decisions, enable researchers to study novel therapies at a fraction of the time and cost of traditional trials, and, most importantly, meaningfully improve outcomes for today's patients.

### Cancer Impact Fund

Cancer Commons will be launching a venture philanthropy fund to accelerate the development of cancer tests and therapies and provide early access to our patients. The fund will attract impact capital from foundations, advocacy groups, and family offices, pooling it with traditional investments to enhance returns and reduce risks. Leveraging real-world data from Cancer Commons patients, the fund will make small investments in promising tests and therapies, running pilot studies and scaling those that demonstrate evidence of safety and efficacy. This step-wise investment strategy, combined with the efficiencies inherent in a learning health system, has the potential to fundamentally transform the economics and risk of life science investing to benefit patients and investors alike.

# Financial Overview

Our commitment to efficiency and transparency has earned Cancer Commons the highest charity ratings, including the **Candid Platinum Seal of Transparency**.

## CANCER COMMONS

### Statement of Financial Activities

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

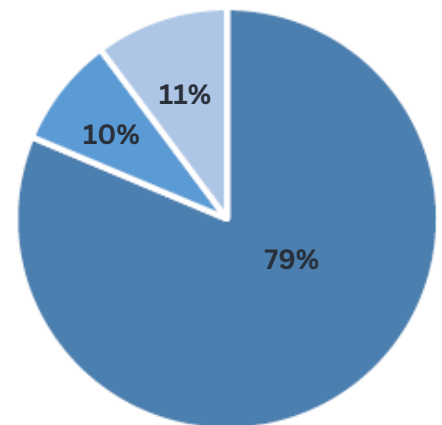
#### PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Contributions	\$	1,247,340
In-Kind		36,268
Program and Misc Revenue		(2,274)
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,281,334</b>

#### EXPENSES

Program Services	\$	949,892
Management and General		127,280
Fundraising		128,912
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,206,084</b>

<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>75,250</b>
<b>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>351,599</b>
<b>Net Assets, End of Year</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>426,849</b>



- Program Services
- Management and General
- Fundraising



# Cancer Commons Board of Directors



**Marty Tenenbaum, PhD**  
Founder & Chair of the Board  
Cancer Commons



**Laurence J. Marton, MD**  
Member of the Board of Trustees  
American Association for Cancer  
Research Foundation



**Gregory C. Simon**  
President, Simonovation, LLC, and  
Former President, Biden Cancer Initiative



**Paul Billings, MD, PhD**  
Vice Chair of the Board  
Cancer Commons



**Vern Norviel, JD**  
Partner | Patents & Innovations  
Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati



**Bill Stasior, PhD**  
Member of the Board of Directors, Avellino,  
and Former VP of Technology, Microsoft

Thank you for your  
sustaining support.



cancer  
commons

2625 Middlefield Rd Ste 104 | Palo Alto, CA 94306

650.289.4044 | [info@cancercommons.org](mailto:info@cancercommons.org)

[www.cancercommons.org/donate](http://www.cancercommons.org/donate)