



**ANNUAL REPORT FY2025**

# **Building on Purpose**

A background image showing a close-up of two hands, one larger and one smaller, gently holding a small, light-colored object. The image is overlaid with a blue-to-teal gradient.

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

## Letter from Our Founder



**Marty Tenenbaum, PhD**  
Founder, Cancer Commons

**This past year was one of deep purpose and meaningful transition for Cancer Commons.**

As always, we started with the patients. More than 1,200 new and returning patients and caregivers turned to us for personalized guidance—many facing advanced or hard-to-treat cancers like brain and pancreatic cancer, where decisions are complex and time is short. Our scientists and navigators walked beside them, helping clarify options and offering expert, compassionate support when it mattered most.

We also strengthened the partnerships that extend our reach. Collaborations with mission-aligned organizations expanded our work in brain cancer and brought new clinical expertise onto our team, ensuring that families confronting especially difficult diagnoses received timely, specialized guidance.

At the same time, we took a step back to reflect. After more than a decade serving patients with advanced or refractory cancers, we asked ourselves how Cancer Commons can have the greatest long-term impact. Grounded in what we've learned from thousands of patient journeys, we refined our vision around a simple idea that has guided us from the beginning: every patient's experience should help the next patient do better.

That reflection culminated in an important milestone: on July 1, 2025, Dr. Clifford Reid joined us as Chief Executive Officer. Cliff brings decades of leadership in genomics, precision oncology, and technology innovation. His arrival marks the start of an exciting new chapter—building on our foundation while positioning Cancer Commons to scale our impact in powerful new ways.

With Cliff now leading Cancer Commons, I have launched Cancer Commons Labs as an R&D sandbox to engage partners from industry, nonprofits, and academia in building the next-generation personalized oncology learning platform. We are integrating the best available diagnostics, therapeutics, and AI tools into a continuously improving system that designs individualized treatment regimens for each patient—and learns from every outcome to help the next patient do even better.

I am deeply grateful to our donors, partners, and community for sustaining this mission. Cancer Commons stands on the threshold of a new chapter—one that will enable us to reach many more patients and expand what is possible for every patient we serve.

## Letter from Our CEO

**Joining Cancer Commons this past year has been an energizing experience.** From my first day, it was clear that this organization has built something essential for people facing advanced cancer: a place where patients can find clarity, expert guidance, and a team committed to helping them navigate the most difficult decisions of their lives. That commitment is the foundation on which we are now building our next chapter.

As we look ahead, our focus is on expanding the reach and impact of this work. We are preparing to strengthen the systems that support patients who have exhausted standard treatments, is AI to deepen our scientific capabilities, and broaden the partnerships that allow us to meet patients where they are.

These efforts reflect a simple but powerful belief: every patient deserves informed options and a path forward grounded in evidence.

This coming year, we will advance several initiatives that move us toward that future. We are developing clearer, more authoritative guidance for patients and caregivers, investing in the infrastructure needed to support navigation at greater scale, and laying the groundwork for a national approach to personalized, off guideline treatment access. Each of these efforts is designed to ensure that what we learn from one patient can help the next patient make better decisions.

What gives me the greatest confidence is the community behind this mission. Patients and families trust us with their most urgent questions. Donors and partners invest in our ability to innovate. And our scientists and patient navigators bring extraordinary dedication to every case. Their collective commitment is what makes progress possible.

Cancer Commons has always been defined by its willingness to rethink what is possible for patients who have run out of standard options. I am proud to lead this organization at a moment when we are poised to extend that impact even further. The work ahead is significant, and it is work we are ready to take on—together, and always with patients at the center.



**Clifford Reid, PhD**  
**CEO, Cancer Commons**

# Your Impact on Patients & Caregivers

Thanks to our generous supporters, in fiscal year 2025, Cancer Commons provided Expert Guidance to more than 1,200 new and returning patients and caregivers navigating advanced or hard-to-treat cancers.

We served patients with more than 40 distinct cancer types, with particular depth in brain cancer (39%), colorectal cancer (13%), pancreatic cancer (11%), and breast cancer (9%). These patients reached us from nearly every U.S. state as well as more than 35 countries around the globe, reflecting the urgent need for expert guidance that transcends geography. Each patient and caregiver received personalized guidance combining the expertise of oncology nurses and clinical scientists to analyze their unique cancer profile, explore precision treatment options, navigate clinical trials, and develop strategic treatment plans grounded in the latest evidence and their individual values and circumstances.

## Brain Cancer Support and Solutions Alliance Launched July 2024



In July 2024, Cancer Commons launched the Brain Cancer Support and Solutions Alliance (BCSSA) in partnership with the Head for the Cure Foundation and the Musella Foundation for Brain Tumor Research & Information. This strategic collaboration emerged from recognizing that brain tumors bring distinctive challenges for patients and families—often with limited treatment options and precious little time. The BCSSA was designed to leverage the strengths of each partner organization to provide personalized, timely guidance when patients and caregivers need it most.

In its first year, the BCSSA has made a meaningful difference for patients and families. From July 2024 through June 2025, the program supported more than 343 brain cancer patients and caregivers across the United States.

Led by **Unsha Bakker, MSN, RN, OCN, CBCN**, our nurse navigator, the team provided more than 650 substantive interactions—including detailed scientific reviews, second opinion consultations, clinical trial navigation, and holistic support addressing symptom management, palliative care, financial assistance, and caregiver resources. The program's impact has shown there is real need and real hunger for this kind of specialized guidance.

What these numbers mean is simple: families are finding clarity and hope. Patients report that our guidance helped them understand confusing treatment options, eased the anxiety of difficult decisions, and provided crucial support during frightening and uncertain times. One patient described our services as “all she’s ever wanted and not knowing this service could even exist.” Another family expressed relief for having “a clear path forward during a highly stressful and uncertain time.” Through partnerships with mission-aligned organizations, the program reaches patients in ways no single organization could alone.

The BCSSA's first year has shown what becomes possible when patients have access to expert guidance they can trust. Focused partnerships, dedicated navigation, and grounded science can bring clarity and hope to patients facing some of the hardest cancers to treat.

# Financial Overview

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

## CANCER COMMONS

### Statement of Financial Activities (audited)

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

#### PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Contributions	\$1,794,845
In-Kind	157,812
Program and Misc Revenue	48,137

**TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE** **\$2,000,794**

#### EXPENSES

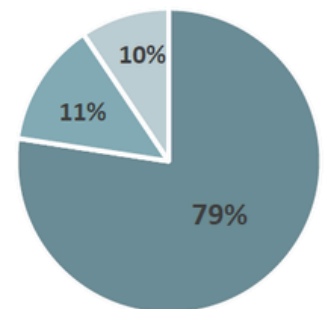
Program Services	\$1,480,951
Management and General	196,122
Fundraising	207,222

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **\$1,884,295**

**Change in Net Assets** **\$116,499**

**Net Assets, Beginning of Year** **\$426,849**

**Net Assets, End of Year** **\$543,348**



- Program Services
- Management and General
- Fundraising

Platinum  
Transparency  
2025

**Candid.**

# Cancer Commons Board of Directors



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



**Clifford Reid, PhD, MBA**  
Chief Executive Officer



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Vice Chair of the Board, Cancer Commons  
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Thank you for your  
sustaining support.



cancer  
commons

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