

Maine Breast Cancer Coalition

2016 *Support Service Fund* Annual Summary

The Maine Breast Cancer Coalition *Support Service Fund* provides financial assistance for breast health or breast cancer related needs to qualified Maine residents. The Fund assists low-income, uninsured, and underinsured people, including those newly diagnosed with breast cancer, who don't qualify for, or whose particular needs aren't covered by other assistance programs.

Support Service Fund milestones:

- Number of years since the Fund was started: 17
- Number of applicants the first year: 50
- Number of applicants in 2016: 326
- Total amount awarded to qualified applicants in the past 17 years: more than \$1,700,000
- Number of Maine people helped by the Fund since it began: 3,500+

Statistics from the 2016 Support Service Fund program:

- Number of approved applications: 321
- Counties represented: all 16 Maine counties
- Total amount awarded: \$151,576
- Average grant amount: \$472
- Age range of approved applicants: 31 to 91

Representative items and services funded in 2016:

- breast imaging (mammography and ultrasound)
- lab/pathology
- radiologist readings
- surgeon/physician fees or copays
- lymphedema compression garments (lymphedema is a side-effect of breast cancer treatment)
- prescriptions
- breast prostheses
- wigs
- temporary living expense support for people in breast cancer treatment
- travel expenses to treatments
- many other support services

To find out more about the [Support Service Fund](#) or to apply for a grant, download an easy-to-complete, printable application from our website at www.mainebreastcancer.org, or call Maine Breast Cancer Coalition at 207-945-0008 to request that an application be mailed to you. Call us if you need help completing the application.

Support Service Fund recipients wrote:

- "Most grateful for your support at a very hard time in my life."
- "Easy process with clear application and instructions. Amazingly fast turnaround time."
- "You assisted in so many ways. I did not have to worry about the financial issues as I went through chemo, two surgeries, and 35 radiation treatments."

The 2016 Support Service Fund was supported by the [Maine Breast Cancer Specialty License Plate Program](#); [CDC Maine Breast and Cervical Health Program](#) contract funds supported by a Cooperative Agreement from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; dedicated fundraisers by many Maine organizations and businesses, including long-term supporters Greater Bangor Women's Ski and Snowboard Club, York Hospital Breast Cancer Survivors Group, Maine Fraternal Order of Eagles Groups, F.R. Carroll Concrete, Douglas Dynamics, and Hannaford Supermarkets; individual contributions by members and supporters of MBCC, and the dedication of our volunteers and our Support Service Fund program assistant.

The Maine Breast Cancer Coalition is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.