## TOGETHER

We are changing the story of cancer in Maine



Maine Cancer Foundation

## **2018 COMMUNITY REPORT**

#### FOSTER CANCER PREVENTION

We know that the best way to beat cancer is to prevent it from occurring at all. MCF supports statewide prevention efforts, focusing on smoking, healthy lifestyles, and preventative care.

#### INCREASE EARLY DETECTION & SCREENING

We know that finding cancer early, when it is most treatable and beatable, saves lives. MCF supports programs that improve and increase early detection and screening efforts.

#### IMPROVE PATIENT OUTCOMES

We believe that everyone deserves access to the best possible care, regardless of income or geography. MCF ensures that all Mainers have access to the best treatments.

#### MAINE CANCER FOUNDATION GRANT AWARDS JULY, 2015 - JULY, 2018



#### From Kennebec to Calais, Mainers helping Mainers challenge cancer!

In 2015, MCF launched our visionary Challenge Cancer 2020 campaign with the goal of reducing cancer in Maine 20% by the year 2020. We fully recognize the magnitude of our goal – and we proudly embrace a vision that will save the lives of our families, our friends, and our fellow Mainers. Thanks to your support, we are succeeding!

Dan was 55 when he stopped in to the MCF-funded mobile health unit in the parking lot of the Farmington Walmart. He was uncomfortable with the idea of a colonoscopy, but the health worker suggested a simple FIT test - an at-home, non-invasive test that can detect signs of cancer. Dan's results were concerning, which led him to undergo his first colonoscopy. His doctor removed a number of polyps, preventing what could have become colon cancer. When Jody learned she had cancer, she was scared and overwhelmed. Fortunately, she found Karen, an MCFfunded Patient Navigator who would be her guide on this journey. Karen helped Jody understand her treatment options – what was available in the state, what her options were for financial assistance, and where to access additional support services. Karen walked the cancer journey alongside Jody as an advocate, and a friend.

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When Beth received her cancer diagnosis, her doctor explained that her best course of treatment would require frequent trips to Portland and occasionally Boston. Thanks to MCF support, Beth had a volunteer driver who would take her to Bangor four days a week. She could get round-trip bus tickets to Boston or Portland for appointments, and when needed, her overnight stays in Boston were covered. MCF funds programs that allowed Beth to choose the best treatment for her cancer and access the best possible care, without adding to the financial burden cancer had on her family.



# **GET INVOLVED!**

- Donate
- Volunteer
- Participate in an event
- Host a community fundraiser
- Join the Maine's Impact Cancer Network

### MaineCancer.org