



An Affiliate of the
CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY



Empowered by **Knowledge**,
strengthened by **Action**,
sustained by **Community**

2018



So no one faces cancer alone.



“Everyone needs a place.” That’s what Detroiter and comedienne Gilda Radner said when she was facing a cancer diagnosis that seemed insurmountable. Gilda’s Club Metro Detroit is that place.

“All those people who have become friends, all different ages, all at different stages of cancer, all fighting. How brave we all are together. I just felt them all around me, and it made me be braver. The same way people in gangs can do things that the individual could never do alone, the gang of us fighting cancer makes us all stronger.”

Gilda Radner, our namesake and SNL comedienne

Dear Friends,

We have set some pretty lofty goals in recent years, from the expansion of our program hours and days of operations to paying off the mortgage on our Clubhouse in 2017.

In 2018, we set our sights on the future.

During challenging economic times, Gilda's Club decreased programming and staff. At one point we ceased programming on Saturdays and limited hours. Now that we are fully operational, we don't want ever to be in a position again where we have to tell a family facing cancer, that we may not be able to serve them.

In 2018, we addressed concerns head on with the inception of our **Fund for the Future**. This board-directed fund aims to ensure our ability to weather economic storms, or any storm, that threatens our financial stability and our ability to provide cancer support. Having the confidence that Gilda's Club Metro Detroit is a permanent component to recovery is essential to families who come to us.

By the end of 2018, we had nearly \$500,000 in the Fund for the Future. The fund is seeded through special fundraising efforts and our Legacy of Hope, which is a designation for estate planning.

2018 also saw incredible additions to our programming. **Cancer Transitions** and **Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR)** became essential tools for many of our members. Both programs offer an ongoing series of workshops. Cancer Transitions for members who have completed treatment and seeking post-treatment tools to regain stability and confidence in recovery. MBSR is for all our members and caregivers who seek understanding, acceptance and peace of mind when walking the difficult path cancer places us.

A cancer diagnosis adds instant, unexpected complexities to every family – it can be devastating emotionally and financially. In order to serve as an organization, we need our own strength and stability. 2018 saw us make tremendous strides to ensuring Gilda's Club will serve for many years to come.

With gratitude,



Laura Varon Brown
Executive Director & CEO
Gilda's Club Metro Detroit

Cancer support for the whole family. The whole time.

Our Board of Directors



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Program Highlights

In 2018, we held

11,645

clubhouse visits

684

support groups

21

educational lectures

92

social events

923

healthy lifestyle activities

Additionally

New members welcomed

380

Currently support more than

1,692

active participants



Our Members



"Gilda's is a place you can become the person you were meant to be - after cancer."

"I have met the most incredible people."

-Gilda's member, Mary

"Gilda's Club is a place where the entire family is supported and nurtured throughout the entire cancer journey. All of the staff and volunteers have become like our family."

-Gilda's member, Kelly



"As a group of men, we laugh, we cry, we swear and we pray!"

"The group is a brotherhood and so accepting of others."

-Gilda's member, Jim





Hospital Partnerships

Beaumont

In 2018 we continued our strong offsite partnership with Beaumont - Farmington Hills and Beaumont Dearborn. Our programs at Beaumont - Farmington Hills consist of a weekly 'Life After Treatment' support group, a weekly yoga workshop, and a weekly art therapy workshop. Our weekly rotating programs at Beaumont - Dearborn consist of a yoga workshop, an art therapy group, and a tai chi workshop. We are thrilled to be able to serve members in the community who may not be able to get to our Royal Oak Clubhouse.

In 2018, we served 452 participants at our offsite locations. We held 89 support group sessions and 70 workshops.

452

participants
at our
offsite
locations

89

support
group
sessions

70

workshops

Other valued partner:

- Karmanos Cancer Institute

Our Volunteers

Gilda's Club Metro Detroit appreciates the dedication and compassion of our volunteers. These hard-working individuals give of their time and talents to support those touched by cancer.

Gilda's Club Metro Detroit volunteers provide more than 2,000 volunteer hours supporting our workshops, Clubhouse events, fundraising events, and programs.



185
volunteers

2,000 hours
of service



2018 Events

May – Gilda's Big Night Out



The signature gala, Gilda's Big Night Out was spectacular beyond imagination in 2018. We were proud to pay special recognition to the Lester Family with the Founders Award. Dr. Ishmael Jaiyesimi received the Program Support award. George Thomas and Family were presented with the Volunteer Award. The Media Award was given to Cyndy Canty of Michigan Radio. **The event raised more than \$270,000** for Gilda's Club Metro Detroit.

September – Gilda's Walk & 5K Run



Gilda's Family Walk & 5K Run was a special morning for supporters and families. The event goes past (and through) Gilda's Club – allowing participants to experience the Clubhouse and grounds as they enjoy the neighborhood surrounding Gilda's Club. The event **raised more than \$260,000 in 2018**; fundraising by the participants are crucial and build engagement from friends and family.

October – Bras for a Cause

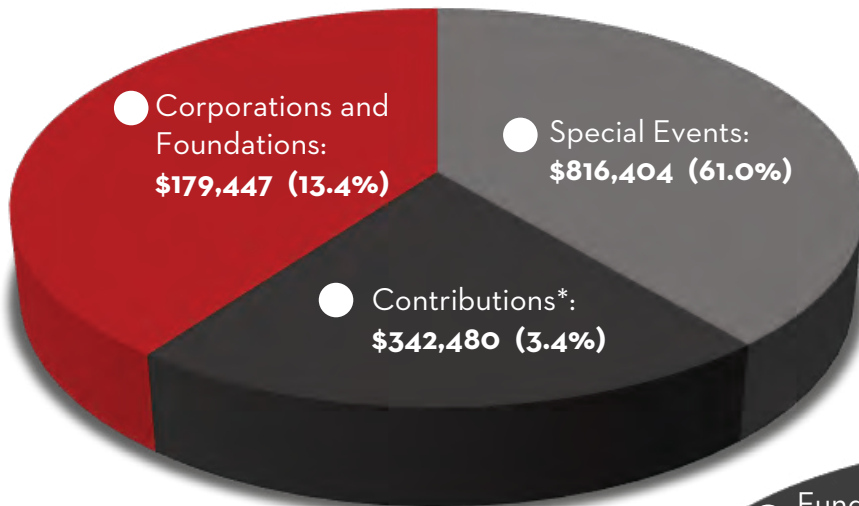


This incredibly inspiring event began with the vision of Shannon Watson who sought to empower breast cancer survivors to walk the runway with pride and purpose. The event continues in Shannon's memory and in 2018, we celebrated its 10th anniversary, **raising nearly \$120,000**. Decorative and creative art bras are the centerpiece of the auction as guests enjoy entertainment and a strolling dinner. The evening leads up to the spectacular runway, all at the Royal Oak Music Theatre.

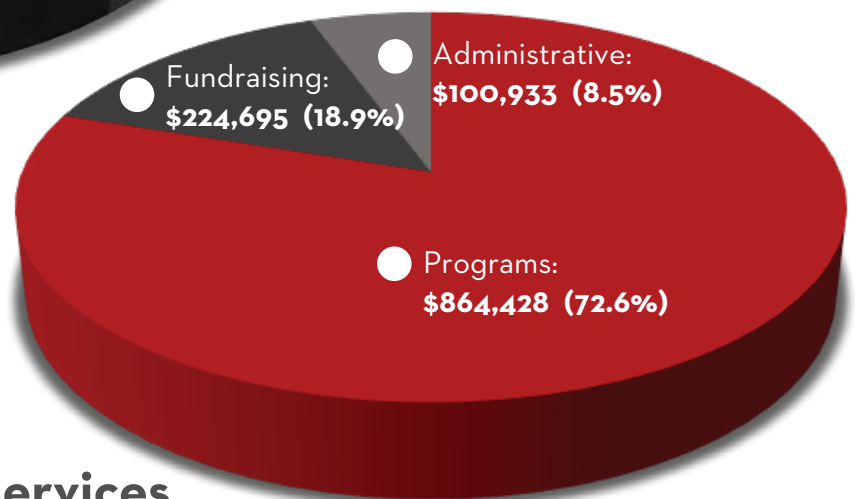
2018* Financial Overview

Gilda's Club relies on the metro Detroit community for support. All programs are free. Gilda's Club Metro Detroit is proud of the way it manages and safeguards the general contributions we receive from individual donors, corporations and other organizations. **More than 80% of the dollars spent are directed to program services.**

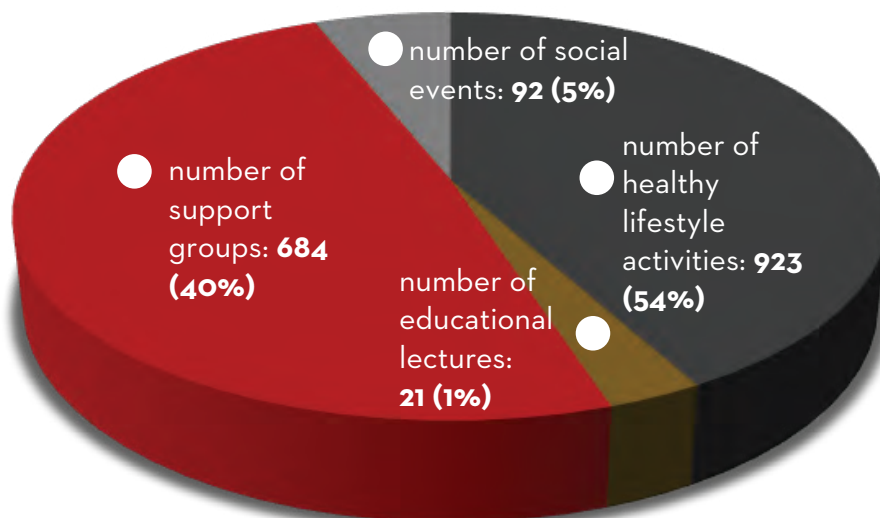
2018 Revenue



2018 Expenses



Allocation of Program Services



More than
80%
of the dollars spent are
directed to program services.

*2018 Contributions includes in-kind

Gratitude to our donors

The following individuals, corporations and foundations and organizations generously donated \$500 or more during the calendar year January 1 - December 31, 2018

\$50,000 +

Cooper Standard Foundation
Dr. Talbert Stein
Pamela & Kenneth Lester

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Artichoke Garlic Foundation
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Princeton Enterprises, LLC

\$10,000 - \$24,999

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Gratitude to our donors **continued**

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Gilda's Club. **Cancer support** for the whole family. The whole time.



So no one faces cancer alone.

Gilda's Club Metro Detroit

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Phone: 248.577.0800

www.gildasclubdetroit.org

Our Mission: Gilda's Club Metro Detroit ensures that all people impacted by cancer are empowered by knowledge, strengthened by action and sustained by community. Our organization creates welcoming communities of free support for everyone living with cancer – men, women, teens and children – along with their families and friends.