



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

2019



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,

In 2019, we completed one expansion and began another – all part of our continuing effort to ensure our program is accessible for families throughout metro Detroit who face a cancer diagnosis.

In March, we were pleased to bring The Lake House under our Gilda's Club umbrella. The Lake House, a like-minded organization on the east side of metro Detroit, was experiencing financial strain. The Lake House leadership sought out Gilda's Club to ensure sustainability of services. We combined and increased staffs, collaborated with Board Members and began expanding services. It was a very seamless and purposeful acquisition and partnership.

By late 2019, we reenergized our efforts to develop a location in Detroit within the Durfee Innovation Society. Again, an effort to ensure access is open and easy to participate in important cancer support and educational programming. With the support of Barton Malow, The Carls Foundation and a team of volunteers and supporters, we began the beautiful buildout for our newest location – to be completed in early 2020.

With the backdrop of our facilities expansion, we continued programming with as much zeal and determination as ever. In particular, Caregiver Support Groups and Bereavement Support Groups expanded. The addition of a Men's Health Retreat proved to be a tremendous resource for our members. And Farm to Table workshops assisted our members in shaping healthy and enticing diet additions.

For a fun addition, Cooper Standard, Barton Malow and Michigan Recreational Construction constructed an incredible and beautiful playscape for our youngest members.

We also added to our Fund for the Future effort that began in 2018. The Fund aims to ensure Gilda's Club is healthy and able to weather turbulent times or times of needed expansion.

This year, as every year, we are grateful for visionary, compassionate and empathetic friends at our side.

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 2019, we held

14,901

clubhouse visits

882

support groups

35

educational lectures

189

social events

1,384

healthy lifestyle activities

Additionally

New members welcomed

484

Currently support more than

2,002

active participants



New Playground

What a project! Our new Gildaground was officially ready for play this June! Thank you to Cooper Standard, Michigan Recreational Construction, George's Maintenance, Lee and Don Hamilton, our staff and scores of others who helped create this beautiful space for our Gilda's kids (and grown ups). Truly a wonderful addition to Gilda's Club.





Hospital Partnerships

Beaumont

In 2019 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 2019, we served 690 participants at our offsite locations. We held 92 support group sessions and 81 healthy lifestyle programs.

690

visits at our
offsite
locations

92

support
group
sessions

81

healthy
lifestyle
programs

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 2,700 volunteer hours supporting our workshops, Clubhouse events, fundraising events, and programs.



200
volunteers

2,700 hours
of service

2019 Events

May – Gilda’s Big Night Out



The signature gala, Gilda’s Big Night Out was spectacular beyond imagination in 2019. We were proud to pay special recognition to Jack Hemp with the Founders Award. Sabrina Mayhew received the Program Support award. Anna Davis was presented with the Volunteer Award. The Media Award was given to Mitch Albom. **The event raised more than \$300,000** 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 \$160,000 in 2019**; fundraising by the participants are crucial and build engagement from friends and family.

October – Bras for a Cause

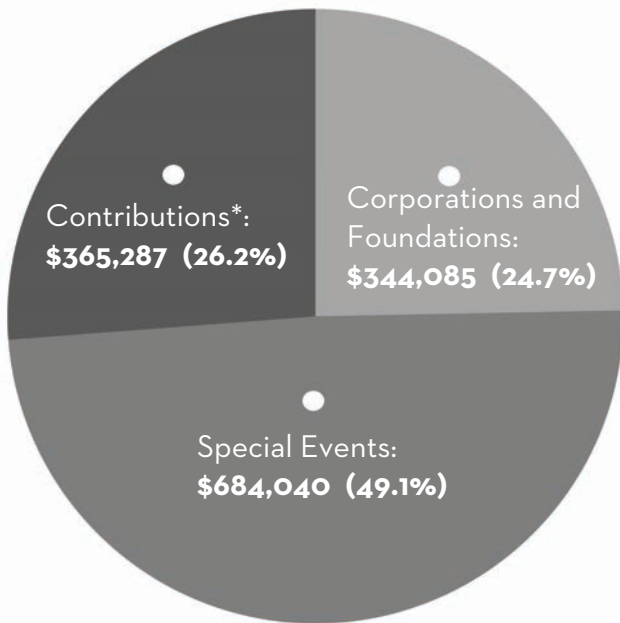


This incredibly inspiring event began with the vision of Shannon Watson who sought to empower breast cancer survivors to walk the runway with pride and purpose. The event continues in Shannon’s memory and in 2019, we celebrated its 10th anniversary, **raising nearly \$112,000**. Decorative and creative 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.

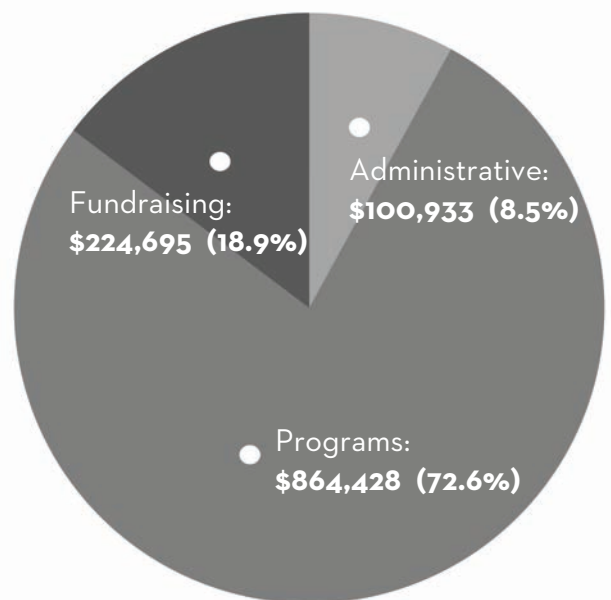
2019* Financial Overview

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. **Nearly 80% of the dollars spent are directed to program services.**

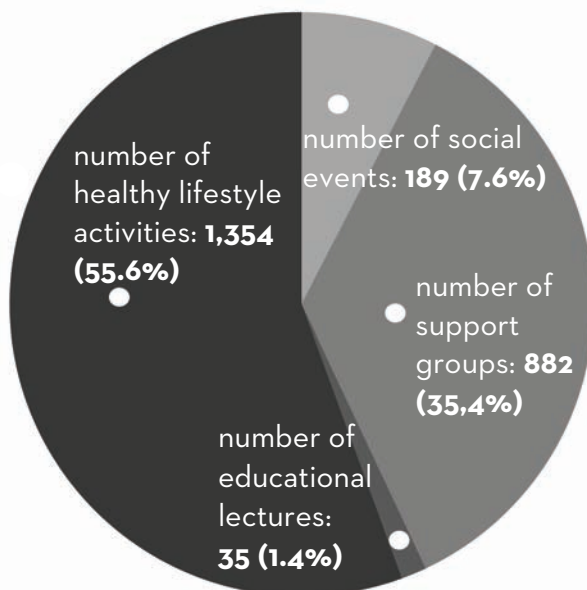
2019 Revenue



2019 Expenses



Allocation of Program Services



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

*2019 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, 2019

\$50,000 +

DMC Foundation
Dr. David and Shery Cotton
Lee and Don Hamilton
Pamela & Kenneth Lester

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Annette and Jack Aronson
Beaumont Health Cancer Ctr.
Cooper Standard Foundation
Molinello Family Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999

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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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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.