# The Hope Chest for Women, Inc.



The Hope Chest for Women's mission is to support Western North Carolina women who have been diagnosed with or are undergoing treatment for breast and/or gynecologic cancer.

Our community-based program focuses on providing financial assistance, education on cancer prevention and emotional support for patients living in 22 counties throughout WNC. Established in 2003, The Hope Chest for Women is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit organization.

## **Three primary functions:**

#### 1) Provide medical and non-medical bill pay assistance

HCFW's Community Assistance Fund supports an average of 100 to 150 women annually with direct financial assistance for rent/mortgage payments, utility bills, groceries, medicine, lymphedema garments, and other critical needs. In 2017, we paid out \$67,402 in assistance. We also offer financial counseling and refer patients to local and national support agencies for additional financial resources.

## 2) Educate WNC residents on the importance of cancer screening & early detection

HCFW attends community health fairs, workshops and events to promote cancer awareness, prevention and early detection. We encourage uninsured/underinsured women to access free or reduced cost cancer screening within their community.

#### 3) Perform community outreach to cancer patients and cancer support groups

HCFW visits local chemotherapy treatment rooms to deliver care packages and provide emotional and financial assistance to patients in active treatment. We meet with cancer support groups to help educate survivors about financial assistance resources available in their community.

#### Neighbors helping Neighbors...

Cancer is the leading cause of death among North Carolinians! It can strike anyone at anytime – regardless of age, race, income level or social status. You may even have a family member or know someone who is battling cancer. Cancer often takes a tremendous emotional, physical, and financial toll on the patient and their family.

Hope Chest for Women was formed to offer practical financial relief to patients who were struggling to afford the high cost of cancer treatment while managing day-to-day expenses. Our client referrals come from local hospitals, oncology practices, cancer clinics, and regional medical providers located across 22 Western North Carolina counties. We make every effort to provide help to those who need it most!

Hope Chest for Women is a GuideStar Gold Level Charity that is primarily supported by individual donors, local businesses and third-party community fundraising events that benefit our mission. We're a small grassroots nonprofit that relies heavily on our board of directors, part-time staff, and a network of over 200 volunteers who are committed to our mission. For more information, please contact:



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