



Having cancer is hard. Getting a ride to treatment shouldn't be.

For many cancer patients, getting to and from treatment is the greatest barrier in beating the disease. In a national study conducted by the American Cancer Society (the Society) and hospital social workers, transportation is consistently named alongside financial assistance as first or second in importance of non-medical needs. Seventy-three percent of social workers indicated that if the American Cancer Society or other organizations did not provide transportation services that there would be a reduction in patient treatment compliance, and 42 percent indicated that patients would be unable to complete their treatment regimen.

Transportation is consistently named as one of the top non-medical needs of cancer patients.

Each year in the United States, an estimated 125,000 cancer patients need transportation services to keep their treatment appointments.

How does the American Cancer Society help with transportation for cancer patients?

Road to Recovery Volunteer Program

American Cancer Society volunteers for the Road to Recovery program provide rides to and from cancer-related medical appointments for patients who otherwise might not be able to get there. If you or someone you love needs a ride, we can help. For more information about the Road to Recovery program or how to volunteer, visit cancer.org/roadtorecovery.

Community Transportation Grants Program

Funds awarded by the American Cancer Society to community organizations or health systems to help cancer patients keep their cancer-related treatment appointments. These are competitive grants awarded through an application process.

Vendor Programs

The American Cancer Society contracts and coordinates with privately-owned transportation companies to provide transportation services to cancer patients.

Resource Connection

The American Cancer Society can help connect cancer patients with hundreds of community resources around the country that provide transportation services. This can be accessed by calling 1-800-227-2345 or visiting cancer.org.

Why is transportation to cancer treatment important?

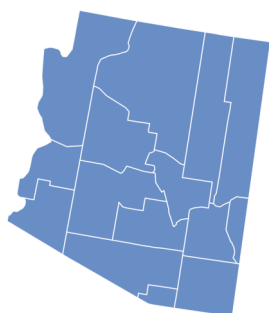
In 2016, there were more than 15.5 million adult and childhood cancer survivors in the United States. By January 1, 2026, it is estimated that the population of cancer survivors will increase to 20.3 million: almost 10 million males and 10.3 million females. The availability and quality of cancer care is influenced by various structural barriers, including **access to transportation**. Simply put, if cancer patients cannot get to their treatment appointments their likelihood of survival is compromised. **By ensuring that patients complete their treatment, we are able to increase the number of cancer survivors.**

"You can have the best cancer treatment in the world. But if you don't have a ride to get there, then it's absolutely worthless."

*John Storey, Road to Recovery
Volunteer Coordinator,
American Cancer Society
South Region*

A Patient's Story...

Chastity heard the words, "you have cancer" on June 23, 2017. Since then her life has been turned upside down. She has always led a very active lifestyle and would frequently ride her bike on daily errands and to work. She created a centralized lifestyle for herself; living close to work and daily necessities. She utilized the bus system for longer commutes. After being diagnosed, traveling to and from her treatments became a struggle. She is grateful for the transportation program stating, "I don't want to be on the bus after chemo. The bus ride is longer than an hour. I am sick after chemo, so a bus ride is unbearable." Chastity has shared that the transportation program is a necessity and without it, she doesn't know what she would do. She explained that having multiple, complimentary cab rides has opened up a new world for her. Chastity has been able to share her upbeat outlook on life when she is on her rides and also feels well enough to visit with other patients while at treatment. She said, "This program has relieved me of my transportation burden. I have also been able to share this amazing resource with others."



What is the transportation barrier in ARIZONA?

In 2013, the Nationwide Lodging Center of Excellence engaged American Cancer Society Health Services Research Department to provide estimates for cities to which the greatest number of cancer patients travel to treatment. The following statistics were pulled from the National Cancer Data Base:

- Phoenix was one of the top cities with a total of **6,010** cancer patients traveling more than 40 miles to the city for treatment each year. In addition to transportation, many of these patients will also need hotel/lodging assistance.
- In 2017, the Society provided **3,636 rides** to **340 cancer patients in Arizona**. However, if more resources were available, **an additional 4,185 requested patient rides could have been provided based on unmet needs.**

How can more transportation services be provided for cancer patients?

The American Cancer Society is seeking to raise a minimum of **\$100,000** to expand transportation services in Arizona.

Your financial support would help to:

- Establish one (1) **Vendor Program** in Arizona.
- Establish five (5) **Community Transportation Grants Programs** with health systems or organizations in Arizona to provide transportation services to patients.

By working with the American Cancer Society, you can help:

Patients have fewer barriers to completing their treatment and receiving follow-up care, resulting in better health outcomes and lower -term costs to the health system.

Patients feel more fully supported and empowered by a system that helps them overcome challenges faced during and after treatment.

Reduce medical staff time spent on finding transportation resources, and increase time supporting patients.

Thank you for supporting the American Cancer Society.



Attacking from every angle.™