

Report to the Community

## Friends, followers, supporters & donors,

Where do we begin? When Cocktails & Chemo started I was a newly widowed, solo mom trying to find a way to honor my young husband, Joe Clark's life. I truly had no idea what was in store and how many lives we'd touch. I did know a love that big doesn't just die.

I recently read a story about a young woman whose husband was dying, she asked, "What will I do without you?" He answered, "Take that love and spread it all around."

That's what we do at Cocktails & Chemo.

2018 was a record-breaking year. We held our largest fundraiser with our Blue Tie Gala, celebrating three years of our foundation's work and welcoming caregivers to Indianapolis to bring our virtual online support groups to real life.

The #OurTribe initiative was born and we've worked to fine tune our process to offer grants to families who need help paying for child care while a loved one is sick.

Volunteers work tirelessly to hand write care cards, addressing each envelope and following up with a phone call to speak directly to the caregiver nominated and ensure they know about our local support groups and events in their area. Our local chapters in Chicago, Indianapolis and Minneapolis are hosting "Sip & Support" nights for caregivers to meet other women like them and enjoy a night together to refresh and regroup.

Each month more than 5,000 people come to the CocktailsandChemo website looking for hope, answers and inspiration. Our need continues to grow as we expand our services and remind our communities caregivers matter!

So much good can come from caring for the people around us. THANK YOU for supporting Cocktails & Chemo, our caregivers and the people who love them.

Together, we LIVE LOUD, LOVE DEEP, CRY HARD & of course, TAKE MORE PICTURES.

Amanda Clark Founder Cocktails & Chemo Foundation



# a need is determined Cocktails & Chemo finds a way to help When (

# Sip & Supports

Support without the stigma. What is a Sip & Support?

Cocktails & Chemo hosts events for caregivers to make them feel loved and pampered.

#### By the Numbers:

9 women treated to a girl's night Sip & Support
in Chicago to see a live recording of the
podcast, "Terrible, Thanks for Asking"

12 women in Indianapolis + 7 women in Minneapolis were treated to a private shopping event at Evereve where they were each given a \$100 gift card and a shopper to help them re-fill their cups and their closests

= \$1,900 given directly to caregivers

2 pairs of shoes given to a teenage boy whose father has cancer

#### The Growing Need



These people came to Cocktails & Chemo looking for support in 2018.

# C&C Fills the Gap

When a need is determined Cocktails & Chemo finds a way to help.



12 weeks of meal drop-offs for a family dealing with the after effects of brain cancer



1 Children's Museum Membership for a newly widowed mom and her young son



\$500 in grocery gift cards



Meetings hosted every month

#### **Online Support**

C&C Young Cancer Wives: Facebook Group 308 members
Widows Don't Wear Black: Facebook Group 103 members



# **Blue Tie Gala**

#### March 3, 2018

Our BIUE TIE GALA was a true celebration of the work we've done since 2015. Attendance of more than 400 people filled the room as we aimed to be better friends and support caregivers in our communities.

We HOSTED 30+ caregivers to a night of dancing and LIVING LOUD! Many of these ladies belong to our online support groups and were able to meet in person for the first time thanks to our donors!



## Caregiver Luncheon 18 July 28, 2018

This was the third year for our Caregiver Luncheon hosted in Illinois. We were floored by our keynote speaker, Ashley Wagner, of Team Ryan and CenterCutCooks as she shared her story of caring for her husband through cancer and sweet baby boy as he needed both a liver and kidney transplant.

This is an annual event to see old friends and meet new ones lead by our Chicago Chapter President, Melinda Almeroth.





We love our supporters! 🛡



LIVING for those we've lost.





# **#OurTribe**

## The #OurTribe initiative helps pay for childcare needs when someone is sick.

Emily Garnett was diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer this past November. It was just a few days after their son, Felix, turned two.

Due to both treatments and frequency of her doctor's appointments, they've put Felix in preschool for several days a week, a huge financial strain for their family.

In between treatments and preschool drop-offs, Emily received a call from Cocktails & Chemo saying they'd been selected as the first #OurTribe family and a check for \$2,000 was on the way to help curb the costs of keeping sweet Felix safe so his mama could go to treatment and his daddy could keep working.

Emily burst into tears and for a moment felt relief in the midst of so much scary.







## Our local chapters host events for caregivers! Support without the stigma.

In 2018, our local chapters are in Minneapolis, Indianapolis and Chicago.













\*average age of caregivers C&C served in 2018



Total number of care cards sent in 2018: 60

Total number of funds sent: \$1,500

## Cocktails & Chemo Coast to Coast



Batavia, OH Bayville, NJ Bellevue, WA Blaine, MN Bloomingdale, IL Bolingbrook, IL Burr Ridge, IL Carmel, IN Champlin, MN Chantilly, VA Chicago, IL Deerfield, IL Deltona, FL DePere, WI Des Moines, IA Des Plaines, IL Elgin, IL Evansville, IN Franklin, TN Greenfield, IN Greenwood, IN Harwinton, CT Hawthorne Woods, IL Holmen, IA Huber Heights, OH Indianapolis, IN Joliet, IL Kingman, AZ Lake Geneva, WI Lake Villa, IL Las Vegas, NV Mequon, WI Merriam Woods, MO Milwaukee, WI Minneapolis, MN Mount Prospect, IL Muenster, IN Murfreesboro, TN Muscatine, IA Naperville, IL New Brighton, MN Oak Forest, IL Oak Park, IL Park Ridge, IL Peoria, IL Pickerington, OH Richmond, IN Roachdale, IN Romeoville, IL Springfield, IL St. Paul, MN Sycamore, IL Washington, MO Waukegan, IL Westport, CT Wetumpka, AL Wexford, PA York, PA

# Thank you for your generous support!

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