



# 2016

## Annual Report

*Practical aid to those  
fighting breast cancer.*

That old tale of life goes faster as we get older is true. The year 2016 flew by, still with pronounced milestones in our mission of Savage Support. We added two beneficiaries and sadly said goodbye in early February 2017 to one incredible woman, CJ Mertes. Our local donor and fundraising network has grown exponentially, allowing three women much needed relief during a difficult journey. The lessons and tireless questions for a new organization have certainly developed and have helped define the existence of our nonprofit. In this last year, we've aligned ourselves with individuals sharing our path, as well as established 501©3 networks. There is power in the people working together (that one is true too).

Firstly, we intend to double our number of benefactors this year. Through alliances and word of mouth referrals, the impact is bound to multiply the numbers of those we assist. Our service provider blueprint is underway, which will allow more day to day fulfillments to those in need during or after treatment. We're planning multiple events throughout the year in addition to our annual main event to continue the funding to individuals. We're a 100% volunteer based organization and our growing network is the foundation of Savage Support Corp. It's such an exciting time to work together!

I am honored and forever grateful to be in a collective group of amazing people, each with a unique perspective and passion that allows Savage Support to exist at all. It could not and would not happen without the serendipitous meeting of our nonprofit advisor Brandon Reed, Anna Trokan our graphics queen, Mark Browning and Suzzette Metcalfe as founding members. Adding two board members this year - Becky Olson and Erin Doren - solidifies the strength and diversity of our team.

Much love to all in this beautiful and evolving web of life!

*"Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect." Chief Seattle*

# MISSION

Savage Support Corp. strives to provide a wide variety of services focused on aid to persons fighting breast cancer in southeastern Wisconsin. These services include but are not limited to: home cleaning, meals & fresh produce delivery, transportation, personal products, care and wellness, certified counseling and rehabilitation, home nursing costs, child and pet care, entertainment and therapy kits. Savage Support Corp. endeavors to provide an elevated quality of life for breast cancer patients in tangible and practical ways, beyond their medical care.

# GOALS



Increasing the normalcy and well being of those undergoing treatment for breast cancer through direct action and services.



Relieving the physical, emotional and financial tensions associated with the fight against the rigors of breast cancer and its treatment.



Providing comfort when comfort is needed to those facing the difficult journey that is breast cancer.

## 2016 Events

Tenuta's Italian Restaurant  
2995 S. Clement Ave Milwaukee  
[www.tenutasitalian.com](http://www.tenutasitalian.com)

October 2016 - \$1 per pizza sold  
**RAISED \$1,169**

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Sugar Maple  
441 E Lincoln Ave Bay View  
[www.mysugarmaple.com](http://www.mysugarmaple.com)

October 23, 2016 - Wear Your Support Annual Fundraiser  
**RAISED \$5,024.74**

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Ray's Wine & Spirits  
8930 W North Ave Wauwatosa  
[www.rayswine.com](http://www.rayswine.com)

December 29, 2016 - Savage Support Day -  
**RAISED \$168**



# Spotlight on CJ

My mom, Carole “CJ” Mertes, is one of the strongest people I will ever know. Examples include raising my brother and me as a single mom, and to going back to school when we were young to earn her bachelor’s degree in 4 years while also working a fulltime job.

In 2006, she was originally diagnosed with breast cancer, but it was caught very early, and after a lumpectomy and making healthier lifestyle choices, she was cancer free for about 7.5 years. After suffering from some back pain, in April 2014 an MRI revealed that the cancer had returned, only this time it was Stage IV breast cancer that had metastasized to her bones. Our family was devastated, but after the initial shock, my mom showed her strength again and was resolved to do whatever she could to fight this. She researched many different treatment methods, and ultimately went through a mix of traditional and holistic, natural treatments.



My mom had a very strong faith in God, and I believe that, along with her positive attitude and love for life helped keep her with us as long as she was. She also became a grandma for the first time while going through treatments, which I believe also gave her a renewed sense of purpose.

*While bravely fighting her battle, she came across many who were touched and blessed by her life, and she was blessed by many, as well. She was fortunately connected with Deanna and Savage Support, and received wonderful support and love from the organization. For example, she loved receiving fresh, organic produce through their connections and donations, and my family was so happy they could be present at and contribute to her large fundraiser in June 2016.*

Unfortunately, in early 2017, she received news that the cancer had spread to her lungs and liver, and there was not much that could be done anymore. As sad as she was to leave behind her family and friends on earth, she said she was at peace and done fighting her earthly battle. She passed away peacefully on February 12 surrounded by her close family.

She was a naturally positive and outgoing person with a magnetic personality, and was loved by so many family members and friends. She had a zest for life, and will always be remembered for her contagious smile, laugh, sense of humor, beauty inside and out, love for people, strong faith, warmth and generosity.

My family is very grateful to Savage Support and all they did for my mom while we went through our most difficult trial together. I pray that you continue to be a blessing to others going through their own valiant battles with breast cancer.

- Noelle Braun



# 2016 Financials

Beginning Balance 2016 : \$11,456.70

2016 Fund Raising: \$6,361.74

## EXPENSES

Administrative Costs: \$698.14

Board Expense Re-Embursement: \$864.82

Reed Community Consulting: \$2210.00

Beneficiaries: \$4647.11

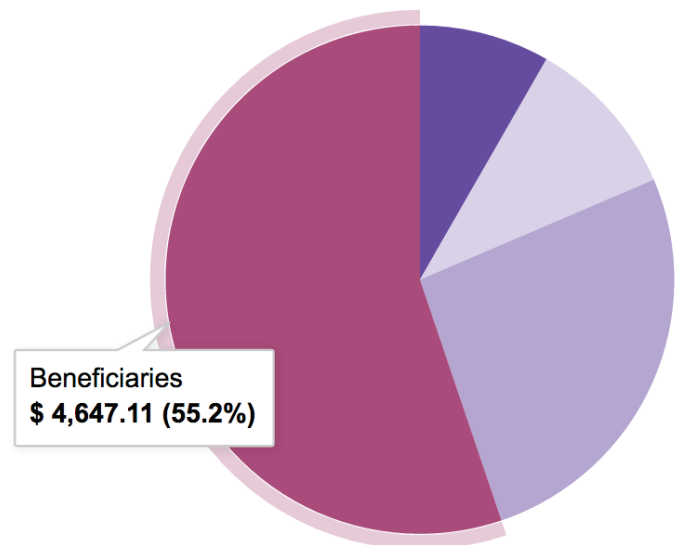
**TOTAL ASSETS** \$ 17,818.44

**TOTAL DEDUCTIONS** \$ 8,420.07

**END BALANCE 2016 = \$9398.37**

## 2016 Expenses

- Administration Costs
- Board Expense Reimbursement
- Reed Community Consulting
- Beneficiaries



# Thank You Donors & Sponsors

106.1 Experience • 18.8 Salon • Troy Allen • Todd Vigor Ariel Wines • Bob Arnold • Dr. Brian Stark Avenue Dental • Balistreri's • Karen Bell/Jan Kelly Bavette • Belma • Richard Bergholz • Sheila Bettin Brewed Café • Bethany Pagel Brookhill Boutique • Jeff Borchardt Carpet Masters • Annette Bzdawka Annie B & Friends • Kate Shorr Charles Smith Wines • Morgan Zielinski Classy Girl Cupcakes • Club Garibaldi's • Craig the watch guy • Melanie Denhart • Taylor Dutmer • Nanette Koth doTERRA • Cynthia Ehlers • Roland Ehlke • Bo Elliot • Enlightened Brewery • Tonia Finbraaten • Allison Gouge Fashion Angels • Cris Guevara • Lisa Ferry Fer-Li Grass Fed Beef • Ken Limas Fitch Beer • Marc Carrigan Foley Family Wines • Stephen Seefeldt Golden Rod Cottage Urban Farm • Harvey's Central Grille • Honey Pie • Indulgence Chocolatiers • John's Sandwich Shop • Dave Kenyon Johnson Brothers Beverages of WI • Lindsay Bentley Lagunitas • Patty Peterson Larry's Brown Deer Market • Bill Gardner L'Eft Bank Wines • Tom Wargin Liberty Financial Group Inc. • Loon Juice Cider • Ryan Bub Merriment Social • Brian Burke Northern Lights Theater • O'Donogue's • Bob Campbell/Kate Judson One Hope Wines • Tom Mirendorf Otto's Elm Grove Liquor • Mark Bertieri Pabst Best Place • Palomino • Peterson Winery • Scott Powers • Amanda Pozorski • Orey Laev/Tony Marble Ray's Wine & Spirits • Jacqueline & Philip Redlich • Renegade • Rocket Baby • Dr. James Sanger • Gail Schabla • Melanie & Dave Sobelman • Joanne Schmidt Sokol Blosser • Sparkle Salon • Squatters • State of the Art Import Auto Repair • Adrienne Pierluissi Sugar Maple • Swinging Door • Tease Salon • Frank Tenuta/ Brenden Fuerstenau Tenuta's Italian Restaurant • Matt Murphy Terlato Wines • Brooke Boomer/Sarah Nelson The Ruby Tap • Steven J. Macaione Thomas A. Mason Co., Inc. • Denise Trokan • Matt McCormack V2 Wine Group • Vanguard • our awesome Volunteers • Wine Maniacs •