

# 2018

## Annual Report

*Practical aid to those  
fighting breast cancer.*



2018 has been a year of wonder with significant experiences in growth, change and determination. Between transforming our reality through a luau for our annual fundraiser, honoring the life of Kathy Nackers through a 7th annual golf outing with her friends and family, a monthly dinner series at The Pasta Tree all year, #GivingTuesday, starting our 1st Thursday monthly newsletter... it's been busy!

I'm getting ahead of myself. More importantly, let's start at the beginning – our first beneficiary. The woman who entrusted us to assist her, who helped us as an organization to learn and grow. The woman who is forever engrained in this world as Mama Wisth, if not by blood then by heart. The heavens gained another angel with Cindy joining the ranks on June 14th.

The whole reason behind the activity: the humans fighting breast cancer, struggling with day to day simplicities that can be taken for granted until health becomes an issue. These are the very things that increase stress when they are not handled. We all know personal care too often takes a back seat in times of stress, regardless of health.

It's become clear that as a volunteer organization, in order to reach our goals of growing the number of people we help it is necessary to enlist technology with some automation. To do this, we have revamped the back end of our website to be user-friendly for beneficiaries to access their own account. The automation of services will allow those receiving benefits to select what is needed when it is most needed. While the ultimate goal is to offer services to more people, it is most important we properly service the beneficiaries who trust and rely on us now. Super excited to complete the beta testing for an official roll-out this year!

My heartfelt gratitude to the Board – Mark, Suzette, Becky & Erin for making this year wonder-full, Brandon Reed for his steady guidance of running a non-profit organization, the amazing volunteers who stepped in to help at all the right times, including my beyond fabulous niece Anna for her talents and patience putting together all the marketing. Each of you who have supported us to this point with time, donations, energy and funds – much appreciation. And always, to those who trust us to help them through a very uncertain, scary time – we are honored to hold your trust.

Personally, I'm still awed by the brothers and sisters I've met and had the honor to work with this year. Through training for a sprint triathlon with Aurora Healthcare and Team Phoenix, volunteering and mentoring with ABCD: After Breast Cancer Diagnosis, learning from the American Cancer Society, each encounter stretched me to grow, reinfusing my determination. Each moment has opened my eyes to the wonders all around, linking to the discovery of wonders within.

*Think and wonder, wonder  
and think. –Dr. Seuss*

# 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 & produce delivery, transportation, care and wellness, certified counseling and rehabilitation, home nursing costs, child and pet care, entertainment and therapy kits.

# 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.



# 2018 Events

**Luau for Life** - March 26, 2018 at Wauwatiki Bar and Grill raised \$8,675 from admissions, live and silent auctions, a raffle and wine pull. The evening featured a signature Tiki cocktail created by house mixologists, an island band "The Honolulu Millionaires" with animatronic tropical birds, hula dancers from Na Hale Studios/Hale O Malo Productions and a Hawaiian inspired buffet. More than 50 guests arrived in appropriate luau attire. The event was covered by M Magazine and local television Fox6 News Milwaukee.

**Kathy Nackers Memorial Golf Outing** - September 15, Savage Support teamed up with Tom Nackers for the 7th annual Kathy Nackers Memorial Golf Outing (KNMGO). Friends and family had a wonderful time golfing, socializing and reminiscing about Kathy, all while donating to a wonderful cause in memory of her. The event took place at The Preserve at Deer Creek in New Berlin. The day started with shot gun golf followed by dinner and finally the auction. The event raised nearly \$10,000 and all proceeds went to Savage Support. It was truly a magnificent day!

**International Women's Series** - The Pasta Tree Restaurant and Wine Bar created a monthly celebration of women titled the International Women's Series. Each woman imagined a dish close to her heart then filmed the creation with owner and chef Suzette Metcalfe in the restaurant's kitchen. Deanna Savage, President and founder of Savage Support was Miss September's International Woman. A portion of the proceeds from the month's featured dish raised over \$4000 for three local nonprofits: Savage Support, Express Yourself Milwaukee and Courage MKE. Another 12 women have been selected for the upcoming 2019 series. Find out more at [pastatreemilwaukee.com](http://pastatreemilwaukee.com).

**Tenuta's Italian Restaurant** - During Breast Cancer Awareness month, Tenuta's Italian Restaurant donated \$1 per pizza in loving memory of Jodi 'Nowak' Tenuta to local breast cancer groups. In 2018, \$565 was donated to Savage Support for a cumulative total of \$3,955 in three years. We are honored to be recognized by the community alongside ABCD: After Breast Cancer Diagnosis.

**Clock Shadow Creamery** - featured an organic cheddar cheese made by Cedar Grove Cheese in the month of October, donating \$1.00 for each piece sold. Much appreciation for sharing the mission of our organization during Breast Cancer Awareness month and supporting our beneficiaries.

**Noelle Braun & Trades of Hope** - Noelle dedicated a portion from her Trades of Hope parties in October to two local charities that assisted her Mom, CJ Mertes as she underwent treatment.

**Giving Tuesday** - The #GivingTuesday global movement on 11/27 acknowledged the impact each one of us has when working together. We raised \$250 to encourage healing through the arts, providing our beneficiaries and a loved one the experience of live theater at The Nutcracker or A Christmas Carol.





# Beneficiary Spotlight

My Mom, my Best Friend, my Wonder Woman, my Soulmate: Cindy Wisth. What a wonderful woman she is. Her heart, so full of love. Her eyes, so bright with childlike wonderment. Her smile, so genuinely beautiful. Her laugh, so loud and robust, radiating from her belly and soul. She is lovingly remembered for these things and so much more: her witty sense of humor, stellar sense of style, and genuine kindness, compassion, and generosity are at the top of that list. She had an unforgettable impact on everyone she met. Her love of food (especially sweets), tulips, bunnies, shoes, and people along with her passionate spirit made her, undoubtedly, one-of-a-kind.

She battled cancer for 3 ½ years with grace, dignity, and humor; never giving up hope, she was a warrior and inspired everyone who knew her story. And what a story it is.

She was first diagnosed with breast cancer in February 2015. After a second opinion at Froedtert, she moved forward with a treatment plan that began with five months of chemo, then a double mastectomy and lymphadenectomy, and concluded with seven weeks of radiation five days a week. Through this long and arduous journey she never stopped laughing. Her sense of humor was on point and she made everyone, including the hospital staff, laugh their collective faces off. She shelled out genuine compliments to everyone she met and smiled while greeting strangers. She hula hooped and went for walks. She worked her 9-5 and made sure everything was handled.

There was no other option but for her to be cancer free. Well, until there was. In October 2016, nine months after her last radiation treatment, she was informed that the cancer had metastasized and moved into her spine, her rib, and her lungs. It was terminal. Yet, she didn't let that stop her.

When others would have given up, she moved forward. She took on whatever treatment was available, she became her own advocate, and she fought harder than I think I ever could. She hosted holidays and was a caregiver to her mother. She took trips to Cannon Beach and Key West, and accompanied me numerous outings to our favorite place, Lake Geneva. She picked me up off the floor when I lost two of my best friends within months of each other. All the while her cancer was spreading like wildfire and through immense nausea, exhaustion, and sickness, she

showed up. She showed up for everyone, including herself. On her 62nd birthday (April 19th, 2018), she was told her cancer had spread to her brain. And yet she still braved treatment, taking on 10 consecutive days of full brain radiation, hoping for the best and fighting like the warrior she is. On June 14th, 2018, as she was surrounded by absolute love, she said her last joke and took her final breath.

The world hasn't been the same since she left. Everything has changed. There are no words that can describe the pain of losing her so instead I choose to speak on the beauty of loving her and celebrating her warrior spirit. I talk about her and to her every day, reiterating how much she means to me, how much I love her, and how I miss her so deeply. Even through the darkest moments of grief, I still find the light and that light is her.

I remember my mom in all facets; in sickness and in health, in fear and in pain, in love and in light, and in sadness and in joy. I remember every part of her - everything I learned

about her in the 37 years I was lucky enough to have her by my side - and I will continue to remember her as I learn things about myself. I promise that with this miraculous opportunity I have been given to live in her light, I will strive to make her proud and do right by her as the woman I am because of her.  
#TeamMamaWisth

Through her entire journey she was surrounded by infinite love and prayers; she was gifted many trinkets and tokens, trinkets, and keepsakes to inspire her journey and fuel her fight.

After Breast Cancer Diagnosis connected her with a dynamic mentor who became a close friend. This Time Tomorrow gifted her a large sum to help offset expenses. All these things undoubtedly propelled her forward in her battle, lifting her up and instilling a sense of faith and hope. But there is no doubt that throughout this time, Savage Support was the one constant source of outside love, light, and support. From cooling, hydrating gel pads to offset the effects of radiation to reiki, nutrition counseling, and biweekly organic produce delivery to nourish her mentally, emotionally, and physically, Savage Support was an absolute driving light force in what was often a dark time.

I am beyond grateful for the mission of this truly remarkable organization and I know my mother is as well. I cannot thank Savage Support enough for giving her the gift of heartfelt care. They not only provided services but they showered her in love, light, and compassion. For this I am infinitely thankful. - Amanda, Cindy's Daughter



# 2018 Financials

## EXPENSES

Administrative Costs: \$1,282.70

Beneficiaries: \$5,002.68

Reed Community Consulting: \$2,562.36

Total Expenses: \$8,847.74

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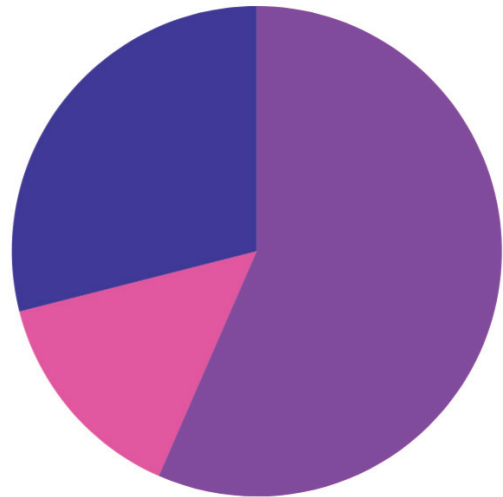
2018 Fundraising & Donations: \$17,018.17

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**OPENING BALANCE:** \$14,048.15

**CLOSING BALANCE:** \$22,218.58

**END BALANCE 2018 = \$8,170.43**



- Beneficiaries
- Administrative
- Reed Community Consulting

## Thank You Donors & Sponsors

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***We carry within us, the wonders we seek around us.***  
***-Sir Thomas Browne***