People living with cancer are faced with life and death decisions when it comes to being able to afford their medications, treatments, and day-to-day expenses that have now become emergencies. In an effort to help relieve some of the financial burden that forces cancer patients to choose between life-saving treatment and life’s basic necessities, HealthWell has created a new Emergency Cancer Relief Fund (ECRF).

Providing assistance to people with cancer has always been a HealthWell priority. Through its 20 plus oncology funds, HealthWell has awarded over $140 million in assistance to more than 70,000 individuals living with cancer. The ECRF was created specifically to help qualified cancer patients with expenses not covered under our current program to ensure that oncology patients have access to the financial resources they need to recover.

**Immediate Financial Relief to Cancer Patients**

Even with insurance, cancer is costly. People with cancer and their families can be devastated physically, emotionally, mentally — and financially. Our goal is to expand support beyond traditional copayment assistance to help cancer patients afford meaningful comforts to better manage their road to recovery. Once launched, the fund will provide:

- Coverage for critical out-of-pocket expenses associated with treatment (e.g. lab work or anti-nausea medicine) not covered by insurance
- Special assistance to help patients get back to living and reduce the financial burden (e.g., supportive/restorative care, and wellness activities)
- One time grants to help minimize patient medical debt related to their treatment (e.g., hospital and provider bills)

Spread the word about ECRF: [www.HealthWellFoundation.org/Cancer-Doesnt-Care](http://www.HealthWellFoundation.org/Cancer-Doesnt-Care)

**About the HealthWell Foundation**

The HealthWell Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) charitable organization that provides financial assistance to insured patients living with chronic and life-altering illnesses to help them afford the medical treatments they urgently need. Since 2004, HealthWell has awarded more than 275,000 grants in 40 disease states to over 175,000 insured Americans.

* This program will initially support oncology patients enrolled in HealthWell’s program with the goal of expanding assistance to new enrollees (late 2015) once additional funding has been secured.

“**How do you say ‘thank you’ to an organization that gives you life, peace of mind, and a future?**”

— Cliff Faith, NC

“**It was ovarian cancer spreading to the colon. In coming out of that surgery, I had to learn about an ileostomy, changing the bag, food not digesting, etc. My husband called many places, no cancer society would help! It was very discouraging, but my oncologist’s secretary told us about the HealthWell Foundation. After calling, the answer was YES, you would help. Thank you for being there in my time of need.”**

Lynn – Streator, Il

**Did You Know?**

In 2014, approximately 1.67 million new cancer cases are expected to be diagnosed and more than half a million Americans are projected to die of cancer.

— American Cancer Society
Dear Friends,

The past two years have been pretty bad for my husband and me. On February 21, 2011 we lost our only daughter to Scleroderma - a devastating disease that shrunk her skin, took her bones, her kidneys, her heart and finally her life - even though she had the best medical care available in Atlanta, GA.

We didn’t think things could ever be that bad again but, in July of that year, I was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma - Type B. In August, our son (and only remaining child) was diagnosed with Stage IV prostate cancer. We feared that we would lose both our children in the same year; however, he was treated very aggressively with radiation and hormones and now is in remission.

My husband turned 90 this year and has bladder cancer, prostate cancer, he just had a melanoma removed from his face and two weeks later a squamous cell carcinoma was removed from his arm. The tests showed complete removal (how thankful we are for that). So far, we have been able to keep up with the copays for everything until non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma struck me. Without your generous support the winter of 2011 and June of 2012, I could not even have begun my treatment. But the Lord is good! He led me to a great medical team who led me to you kind folks and my treatment began in October 2011. I am now scheduled for four treatments, beginning in May and another four beginning in November, after which my doctor thinks I won’t need any more for a while.

Could you possibly help me with the series of treatments? I just have to get well. My husband is 90 years old and besides the cancer in various parts of his body, he is losing his eye sight, his memory (it is bad) and his hearing. There is no one else to take care of him. I am the last living of my family and he has one sister who is in worse health than he is. Please! Let me know if you can help me in any amount. I will be eternally grateful. Please forgive the length of this letter. When I began writing, it just all poured out. I have no one to talk to about this, so thanks for listening.

Stella - Baton Rouge

P.S. Please accept my meager check in the amount of $25.00. I hope there will be more available in time.