

GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA FOR SUPPORT

Tricia's Troops Cancer Connection offers limited financial assistance and support services for the daily living needs and expenses that patients encounter during cancer treatment.

Eligibility:

- Patient must have a diagnosis of cancer confirmed by an oncology health care provider and be in active treatment for cancer.

Service Area

- Priority will be given to patients living in Waukesha County. If resources remain after the 20th of each month, we will open our funding to individuals living in our bordering counties (Dodge, Jefferson, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth and Washington).

Timeframe:

- Applications are reviewed on the **1st, 10th and the 20th of each month**

Other:

- Submission of an application does NOT guarantee support.
- Final determination for support will be made by Tricia's Troops based on, but not limited to, patient need, family size, household income, availability of funds and how many applications have been received that month.
- Monetary payments are never made directly to individuals. If support is awarded, a method of payment will be determined between Tricia's Troops and the vendor of goods/services provided. This will typically be in the form of a gift card, gift certificate or direct payment of the invoice.
- Only licensed and/or insured professionals will be utilized for all support services.
- For financial assistance, priority will be given to families living within 400% of poverty level.
- Once an application is turned in to Tricia's Troops, if the patient does not select and accept support within 6 months, they will be required to re-apply.
- Once the determined maximum support is reached on an individual for the year, they may re-apply for support after a minimum of 365 days later if they continue to be in active cancer treatment. Please note that priority will go to new patients who have not yet been a recipient of our assistance.
- Tricia's Troops does not approve requests for payment of medical bills, treatment expenses, co-pays or deductibles.

AREAS OF SUPPORT

FUEL/TRANSPORTATION

Financial assistance may be provided to help with the costs of transportation. Based on the patient's needs and preferences, this may include fuel gift cards, Uber or Lyft gift cards, payment for cabs, bus pass/ride cards, or invoice payment for qualified transportation providers. Tricia's Troops may also help with the cost of essential auto repairs or auto insurance if the vehicle is necessary for transportation to treatment. If any invoices are to be paid, a copy of the bill must first be provided to Tricia's Troops. The level of support provided is determined based on patient's treatment frequency, the cost of the services requested, location of the home from the treatment facility and other details.

GROCERIES/MEALS

If financial assistance is awarded for food, every effort will be made to provide a gift card for the grocery store or meal delivery business that is most convenient for the patient.

UTILITIES/BILLS

If support is awarded to help with any utilities or other select monthly bills, the patient must first supply Tricia's Troops with a copy of the bill that is to be paid. Either a check will be written directly to the company by Tricia's Troops or a gift card will be provided to the patient to cover all or a portion of the expenses.

RENT/MORTGAGE

If support is awarded to help with rent/mortgage payments, the patient must provide Tricia's Troops with a copy of the current, signed lease showing names of tenant and landlord, rent amount and address for sending payment **OR** the current mortgage payment statement.

PRODUCTS & SUPPLIES

Financial assistance may be available for wigs/head coverings, garments/sleeves, supplements, mobility equipment, assistive devices, specialty skin care/cosmetics or comfort items needed in relation to treatment. Support will be offered in the following ways: gift certificate/gift card for the vendor, Tricia's Troops placing an order on behalf of the patient; or through the direct payment of an invoice. (If any invoices are to be paid, a copy of the bill must first be provided to Tricia's Troops).

HOUSEWORK

We want to help ease the burdens of daily living during cancer treatment and make your home a clean, orderly and comfortable place to heal. In partnership with liability-insured businesses, Tricia's Troops may provide financial assistance and coordination of services for light housekeeping, carpet cleaning, essential repairs and modifications (for health and safety), yard work, snow removal and more. Tricia's Troops will suggest service providers or the patient can make a request for a preferred provider, however, proof of liability insurance is required.

HOUSEWORK *(continued)*

Tricia's Troops will create a contract detailing the frequency/duration of services that will be provided based on the level of support the patient is approved for. If payment is made in the form of a gift card or gift certificate, a contract will not be necessary.

LAUNDRY

In partnership with Martinizing Cleaners, patients living in Waukesha County or Milwaukee County may qualify for our free laundry services. If so, the patient will be treated to having their laundry WASHED - DRIED - FLUFFED - AND - FOLDED with free pick-up and delivery at their home once a week for the duration of up to 3 months.

DENTAL

Tricia's Troops may provide support for a dental exam prior to chemotherapy for patients without dental insurance.

CHILD CARE

Tricia's Troops may help with payments towards the costs of child care while the parent/guardian is participating in cancer treatment and recovery. Only the use of LICENSED child care providers will be allowed for financial support to be awarded and Tricia's Troops reserves the authority to approve providers they will cover. If support is awarded, a method of payment will be determined between Tricia's Troops and the provider. If any invoices are to be paid, a copy of the bill must first be provided to Tricia's Troops.

IN-HOME CARE

Tricia's Troops may help with costs related to non-medical home care or respite care in order to provide support to the patient and/or caregivers. Non-medical care companies typically can assist with daily needs such as meal preparation, running errands, medication reminders, light housecleaning, incidental transportation to doctor visits and other non-medical tasks.

Tricia's Troops will may suggest service providers or the patient can make a request for a preferred provider, however, proof of insurance must be available to Tricia's Troops.

Tricia's Troops will create a contract detailing the frequency/duration of services that will be provided based on the level of support the patient is approved for. If payment is made in the form of a gift card or gift certificate, a contract will not be necessary. And if any invoices are to be paid, a copy of the bill must first be provided to Tricia's Troops.

INTEGRATIVE THERAPIES/ WELLNESS

Tricia's Troops may provide support for therapies, exercise programs, classes or memberships to help strengthen the mind/body/spirit, relieve side effects, reduce stress and improve quality of life during treatment. Examples of complementary therapies include massage, acupuncture, reiki, yoga and more. If support is awarded, Tricia's Troops reserves the authority to approve partnering providers.