



# 2015 Hawaii Report to the Community

We save lives and create more birthdays by helping people **stay well** and **get well**, by **finding cures**, and by **fighting back** against cancer.

**We set the guidelines your doctor uses for early detection and prevention**, and we work to promote cancer screenings.

**We help patients and their families with their most pressing needs:** getting rides to treatment, navigating the health care system, and dealing with the side effects of treatment. Whatever the need, we are here to help 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**We are the largest private, not-for-profit funder of cancer research**, contributing to nearly every major cancer research breakthrough in recent history, such as establishing the link between cigarette smoking and lung cancer. As a result, cancer-related deaths have declined by 20 percent since the early 1990s, saving more than 1.3 million birthdays in the United States.

**Cancer is fought not just in the laboratory, but through public policy as well.** Together with our nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network<sup>SM</sup> (ACS CAN), we have helped enact policies that prevent cancer, educate lawmakers on policies that provide access to quality and affordable health care, and encourage increased federal investment in cancer research.

Today, two out of three people diagnosed with cancer survive. Our goal is to make that three out of three. Together, we are working toward creating a world with less cancer and more birthdays.

## Saving Lives in Hawaii

- Our trained Cancer Information Specialists offered information, answers and support through our 24/7 toll-free information line to more than 2,776 callers in Hawaii.
- Our network of volunteer drivers provided 111 cancer patients more than 838 rides to cancer-related treatments and appointments through our Road To Recovery<sup>®</sup> program. Additionally, we offered 428 patients vendor transportation assistance when no volunteers were available in a community or the distance was too great, such as traveling to another island.
- We provided lodging to 31 cancer patients and their caregiver while they traveled away from home for treatment. These guests received 73 nights through the American Cancer Society Hope Lodge<sup>®</sup> network and Guest Room program when they had to travel away from home for cancer treatment.
- 110 local women diagnosed with cancer participated in the Look Good Feel Better<sup>®</sup> program. Each woman received a free beauty kit and the tools to help improve her self-image as she managed the side effects of cancer treatments.
- 1,260 local patients received a free Personal Health Manager Kit to guide them through their cancer journey. This tool helps patients organize and keep track of appointments, medications, test results, insurance, and bills, along with practical cancer-related information.
- 105 newly diagnosed breast cancer patients received one-on-one support from a survivor through the American Cancer Society Reach To Recovery<sup>®</sup> program.
- We have made tremendous strides in advocacy through ACS CAN. In 2015, ACS CAN staff and volunteers supported successful campaigns to raise the age for tobacco to 21, making Hawaii the first state to take such bold action in tobacco control. Additionally, ACS CAN worked on legislation to ensure that health insurance drug formularies are more transparent and accessible for patients to determine their out of pocket costs. These measures are poised to make impacts to not only the fight against cancer, but for the health and well-being of everyone in the State.

To learn more about the American Cancer Society, or to get help, call us any time, day or night, at 1-800-227-2345 or visit [cancer.org](http://cancer.org).