

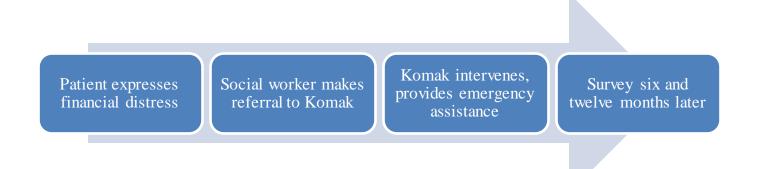
# Measuring Impacts and Outcomes of Komak's Financial Assistance During Cancer Treatment



### **Recognizing the crisis**

#### The Need

Komak provides **emergency financial assistance** to normally self-supporting people who are unable to work during cancer treatment. This **food and shelter security** allows people to concentrate on health and healing while making longer-term plans for financial stability. We work **within 50 miles of Portland**.



## What are we trying to do?

#### Goals and objectives

- 1. Survey 100 recent clients to **discover the long-term effects of emergency financial assistance**. By surveying at six and twelve months, we achieve 200 client touches. Do people regain financial stability? Are there ways in which our service could be refined and expanded?
- 2. Provide **simplified referral procedures** to our partner social workers and reach out to additional social workers and nurse case managers.

## Who are our partners?

Clinic social workers and nurse case managers are our primary partners and referral sources. In this grant process, we have met many new social worker and nurse case manager partners at local treatment centers, generating a significant increase in referrals.

Our grant allowed us to engage a **consultant experienced in nonprofit work** to aid in the construction and execution of the client survey. Her help was invaluable!

The **staff at the Knight Cancer Center** have been instrumental in helping us formulate and conduct the survey, which will be complete by year-end.

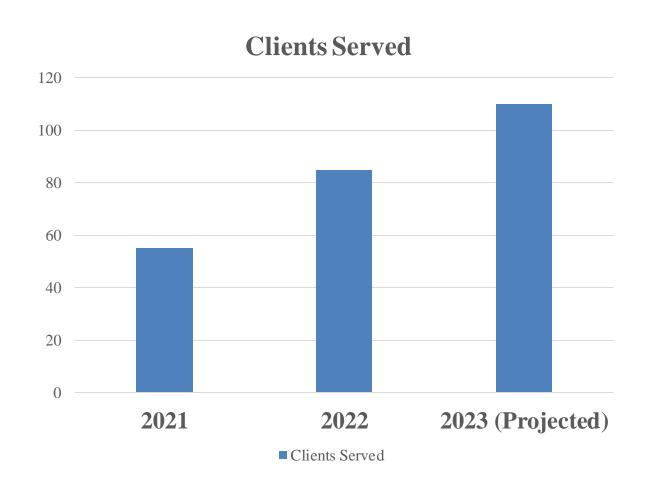
## **Project Design**

Our target population is Komak clients from the last two years.

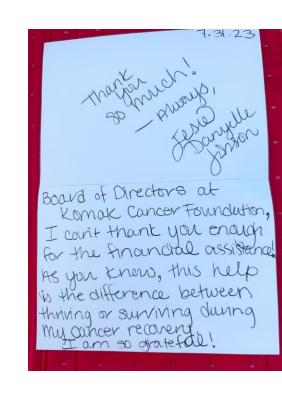
To solicit information, we conduct **phone interviews** of clients at six and twelve months following our financial assistance to determine the **long-term effect** of that aid. Have clients returned to work? If so, are they once again self-sufficient? If they have not been able to return to work, have they been able to formulate a long-term plan for stability?

Our survey started in **September 2022** and will end by **December 2023**.

Our **outreach to social workers and nurse case managers** has resulted in a sharp increase in client support!







#### **Evaluation Plan**

#### On completion of the survey in December 2023, we will ask...

How many surveys were completed?

What percentage of clients have regained financial stability?

What are the most common suggestions for additional service by Komak? To what degree has our client count increased?

#### Early results (all tentative):

Many but not all clients have regained financial stability.

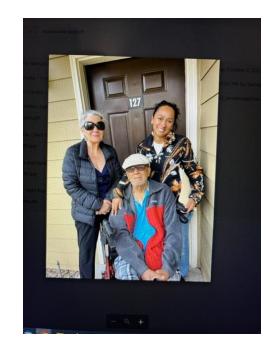
Former clients are almost universally pleased with Komak volunteers and the quality of service.

Most feel our application process is smooth.

Former clients would like more cross-referrals to other sources of aid, particularly longer-term aid.

Food insecurity is a primary concern during treatment.

More follow-up after emergency help would be appreciated.





## References/Acknowledgements

• Funding for this project was provided in part by the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute Community Partnership Program, a grant program that supports communities across Oregon in addressing local cancer-related needs.