

It Takes a Community

Annual Report 2024-2025





Our Community is You

A Letter from Our CEO & Board Chair

Harriet Schifftan and Drew Mallory

On behalf of everyone who found connection, understanding, and belonging at Gilda's Club this past year, thank you for being part of what makes this community possible.

It takes a community to offer free, high-quality cancer support led by skilled and compassionate professionals — and our community is you. Your choice to give generously, to show up, and to care ensures that no one has to face cancer alone.

We promise to be thoughtful and wise stewards of your support. We're committed to making every gift go as far as possible in advancing our mission. Because of you and your investment in Gilda's Club, our reach and our results continue to grow. We foster and nurture community in moments big and small throughout each day. Donors, funders, and supporters like you are an essential underpinning to our cancer support program.

We love connecting with you throughout the year through thank you calls, notes, shared moments at our signature fundraising events, or visits to the Clubhouse. We invite you to reach out — we love hearing from you.

As you'll read on these pages, Gilda's Club is made up of people like you who value providing a welcoming place for people to support each other during challenging times. People who appreciate thoughtful gestures: stopping to listen, offering a hug, sitting for a few moments, celebrating a cancer milestone, understanding that sometimes there are no words, and extending oneself for the betterment of others.

We are deeply grateful to our dedicated staff, board members, and volunteers, whose generous gifts of time and passion make everything we do possible.

Thank you for being a piece of what makes this community whole.

President & CEO

Board Chair

"As a cancer survivor and teacher, I believe Gilda's Club represents the best of community. With these two titles, I can personally testify to the power and magic of collective support. The writing and conversations in my workshops are so engaging and meaningful that they are among the most important work I've ever had the privilege to do. Sometimes, I can't help but participate in my writing prompts because at Gilda's, we are all one. I've shared this feeling with attendees and members, and I truly mean it — we are all on the same page, together."

Jenni Dawn Muro, Facilitator



It Takes Showing Up

More than numbers, these are moments of care, resilience, and belonging.

7,904

Total Attendance

Includes support groups, workshops, socials, Customized Support Plans, and resource/referral contacts

3,894

Program Attendance

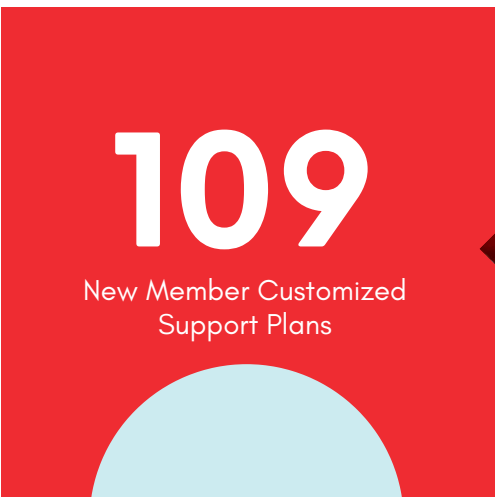
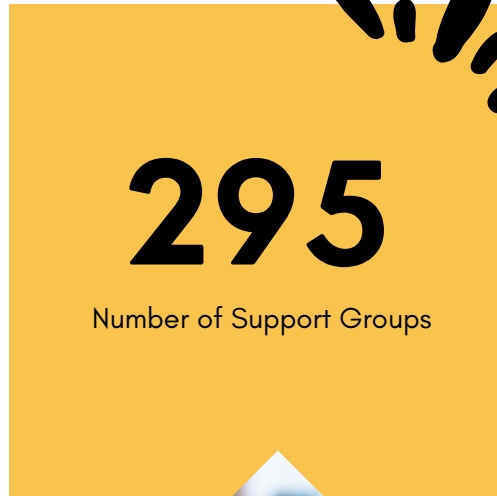
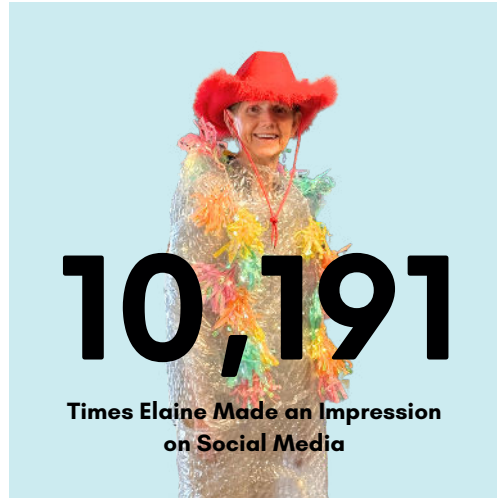
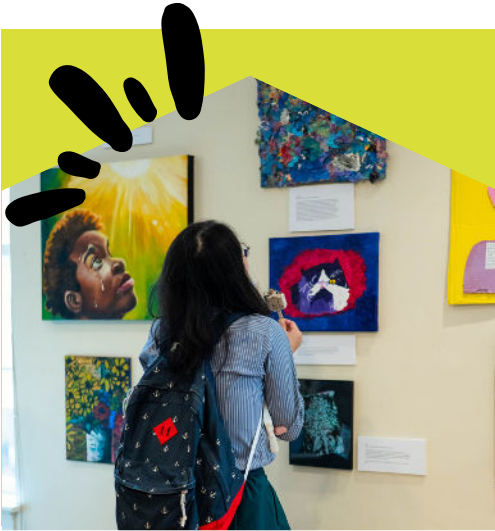
at workshops, social, and educational programs

1,399

Responses to
Resource Requests

It Takes **Everyday Moments**

Every visit, every voice, every moment of connection matters.



It Takes Shared Moments

Sometimes, support looks like fun.

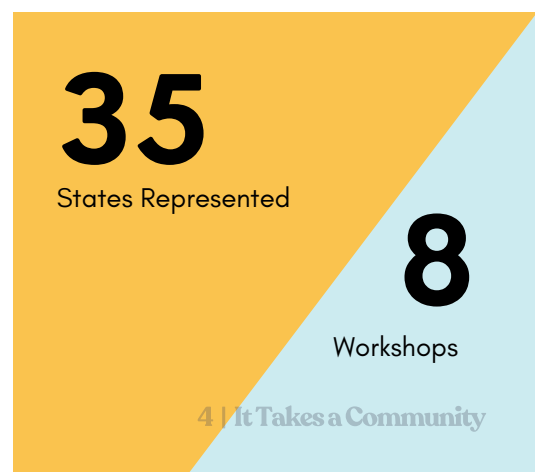
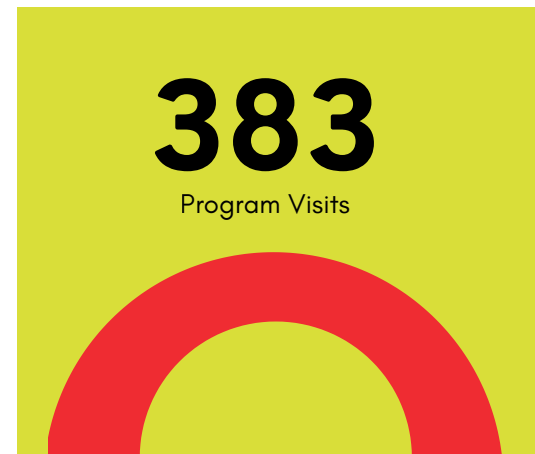
This year, we hosted 93 social events — from charcuterie board building and Singo to ballet and dinner nights — each one offering space to laugh, connect, and just be together. Because healing happens in community, not just in support groups.



It Takes a Safe Space to Create

Connecting young adults navigating cancer across North America

Now in its third year, Tough Friends Art Club continues to grow, expanding to meet rising demand by doubling the number of workshops. This virtual program brings together young adults facing cancer across North America to connect, create, and build community through art. In partnership with Ohyouresotough and Gilda's Club Madison, we're proud to reach those without access to a local Gilda's Club — because it takes all of us.







NEW BIPOC Cancer Networking Group

We're forming a new space for connection, conversation, and community specifically for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color who have experienced cancer firsthand or as a caregiver or supporter.

**YOU BELONG HERE.
A SPACE FOR OUR STORIES,
OUR STRENGTH, OUR HEALING.**





It Takes Growth

Expanding to Meet the Moment

This year, Gilda's Club grew in powerful ways, adding new programs, welcoming new partners, and creating more spaces for connection. Because community is strongest when we make room for people however they show up.

We were proud to launch our first LGBTQ+ support group and BIPOC connection group, offering an affirming space for members to share and connect with others who truly understand.

We also introduced new programs like Clay Day, a hands-on workshop focused on connection through creativity; a Gilda Radner portrait night; interactive sessions with the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum; and a fun charcuterie board-building night. These are just a few of the fresh, meaningful experiences we brought to our community this year.

We also welcomed new volunteer groups and community sponsors who brought exciting energy, ideas, and support to our mission. Together, we're building something stronger — and more inclusive — than ever before. ***Because it takes all of us to create a community where no one faces cancer alone.***

It Takes Heart

The Power of Our Volunteers

At Gilda's Club, volunteers don't just lend a hand, they help make everything possible. From leading classes and prepping meals to answering phones and supporting events, they step in wherever it's needed with kindness, skill, and generosity. Their presence strengthens every part of our work and makes our mission more accessible to more people. This community is built on small acts of care that add up to something extraordinary, and we're deeply thankful for each person who chooses to give their time in service of others.



2,196

Volunteer Hours

69

New Volunteer Applications

"Having been part of the GCMTN community in a few different ways, I've seen how it can benefit all that are involved. As a kid dealing with a family member battling cancer, going to Gilda's Club gave me an outlet of support from the staff and other people in similar situations. As a member of the Associate Board, I've gotten the chance to work with great people and help the Board of Directors and staff carry out the mission. **No matter how you're connected to the community, everyone in it has the same goal of giving cancer support to those who need it.**"

Will, Associate Board, Past Member, Donor

It Takes Stories Like Yours



"I don't have any 'cancer friends' in real life, and Tough Friends Art Club allows me to spend time with people who understand where I'm at, and the challenges that come along with survivorship. In other aspects of my life, I feel pressure to be done with and move on from cancer since I'm not in active treatment anymore, but as those in the group understand, it's never really over or done."

Young Adult Member



"As a breast cancer survivor and a member of the Gilda's Club Middle Tennessee board, I've experienced firsthand the profound impact this community has on the cancer journey. In a world saturated with information, Gilda's Club stands out as a trusted, holistic resource — one that views individuals not just through the lens of a diagnosis, but as whole people. It provides patients, caregivers, and families with meaningful support to navigate the complexities of treatment, recovery, and emotional wellbeing. The blend of compassion, connection, and Gilda's signature humor creates a uniquely powerful environment — one that fosters resilience, hope, and healing."

Suzanne, Board Member, Donor

"One of Gilda Club's greatest attributes is synergy. In his work 'METAPHYSICS,' Aristotle is credited for stating, 'The whole is greater than the sum of its parts.' I believe he is referring to the power that can be produced by coming together as a group connected by a common thread. One person's weakness is another's strength. When geese fly in an echelon or V-formation, they can fly 70 percent farther... Cancer causes a myriad mental and physical adversities. For those who are fortunate to survive the disease, Gilda's is there to help them put their lives back together."

Jimmy, Member, Volunteer, Donor

"The Gilda's Club Community exemplifies inclusivity and love. Cancer strikes everyone at some point in their lives, whether it's a personal diagnosis or having a friend or family member be diagnosed with cancer. Gilda's Club provides a place for people in these situations to come and work through their diagnosis from the mental *and* emotional side. The energy in the Clubhouse is overwhelmingly welcoming, from walking through the red door receiving an immediate smile, to the hug I receive every time before I leave, I can't say enough about the joy visiting Gilda's Club brings."

Allen, Board Member, Donor

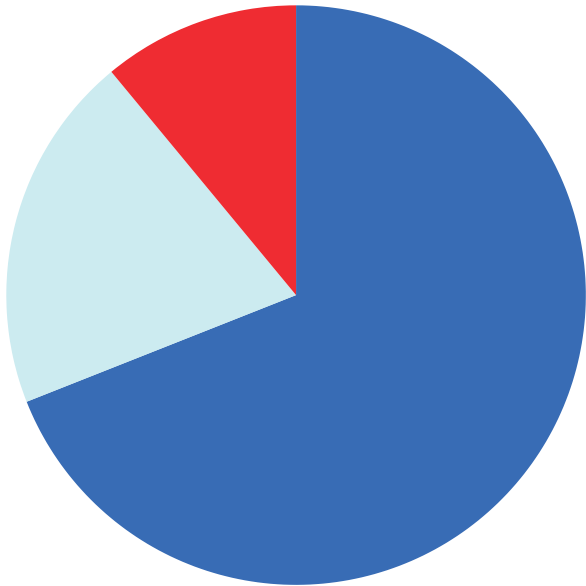
"I've been part of the Gilda's community since its inception in 1998, and it has continued to be a meaningful part of my life. When my husband was first diagnosed with cancer in 1996 as a young adult, we had no idea how to manage. We found Gilda's to be exactly the community we needed in SO many ways.

"Today, I manage our Patient and Family-Centered Care programs at the Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center and make referrals to Gilda's Club on a daily basis. It is most rewarding to hear first-hand from the many patients and families who have remarkable and exceptional experiences at Gilda's. There is nothing more impactful than being with others who 'get it' during a health crisis."

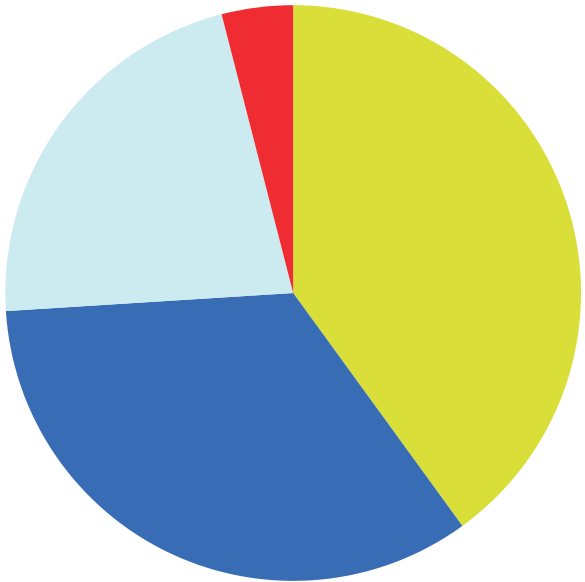
Julie, Community Partner, Member, Donor

It Takes Transparency

FY 2024-2025 Financials



- 70% Program Delivery
- 19% Fundraising & Development
- 11% Management & General



- 40% Fundraising Events
- 34% Foundations and Grants
- 22% Individual Giving
- 4% Endowment Distribution

Expenses

Program Delivery:	\$936,198
Fundraising & Development:	\$269,764
Management & General:	\$142,860
	\$1,348,822

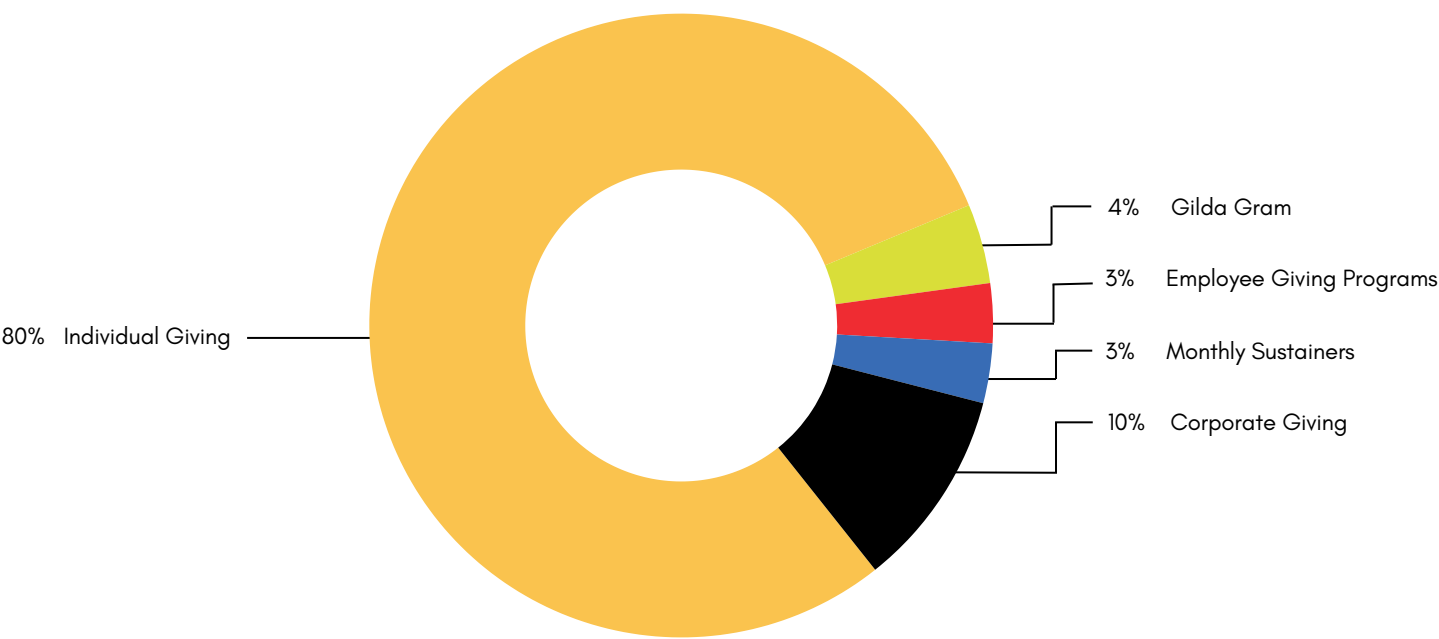
Revenue

Fundraising Events:	\$551,959
Foundation & Grants:	\$457,635
Individual Giving:	\$295,731
Endowment Distribution:	\$52,500
Other/Interest:	\$4,279
	\$1,362,104

**The 2024-2025 Income and Expense summary is not audited. Our audited financial statements will be available on GivingMatters.com and GildasClubMiddleTN.org*

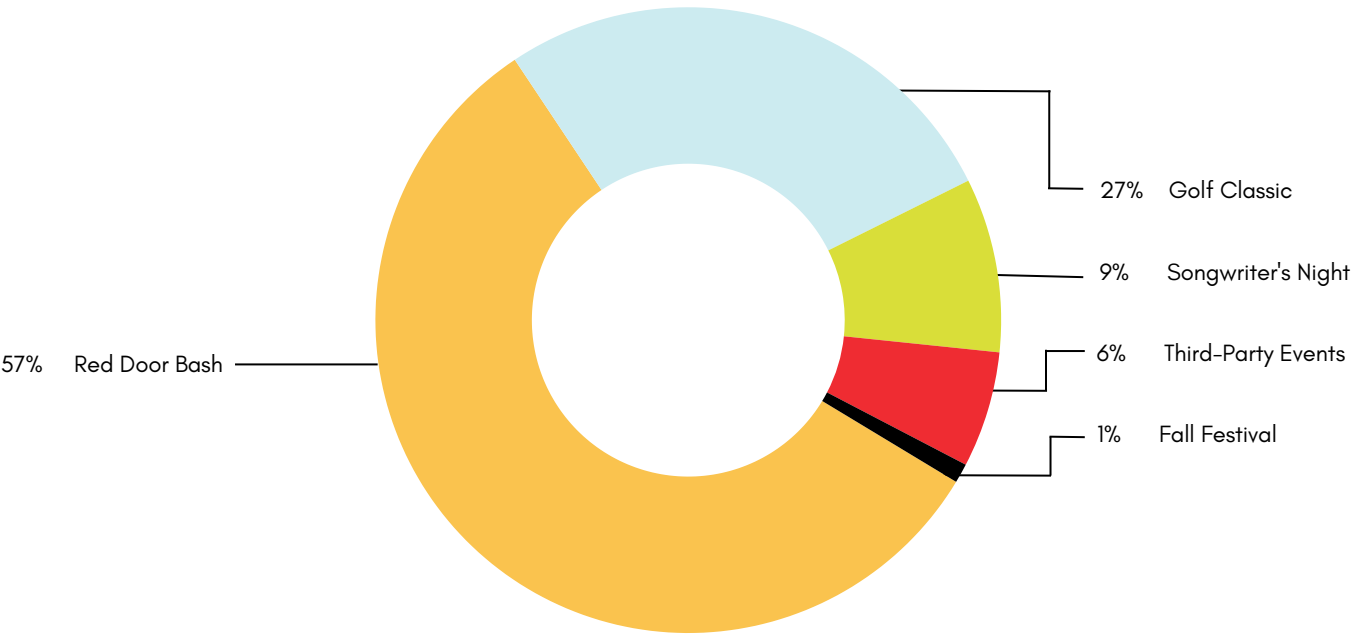
Individual Giving

From donor-advised funds and gifts of stock to memorials, tributes, and bequests, community members contribute in deeply meaningful ways throughout the year. Whether through annual gifts, employer matches, or unrestricted support, every contribution is part of what keeps this mission going.



Fundraising Events

Our four signature events each year do more than raise critical funds. They bring people together. Through participation, sponsorship, and support, these events help raise awareness, welcome new members and partners, and strengthen the fabric of our Gilda’s Club community.



It Takes Working Together

Gilda's Club in the Community

At Gilda's Club, being part of the cancer support network means showing up — not just within our red doors, but out in the community. Each year, our team proudly takes part in events across Middle Tennessee, sharing our expertise in psychosocial support, raising awareness, and strengthening relationships with those impacted by cancer. **Together**, we build a more informed, compassionate, and connected community.

- Ascension Cancer Wellness Health Fair
- Ascension Network Cancer Committee
- Association of Fundraising Professionals – Nashville Chapter
- Belmont College of Social Work
- Belmont Occupational Therapy Program
- Breast cancer Recovery in Action (BRA)
- Centennial Behavioral Health
- Center for Nonprofit Excellence CEO Advisory Committee
- Coalition of Black Social Workers Mentoring Program
- Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum
- Curb Center at Vanderbilt
- HopeKids
- Mamaya Health
- Meharry-Vanderbilt-Tennessee State University Cancer Partnership (MVTCP) High School Cancer Research Leadership Development Program
- Mt. Juliet Center for Hyperbaric Medicine
- Nashville Jewish Film Festival
- Nashville Sister's Network
- Nikki Mitchell Foundation
- Sarah Cannon Cancer Network
- Sing Me a Story
- Templeton Academy
- Tennessee Cancer Coalition
- TriStar INCP CoC Cancer Committee
- University of Tennessee College of Social Work
- Vanderbilt Cancer Center Employee Town Hall
- Vanderbilt Epidemiology Center/SEHS
- Vanderbilt Medical School – Residents Tour and Education
- Vanderbilt University Medical School Student Education
- Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Community Advisory Board
- Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center Young Adult Committee
- Village at Glenclyff
- Vanderbilt University Medical Center Community Health Program

It Takes Leadership

Guiding Gilda's Club with Purpose

Our Board of Directors, Advisory Board, and Associate Board are made up of passionate community leaders who bring their time, insight, and influence to help move our mission forward. These dedicated volunteers provide strategic direction, open doors through their networks, and ensure we remain both financially strong and deeply rooted in the needs of those we serve. Their leadership helps keep our programs visible, accessible, and responsive, reminding us that it truly takes a community to sustain a place like Gilda's Club.

Board of Directors

Drew Mallory, *Chair*
Allen Huggins, *Immediate Past Chair*
Stuart Hall, *Treasurer*
Ken Bryant, *Secretary*
Elle Box
Miller Chandler
Kelly Clapp
Scott Denbo

Joe Dughman
Rick Froio
Andy Gill
Rae Hirsch
Erica Jacobs
Howard Kirshner
Keri McInnis
Jennifer McGugin

Mary Mirabelli
Robert Nixon
Suzanne Reed
Kathi Whalen
Alicia Wilson
Kathy Winn

Advisory Board

Felice Apolinsky
Joe Barker
Jim Brown
Walter Campbell
Mark Carver
Jim Corum

Fletcher Foster
Ron Galbraith
Cathy Jackson
Harriet Karro
Helen Lane
Brian Marger

Michael Radner
Pat Rogers
Tom Snyder
Sandy Towers
Fleming Wilt
Pam Wylly

Associate Board

GCMTN's Young Professionals Board

Tony Ha, *Co-Chair*
Nicole Malofsky, *Co-Chair*
Will Brown
Parker Davis

Keelin Gerard
Chris Kirk
Kara McKormick
Madison Moquin

Buck Patton
Robyn Singer
Travis Welton

It Takes Investment

With every gift, you create a welcoming place for those facing cancer.

Red Door Society

The Gilda's Club Red Door Society honors donors who make an investment in our mission with contributions of \$1,000 or more to the annual campaign.

- A gift of \$2,500 – \$5,000 provides one year of a weekly support group for people with cancer.
- A gift of \$5,000 – \$9,999 provides for orientation sessions to welcome and onboard new members.
- A gift of \$10,000 provides for expanded programs, workshops, and social programming.

We invite you to make a meaningful gift that is right for you to ensure cancer support for anyone in Middle Tennessee.

Will Power Society

The Will Power Society honors those whose deep commitment to Gilda's Club has inspired them to include Gilda's in their estate planning. Whether you want to put your donation to work today or benefit Gilda's after your lifetime, we can help you find a charitable plan that aligns with your philanthropic priorities.

Leaving a planned gift offers you these benefits:

- Creates a permanent legacy
- Provides tax savings
- Supports your passion in an enduring way

To learn more about planned gifts and bequests, contact Harriet Schiffman at Harriet@GildasClubMiddleTN.org.

Red Door Circle

The Red Door Circle provides Gilda's Club Middle Tennessee with reliable, year-round support, ensuring our doors remain open for those impacted by cancer. Monthly sustainers create financial stability, allowing us to plan effectively, expand critical programs, and respond to community needs without interruption. Automatic contributions are cost-efficient and maximize impact, while fostering a strong sense of connection among donors. Cancer doesn't pause – and with the Red Door Circle, neither does the support we provide.

It Takes Getting Involved

There's a place for everyone to make an impact.



Make a Donation

GildasClubMiddleTN.org/donate

You can make a one-time or recurring donation via cash, check, mobile wallet, credit card, stock, and other options.

Other ways to make a donation include corporate match/employee giving, qualified charitable distributions, stock, and donor advised fund giving.

Sponsor an Event

GildasClubMiddleTN.org/special-events

Corporate sponsors can achieve their philanthropic goals while enjoying recognition, event access, and marketing benefits. We're eager to create a customized partnership that aligns with your company's unique objectives.

Volunteer

GildasClubMiddleTN.org/volunteer

Our stellar volunteers are some of our greatest assets. If you're not sure how to help, we'll find a way for you to give your time that furthers our mission and feels personally meaningful.

Provide a Community Meal

Staff and generous volunteers come together to offer a weekly home-cooked meal at the Clubhouse. Make your own favorites or even order in your go-to local takeout. Full bellies make full hearts at Gilda's Club.





**GILDA'S
CLUB
MIDDLE
TENNESSEE**

An Affiliate of the
CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY

1707 Division Street
Nashville, TN 37203
gildasclubmiddletn.org

Connect With Us

@GildasClubMiddleTN



Our Mission

Gilda's Club Middle Tennessee uplifts and strengthens people impacted by cancer by providing support, fostering compassionate communities, and breaking down barriers to care.

Our Vision

Everyone impacted by cancer receives the support they want and need throughout their experience.