

Where Every Door Leads to *Community*

Annual Report
2025-2026

**GILDA'S
CLUB
MIDDLE
TENNESSEE**



A Letter from Our CEO & Board Chair

Harriet Schifftan and Drew Mallory

Dear Gilda's Club Donors, Supporters, and Community,

We are proud and excited to share this year's annual report with you.

As you will read in these pages, we continue to chart new pathways to meet people who seek cancer support where they are. We are always striving to find novel ways to engage people in our support groups, social connectivity programs such as expressive arts and community meals, healthy lifestyle classes such as cooking, nutrition, movement, and stress management, education programs, and resources.

Our Fall Festival, now in its third year, welcomed a record number of adults and children into our Clubhouse to experience the warm embrace behind our Red Door. We will throw the doors open again for Fall Festival on Saturday, November 14, 2026, and invite you to join us!

We partnered with over a dozen community healthcare partners to launch a free Health and Screening Fair this past spring where our underserved friends and neighbors received cancer screenings, healthcare, resources, food, and Gilda's Club's signature hospitality. Join us to volunteer, sponsor, or provide healthcare services at our second Health and Screening Fair this coming spring.

Nine new support groups have been added this year with more in the pipeline. New times and new locations are meeting our community's unique needs. Read more on page three.

Thank you for your investment, which improves the lives of kids, teens, young adults, and adults facing cancer and their families.

Thank you for your donations, gifts, and grants, which make cancer support at Gilda's Club possible.

Thank you for continuing to make Gilda's Club a philanthropic priority with your dedicated and increased financial support.

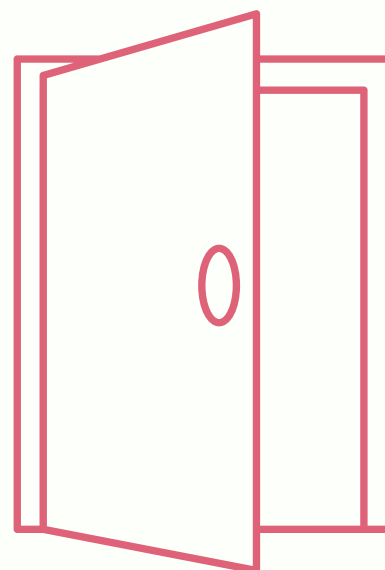
With gratitude,

Harriet Schifftan

President & CEO

Drew Mallory

Board Chair





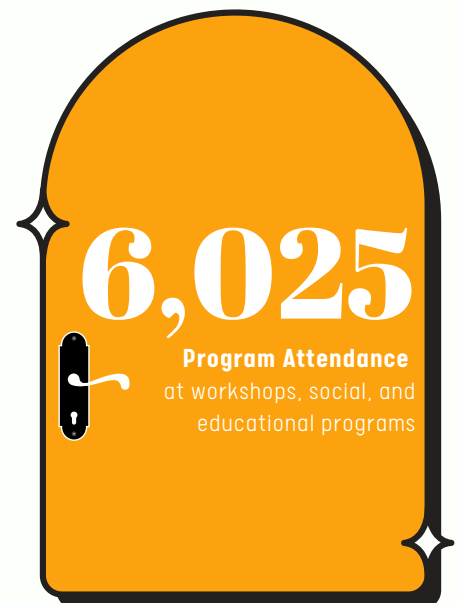
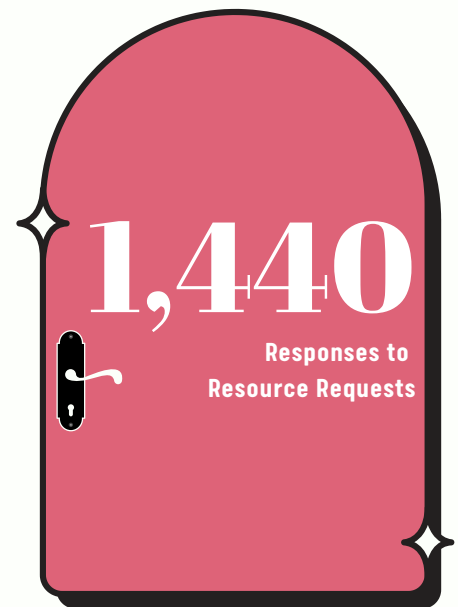
Come On In!

The iconic Red Door at Gilda's Club has always represented welcome, connection, and support. For many, it's a gateway to finding people who understand, accessing resources, and discovering that here, no one faces cancer alone. But this year reminded us that community extends far beyond one doorway.

Every support group, workshop, partnership, volunteer, donor, and conversation opened a new path to connection. From welcoming new faces into our Clubhouse to expanding programs into the community, each opportunity brought us closer to our mission of ensuring no one faces cancer alone.

That is why we chose this year's theme, **Where Every Door Leads to Community**. It reflects the many ways people find Gilda's Club—and the many ways Gilda's Club reaches them. Whether through a program, collaboration, a shared experience, or a helping hand, every door leads to a community built on compassion, belonging, and support.

As you explore this report, you'll see the many doors opened this year and the people who made them possible.



Every Connection Counts

Where Support Meets Belonging

616

Total Programs

38

New Member
Orientation Sessions

329

Total Support
Group Sessions

Congratulations, Elaine Dorris!



1

Retirement
Party

27

Years of
Service!

9

NEW Support
Groups Offered



Every new support group opens another door to community.

This year, we introduced nine new support groups to better meet the evolving needs of people impacted by cancer. By expanding both the types of groups we offer and where they're available, we're helping more individuals and families find meaningful connections, shared understanding, and psychosocial support that meets them where they are.

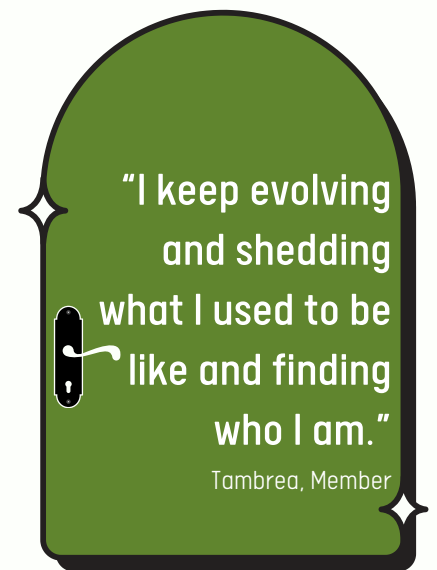
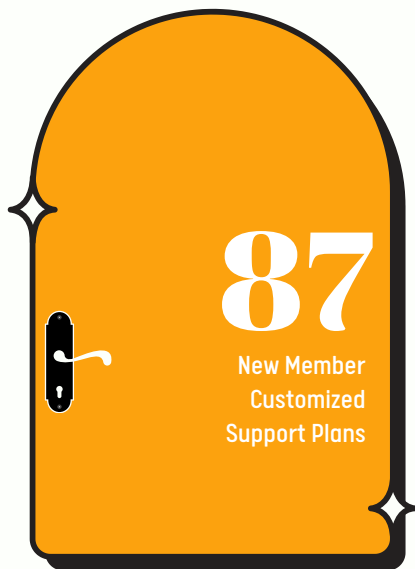
- Lymphedema Support Group 
- Metastatic Group
- Daytime BIPOC
- Daytime Family Connection 
- Evening Breast Cancer
- Men's Group
- St. Clair Street Senior Center Group
- Colorectal Cancer Group
- Parenting with Cancer

*Our Members
Say it Best*



The BIPOC group has helped me a lot with support when I felt all alone with fear, and meeting wonderful people dealing with the same issues as me. The BIPOC group has helped me by not feeling like I'm alone in this journey.





A Place to Create. A Place to Belong.

Connecting Young Adults Navigating Cancer Across North America

16 Workshops | 949 Program Visits | 263 Unique Attendees



Community knows no boundaries. Now in its fourth year, Tough Friends Art Club continues to grow, doubling the number of workshops to meet increasing demand from young adults facing cancer. Through a partnership with Ohyouresotough and Gilda's Club Madison, this virtual program creates a space for connection, creativity, and support for participants across North America—including those without access to a local Gilda's Club. **Since April 2022, the program has hosted 40 workshops, generated more than 1,900 visits, engaged nearly 500 unique participants, and connected young adults from 41 states and Canada. Every workshop opens another door to community.**



In the middle of what can sometimes feel like a chaotic world, this space feels steady, uplifting, and full of light. Creating new kinds of art together, playing games, and simply catching up reminds me that healing isn't just physical—it's connection, laughter, and shared understanding. Every time we meet, I leave feeling more centered, less worried, and genuinely joyful. It's a gift to have a community where we can create, support one another, and just be ourselves.

Tough Friends Art Club Participant



Opening Doors Through Partnership



We know people with cancer have unique and varying needs. That's why we believe in the power of partnership.

By working alongside healthcare providers, nonprofits, arts organizations, and community leaders, we're able to connect our members with trusted expertise, meaningful experiences, and additional resources that complement the support they receive at Gilda's Club. Whether it's creative programming with the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, family experiences with HopeKids, or educational opportunities with healthcare partners, each collaboration ensures our members have access to the information, care, and community they deserve.

Together, we're opening more doors and creating more pathways to support than any one organization could alone.

Special Thanks To

Breast cancer Recovery in Action (BRA)
Country Music Hall of Fame® and Museum
HopeKids
Kesem
Small World Yoga
The Curb Center at Vanderbilt
The Porch
The Vanderbilt Ballet Theatre
Unscripted



“Partnering with Gilda's Club has allowed the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum to further expand our reach and engagement in Nashville and Middle Tennessee. Gilda's Club has always welcomed us with open arms, and the programming we've been able to partner on has been continually fulfilling to our artists, educators, staff, and our community as a whole.”

Nicki Mortland, Community Outreach Manager
Country Music Hall of Fame® and Museum

Volunteers

Opening Doors for Others

At Gilda's Club, volunteers do more than give their time—they help create the community that makes everything possible. From leading classes and preparing meals to answering phones and supporting events, volunteers help ensure every person who walks through our doors finds connection, care, and support.

Their generosity strengthens every part of our work and expands access to more people across Middle Tennessee. Through countless acts of kindness, both big and small, volunteers help create a place where every door truly leads to community. We are deeply grateful for every individual who chooses to show up in service of others.



1,829
Volunteer Hours

40
New Volunteer Applications

Volunteer Spotlight: Matt Madden

A finalist for the 2026 Mary Catherine Strobel Volunteer Awards, Matt Madden has spent nearly two decades caring for our Clubhouse as a dedicated volunteer handy person, helping create a welcoming space where every door leads to community.



Beyond Our Doors

Meeting People Where They Are

Support doesn't begin and end at our Clubhouse. Every day, Gilda's Club brings its expertise into hospitals, community centers, and neighborhoods across Middle Tennessee, meeting people where they are and creating new pathways to connection. By building trusted partnerships and bringing support into familiar spaces, we're helping reduce barriers and ensuring more people can access the care, resources, and community they deserve.

SCRI Oncology Partners

Through a partnership with **SCRI Oncology Partners**, Gilda's Club facilitates monthly hybrid support groups for patients and caregivers at their clinic. By bringing support directly to where patients receive treatment, we're helping build connections early in the cancer journey while introducing participants to the broader community and resources available through Gilda's Club.



St. Clair Street Senior Center

To help expand access to support, Gilda's Club partnered with the **St. Clair Street Senior Center** to offer Rutherford County's only in-person cancer support group. By bringing our services into the community, we're helping ensure more people can connect with others who understand, without having to travel to Nashville.



For several years, we here at St. Clair Senior Center have had the desire to offer a support group to our seniors who have experienced the life changes of cancer or are still going through them. I was so happy to have Gilda's Club offer their services to our folks and we appreciate the community work you all do, for us and others!

Laura Grissom, LPN, Health and Wellness Education Coordinator
St. Clair Street Senior Center





Every Door Leads to Care Inaugural Annual Health & Screening Fair

Creating New Pathways to Health and Community

The inaugural Better Together Health & Screening Fair brought healthcare providers, community organizations, and families together around a shared goal: increasing access to essential health resources. What began with a goal of serving 75 individuals ultimately welcomed more than 150 attendees, connecting them with free screenings, preventive services, education, and support in a trusted and welcoming environment.

More than a health fair, Better Together demonstrated what is possible when organizations work together to meet community needs. By removing barriers and bringing resources directly to underserved neighbors, the event opened new pathways to health, strengthened community connections, and helped ensure more people could access the support they deserve.

150 Participants



“Where Every Door Leads to Community” means that anyone who comes looking for help, support, or resources can find a welcoming place where they feel comfortable, heard, and valued. It’s about creating connections and making sure people have access to what they need to support both their physical and mental well-being. To me, it reflects the idea that no one should face challenges alone. There is always a community ready to help and support them.

Partnering with Gilda’s Club has been a great example of how organizations can come together to support our community by combining resources, expertise, and a shared commitment to helping others. The Health & Screening Fair not only provided an opportunity to increase access to cancer screenings but also to listen, learn, and better understand the challenges and barriers many individuals face when seeking care. Collaborations like this remind us of why our work matters and inspire us to continue finding ways to serve our community more effectively.

Erika G. Digby, LLM | Screening Navigator- Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Ascension Saint Thomas Midtown

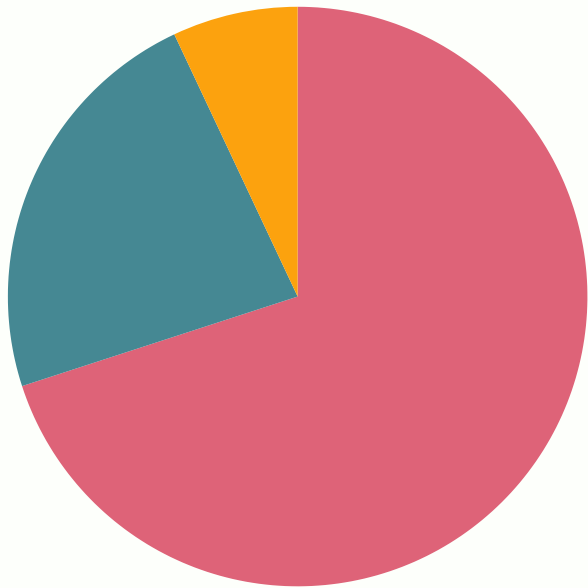
Gilda’s Club brings expressive arts programming directly to patients receiving extended inpatient treatment in the **Blood Cancer Unit at Ascension Saint Thomas Midtown**. These creative experiences offer moments of connection, self-expression, and respite while introducing patients to the supportive community that awaits them after they leave the hospital.



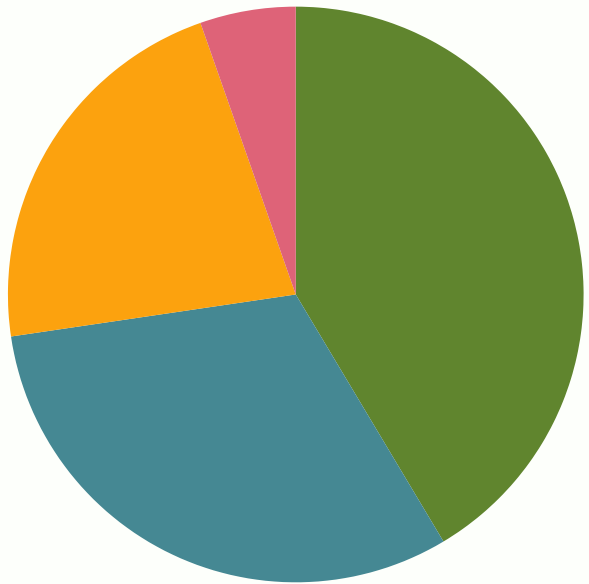
Investing in Connection

Financial Strength Allows Community to Grow and Reach More People.

FY 2025-2026 Financials



- 70% Program Delivery
- 23% Fundraising & Development
- 7% Management & General



- 41% Fundraising Events
- 31% Foundations & Grants
- 22% Individual Giving
- 4% Endowment Distribution

Expenses

Program Delivery:	\$1,035,446
Fundraising & Development:	\$340,218
Management & General:	\$103,545
	\$1,479,209

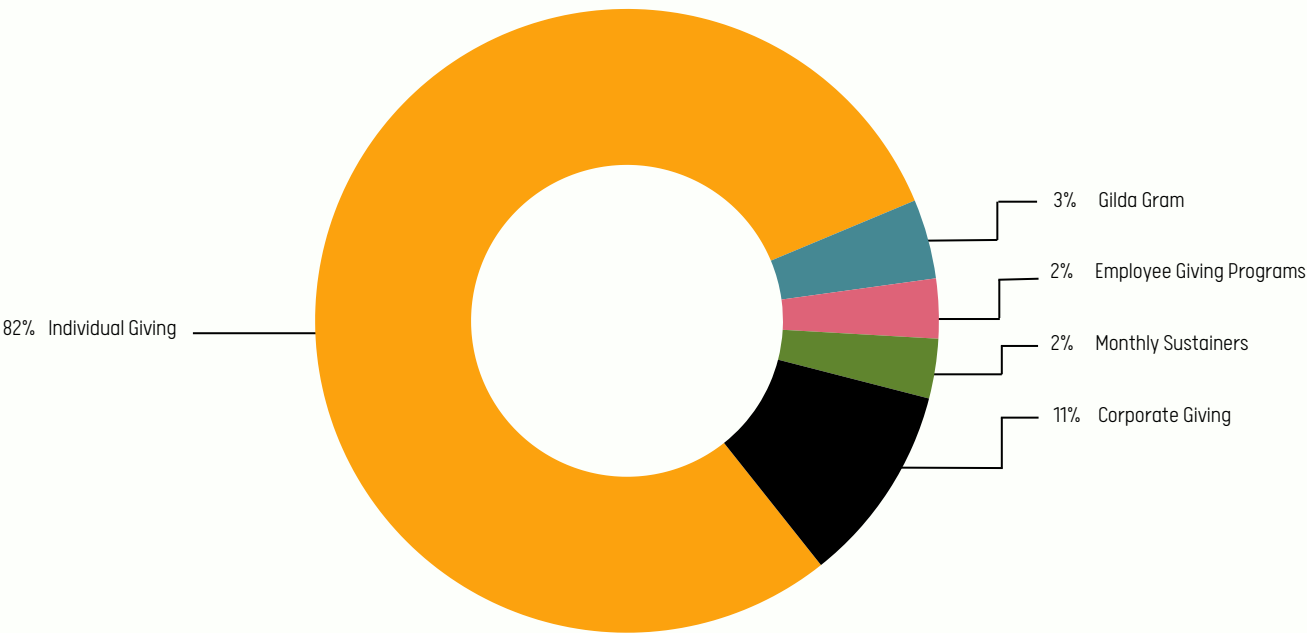
Revenue

Fundraising Events:	\$616,767
Foundations & Grants:	\$465,252
Individual Giving:	\$326,997
Endowment Distribution:	\$80,000
Other/Interest:	\$2,998
	\$1,492,015

**The 2025-2026 Income and Expense summary is not audited. Our audited financial statements will be available on GivingMatters.com and GildasClubMiddleTN.org.*

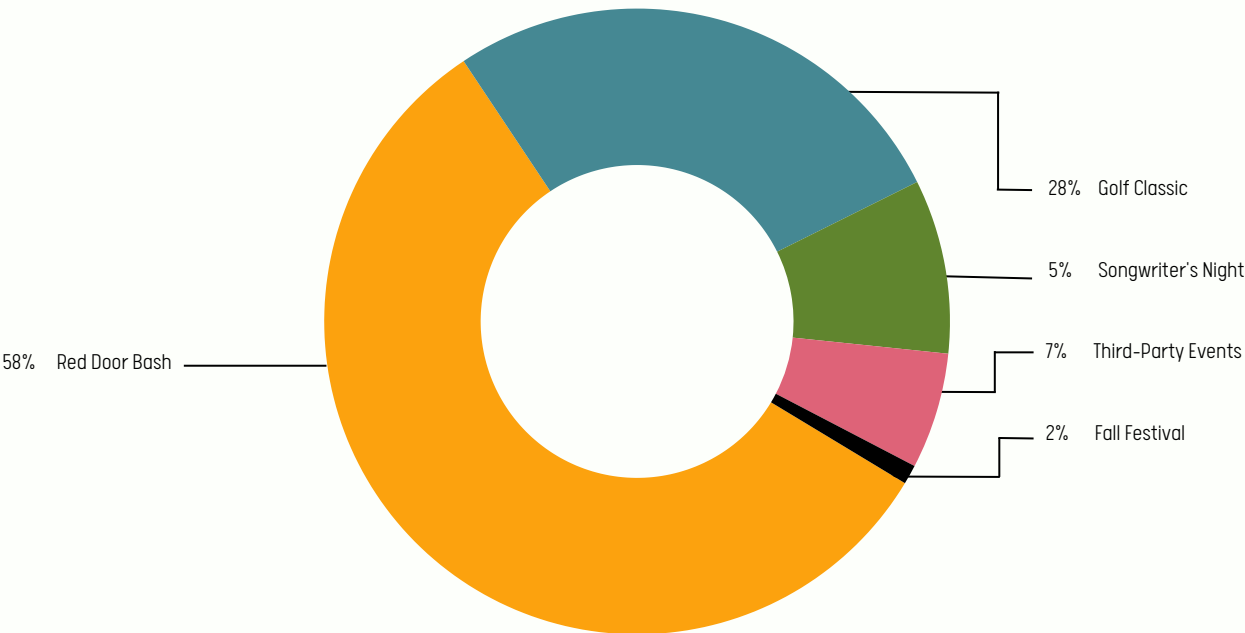
Individual Giving

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.



In the Community

Beyond Our Doors

At Gilda's Club, community extends far beyond our Red Doors. Each year, our team proudly shows up across Middle Tennessee, sharing expertise in psychosocial support, building awareness, and connecting with individuals and families impacted by cancer.

Every conversation, partnership, and event helps create new pathways to support and reminds people that wherever they are in their journey, community is within reach.



- Alive Hospice Grief Center
- Ascension Midtown Blood Cancer Unit
- Ascension Network Cancer Committee
- Belmont College of Social Work Community Advisory Board
- Belmont College of Social Work-Undergraduate Groups class
- Belmont Occupational Therapy Program
- Breast cancer Recovery in Action (BRA)
- Caterpillar Financial United Way Leaders
- Centennial Behavioral Health
- Center for Nonprofit Excellence Board
- Center for Nonprofit Excellence Program and Membership Committee
- Coalition of Black Social Workers Mentoring Program
- Conexión Américas /Casa Azafrán
- Curb Center at Vanderbilt
- Grief Work Network
- HopeKids
- Kesem
- Larkspur Conservation
- Matthew Walker Comprehensive Health Center
- Nashville Sister's Network
- Nikki Mitchell Foundation
- Rosebank Elementary School
- Sarah Cannon Cancer Network
- Sarah Cannon Research Institute Oncology Partners
- St. Clair Street Senior Center - Murfreesboro
- Templeton Academy
- Tennessee Cancer Coalition
- Tennessee Oncology Advanced Practice Provider Team
- Tennessee Oncology NEST Program
- TriStar Integrated Network Cancer Program Commission on Cancer Committee
- University of Michigan College of Social Work
- University of Tennessee - Master of Public Health program
- 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 Center Young Adult Cancer Committee
- Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Community Advisory Board
- VUMC Community Health Program

Leading the Way

Growing Our Impact Through Leadership and Purpose

Our Board of Directors, Advisory Board, and Associate Board are made up of passionate leaders who give their time, insight, and influence to strengthen Gilda's Club and expand its impact.

Through strategic guidance, advocacy, and meaningful connections, they help open doors to new opportunities while ensuring we remain responsive to the evolving needs of those we serve. Their leadership reflects what we know to be true: community is built together.

Board of Directors

Drew Mallory, *Chair*
Stuart Hall, *Treasurer*
Ken Bryant, *Secretary*
Elle Box
Miller Chandler
Kelly Clapp
Scott Denbo
Mark DeVany

Joey Dickson
Joe Dughman
Rick Froio
Andy Gill
Michele Hasselblad
Rae Hirsch
Erica Jacobs
Howard Kirshner

Keri McInnis
Mary Mirabelli
Robert Nixon
Suzanne Reed
Jennifer Richardson
George S. Scoville III
Kathi Whalen
Alicia Wilson

Advisory Board

Joe Barker
Jim Brown
Walter Campbell
Mark Carver
Jim Corum
Fletcher Foster

Ron Galbraith
Allen Huggins
Cathy Jackson
Harriet Karro
Helen Lane
Brian Marger

Michael Radner
Pat Rogers
Tom Snyder
Fleming Wilt
Pam Wyllly

Associate Board

GCMTN's Young Professionals Board

Nicole Malofsky, *Chair*
Will Brown
Carina Dagotto

Parker Davis
Kyle Johnson
Chris Kirk

Buck Patton
Robyn Singer
Travis Welton
Mike Zargari



There's a Place for Everyone

Every act of generosity helps build community.

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.

Share Your Talent

Email Kristen Maloney: kristen@gildasclubmiddletn.org

Whether you're leading a support group, teaching a class, or facilitating a workshop, your unique skills can help create meaningful moments of connection, healing, and belonging for people impacted by cancer.

Volunteer

GildasClubMiddleTN.org/volunteer

Email holley@gildasclubmiddletn.org

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.

Sponsor an Event

GildasClubMiddleTN.org/special-events

Email meghanlamb@gildasclubmiddletn.org

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





An Affiliate of the
CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY

1707 Division Street

Nashville, TN 37203

gildasclubmiddletn.org

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.

Connect With Us

@GildasClubMiddleTN

