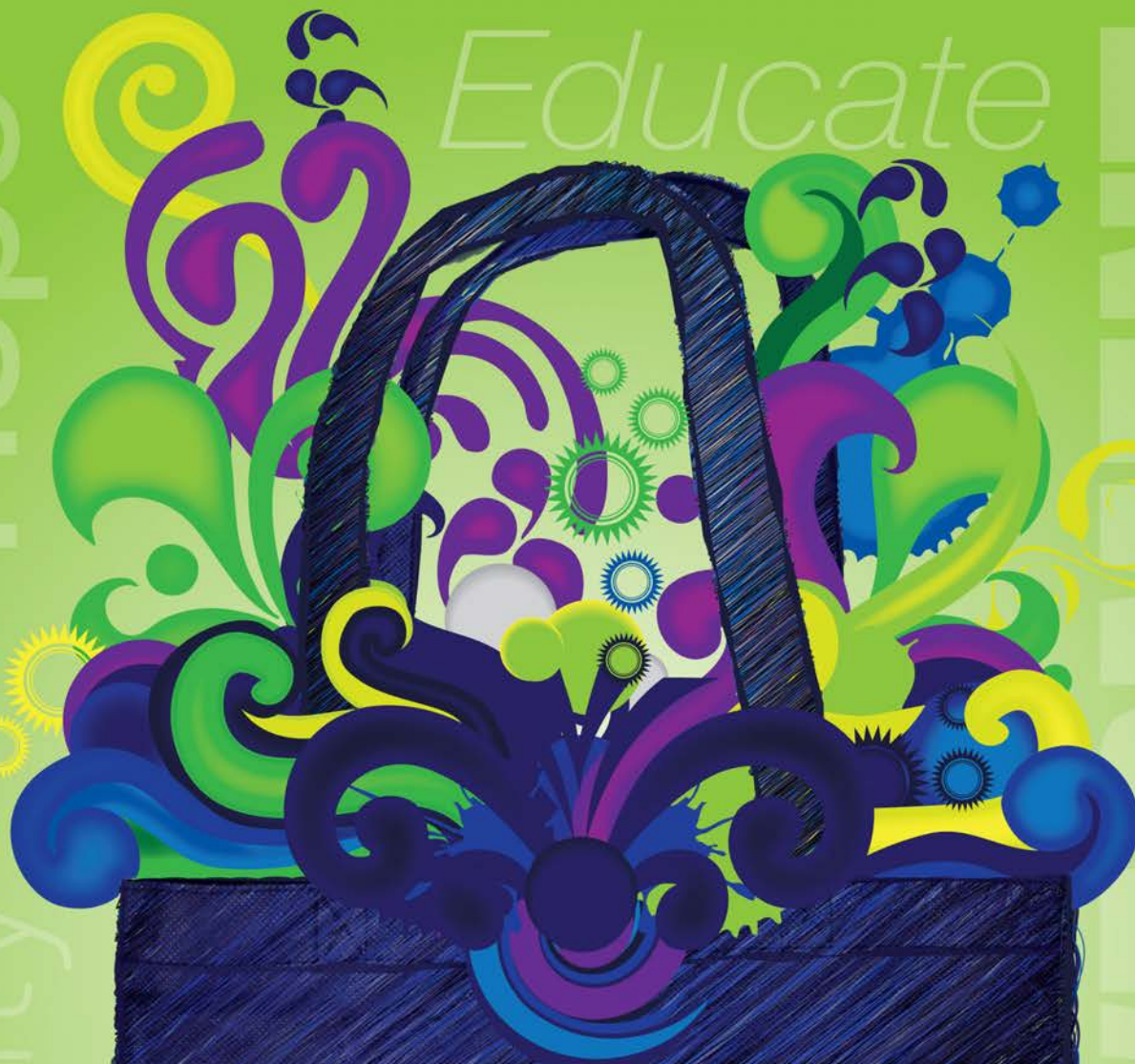


Educate

Hope

Community

EMPOWERMENT



2014 - 2015 Annual Report

**BAG
IT!**

©BAG IT 2003

Fight The Fear

www.bagit4u.org



HELLO,

The means by which we get information and try to meet challenges and solve problems in our lives has changed substantially over the years. The rate of change in how we deal with our personal and family health problems, especially as they relate to cancer, has become dramatically different over the last 30 years. One reason for this is that we have had very limited information on the impact and importance of the diagnosis of cancer 30 years ago, other than its impact on mortality. The information regarding the impact of cancer on family, economic, quality of life and social matters has greatly expanded in the last three decades. The mechanisms by which we can acquire the necessary information to deal with this health problem of worldwide importance have steadily improved.

BAG IT is a simple and eloquent means of getting good information to people who are newly diagnosed with cancer. I believe BAG IT delivers not only an introduction to fundamental survivorship skills, but is also a means for those affected by cancer to be introduced to multiple resources and methods to obtain more information and to start honing their survivorship skills even as they are newly or recently diagnosed with cancer.

BAG IT faces the same opportunities and challenges that every organization whose primary mission is delivery of information, is confronted with today. We are serving the needs of a diverse population that needs and obtains information and support by a variety of systems.

I look forward to serving BAG IT in this changing environment where we can deliver information in more formats (print, electronic, web-based) to help more people. I love working with BAG IT because it so nicely helps many of my patients and because I understand the deep commitment of those who work and volunteer for BAG IT.



Donald Brooks, MD

Arizona Oncology

Founding Board Member of BAG IT

MESSAGE FROM BAG IT



Encouraging and Sustaining Cancer Advocacy Programs and Efforts

Launched in 2011, BAG IT has firmly established ESCAPE (Encouraging and Sustaining Cancer Advocacy Programs and Efforts) as a successful national leadership conference for community cancer advocates. The conference is carefully crafted to educate advocates on how to grow and sustain a healthy organization while simultaneously exploring strategies to improve personal well-being and avoid compassion fatigue and burnout. Advocates from about 80 cancer organizations serving a wide range of cancers, geographic regions, and demographic groups have participated to date. Hundreds of advocates have applied for and been vetted by the selection committee for the limited number of spaces available each year.

In August, 2014, we brought together 21 advocates from across the country for ESCAPE IV. Six months later participants confirmed that they had indeed adopted the skills, tools, and approaches learned, and that new alliances and partnerships formed by networking were still thriving. Many also reported that they were enjoying their renewed commitment to their advocacy efforts as a result of attending ESCAPE.

The ESCAPE conference was generously underwritten by our Founding Presenting Sponsor, Eisai, as well as Genentech, Millennium, The Takeda Oncology Company, and Ventana Medical Systems. Miraval Arizona supported the conference through its sponsorship of the conference accommodations and meals.

Participant Perspective

The sessions were insightful, educational and inspirational. The speakers had lots of information to share with the attendees, and did so without exhausting us. I feel that I have more tools and skills as well as contacts and support from this four-day retreat/conference.

-Geri Ruane



ESCAPE



MISSION STATEMENT

BAG IT reaches out to cancer patients, of any gender, age, or cancer type, at a critical time – right after their diagnosis. The information is designed to help them cope with their diagnosis, move more competently through the treatment process, empower them to become an active member of the treatment team, and transition to follow up care.

OUR VISION

BAG IT will empower patients to be more involved in their care, advocate for themselves, and learn to cope with the challenges associated with diagnosis and treatment. Further, BAG IT empowers cancer advocates to promote this same vision in their communities.

WHERE CAN I FIND BAG IT?

BAG IT has become a widely-used education tool for newly diagnosed cancer patients and their families. It is distributed AT NO CHARGE throughout the state of Arizona by more than 100 oncology clinics, hospitals, surgeons, well women clinics, support groups, resource centers, outreach programs, as well as many rural locations and tribal health centers. Outside Arizona the BAG IT resource can be ordered online at bagit4u.org. A donation is requested to cover costs and shipping.

WHAT'S IN THE BAG?

BAG IT assists anyone with any type of cancer. It addresses quality of life issues through:

National Cancer Institute Publications

- Eating Hints
- When Someone You Love is Being Treated for Cancer
- Taking Time
- Chemotherapy and You
- Life After Cancer Treatment
- Taking Part in Cancer Treatment Research Studies
- Thinking About Complementary and Alternative Medicine

National Coalition For Cancer Survivorship Publication

- Teamwork - The Cancer Patient's Guide to Talking With Your Doctor

Personal Medical Binder

- An organizational tool with helpful tips to keep track of information, test results and medical history

BAG IT is also available in Spanish.

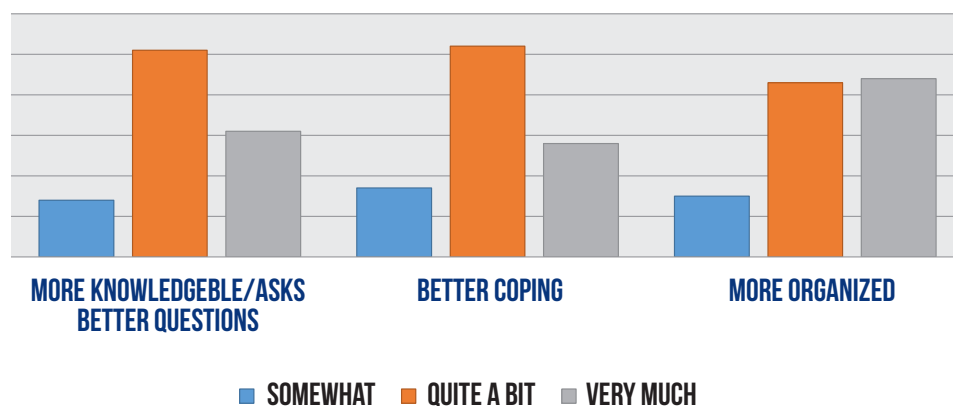
MISSION • FIND A BAG • WHAT'S IN THE BAG?



PATIENT FEEDBACK SURVEYS CONFIRM THE FOLLOWING ABOUT THE BAG IT RESOURCE:

- 100%** found the information to be helpful.
- 100%** found the medical binder to be helpful.
- 98%** reported the BAG IT resource helped them cope.
- 98%** felt the BAG IT resource help them worry LESS.
- 97%** reported BAG IT facilitated better communication with their medical team.
- 95%** reported feeling better able to deal with their cancer because of BAG IT.
- 95%** reported that family/friends/caregivers used the BAG IT resource too.

AFTER USING THE BAG IT RESOURCE, MEDICAL PROVIDERS REPORTED THEIR PATIENTS BENEFITED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER:



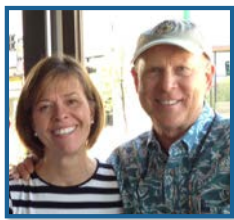
MEASURING THE IMPACT



When I was diagnosed with breast cancer, I knew nothing about it. I showed up at my doctor's and received a BAG IT bag. It was the beginning of my journey, and I was so grateful to have some resources to review. As time progressed, I found that there were resources in my BAG IT bag that anticipated the needs I had. Information for my caregivers, information on nutrition and treatments, and how to manage side effects, information at my fingertips which I could share with those around me - things I frankly did not know I would need at the time I received the bag! I still refer to my binder and have needed it, even years post treatment, to answer health related questions. My memory was badly affected by some of my treatments, and carrying my binder helped me to be able to actively participate in my health care despite the memory issues. I am ever grateful for this resource and see it as a primary tool in my experience of treatment and survivorship.

Mary Specio Boyer

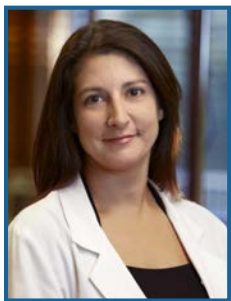
Survivor



We have been supportive of the BAG IT grassroots organization from the beginning. In the past few years we have seen how much the BAG IT bags have benefitted newly diagnosed cancer patients. We believe in Sherri and the BAG IT concept. Helping them financially as well as volunteering helps BAG IT continue to make a positive difference in people's lives.

Susie & Stan Hilkemeyer

Volunteers, donors and former board member



As an oncologist, I see many of my patients become overwhelmed by the amount of information that is provided to them by their cancer care team. Many of them are still dealing with the shock of having been given a diagnosis of cancer when I have that initial visit with them and their families.

I was first introduced to BAG IT when I was a first year oncology fellow at the University of Arizona. I was visiting a patient in the chemotherapy room when I saw a nurse hand a blue bag to a new chemotherapy patient. I was curious and asked if I could see what was in the bag. I was amazed to see the breadth of information regarding chemotherapy, nutrition, and coping strategies for cancer patients and families that had been compiled. I thought to myself what a very simple but useful tool for my patients to feel organized. Since that day, I have been handing out BAG IT bags to all my oncology patients, and not a day goes by that I don't hear what a blessing it was to have the information provided by BAG IT.

It wasn't until I left the University of Arizona and joined Arizona Oncology that I discovered the humble origins of BAG IT. It was then that I knew it was time to give back to an organization that had helped me provide a wealth of information and organization to my cancer patients.

Rachel Swart, MD

Arizona Oncology

WHY TO GIVE



I have been a proud BAG IT volunteer from the beginning, assisting at the hike event, health fairs, and community outreach. I am passionate about the impact of BAG IT's work. Cancer has a personal impact on almost every family. My mother used one of the very first BAG IT bags. This organization makes a powerful impact on the lives of newly diagnosed cancer patients by empowering them with knowledge, information, and practical tools to support a positive and successful treatment process. For me, it has been rewarding to hear the personal testimonials about how BAG IT has made a meaningful difference in patients' lives when they really needed it most.

Sandra Valenzuela
BAG IT Volunteer



I would like to both personally and professionally thank you for your exceptional program that provides invaluable resources to cancer patients when they need it most. Here at Tucson Medical Center we are privileged to supply BAG IT to each newly diagnosed cancer patient. Time and time again, patients report feeling empowered, informed and prepared for the journey that lies ahead after receiving the bag. I would like to applaud your caring commitment and continuing support in helping change the way we look at cancer. Without the ongoing efforts of the BAG IT program, patients and their families facing a cancer diagnosis would find themselves lost and unable to organize all the necessary information to make informed treatment decisions.

Sara S. Reagan, MSN, RN, CNL
Oncology Nurse Navigator, Tucson Medical Center



I am a social worker at the UA Cancer Center and all patients receive a BAG IT bag from our chemo nurses each time they are given a chemo education class. Patients share that the word "cancer" clears their mind of rational thought and often it takes weeks to clear the fog and pay attention to what is going on with their lives and take stock. That is the time they go back to the binder, start reading the information, and review what they were told in the beginning. Patients have shared that the BAG IT was a Godsend to have in those weeks following their first chemo. Thank you for providing this valuable community service to our patients. We could not do our jobs as well without your support and wonderful tool called BAG IT.

Lynn Barwick, LCSW
University of Arizona Cancer Center

WHY TO GIVE

I HELPED FIGHT THE FEAR!

bagit4u.org



Online donation

Go to our website and make a one-time or monthly donation at bagit4u.org
(Every \$30 helps to provide a bag to a newly diagnosed cancer patient.)



Workplace giving and matching gifts

Your employer may have a program in place or you could start one.
Double the impact!



Leave a legacy gift

Have a chat with your accountant, tax adviser or attorney and see how easy
it is to remember BAG IT in your estate plans.



Write a check



Plan your own event to benefit BAG IT

Golf, bowling, tennis, mah jongg tournaments – we welcome your ideas.



Gifts of volunteer or professional services

Share your valuable time and talents.



In-kind gifts

Donate goods, services and expertise. Let's talk!

Have another idea you want to discuss? Please call us: 520-575-9602

WAYS TO GIVE



Countless partners have helped us to deliver the BAG IT resource to almost 58,000 newly diagnosed cancer patients and their families since 2003 and we are grateful to each of them:

- Physicians, nurses, navigators, social workers, promatores and others who sit with each newly diagnosed cancer patient and family to introduce the BAG IT resource and guide them through the contents of the bag.
- Countless volunteers around the country knitting chemo caps, manning our fundraising events, serving as BAG IT ambassadors and lending their personal area of expertise to the organization. Their dedication and heart extends the reach of our small staff.
- Three stellar organizations that serve BAG IT every step of the way by offering reduced pricing or an in-kind donation for their services, never sacrificing the excellence which has earned each company their fine reputation in the community:



The high quality printed publications found in the BAG IT bag reflect the values and eminence of this business communications leader.



This non-profit employs people with disabilities who capably assemble, warehouse and ship thousands of BAG IT resources.



A family-owned business that literally goes the extra mile to quickly deliver the BAG IT resources to medical providers in Southern Arizona to ensure cancer patients receive the support when they need it.

PARTNERSHIPS



BAG IT EVENTS:

11th Annual Take A Hike for BAG IT

November 9, 2014

Loews Ventana Canyon Resort

4th Annual Be There for BAG IT Chili Challenge

April 12, 2015

Arizona Biltmore, Phoenix

THESE ORGANIZATIONS IN THE GREATER TUCSON COMMUNITY DESIGNATED BAG IT AS A BENEFICIARY OF THEIR FUNDRAISING EVENTS:

Epic Rides 24 Hours In the Old Pueblo, Catalina

February 13 – 15, 2015

eegee's Coupon Card program

June 2015

eegee's

BAG IT was honored to be chosen as a beneficiary of eegee's 2015 Coupon Card program. Eegee's lovers donated at a local eegee's restaurant and received a Coupon Card courtesy of eegee's to enjoy discounts all year long. In addition, more than 700 donations were made directly on the BAG IT website. Many folks opted to donate their Coupon Card as a gift to a cancer patient, and we randomly delivered more than 200 BAG IT bags with the donated cards in Southern Arizona.

"BAG IT fills a much needed role in our community with their cancer information. It is invaluable to newly diagnosed cancer patients throughout our community. All the customers of eegee's are the heroes to donate to a wonderful organization such as BAG IT. eegee's shows our appreciation with the Coupon Card program. This is a shining example of a great nonprofit being supported by the people they serve. Thank you BAG IT and thank you eegee's customers!"

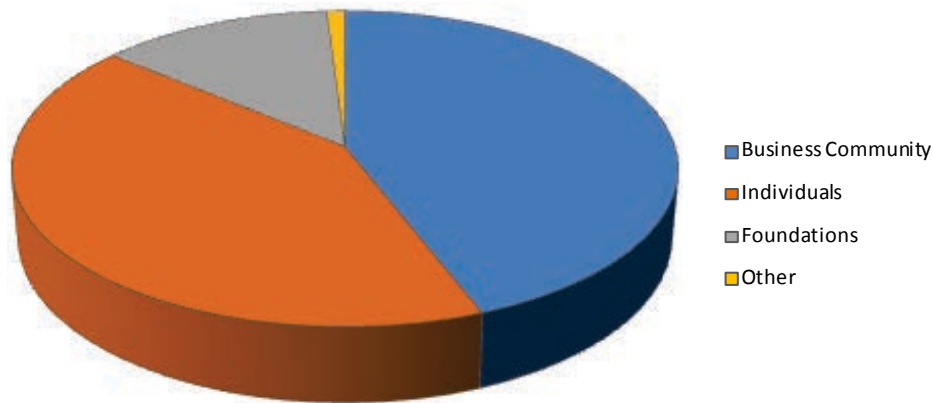


Robert Jensen

President, eegee's

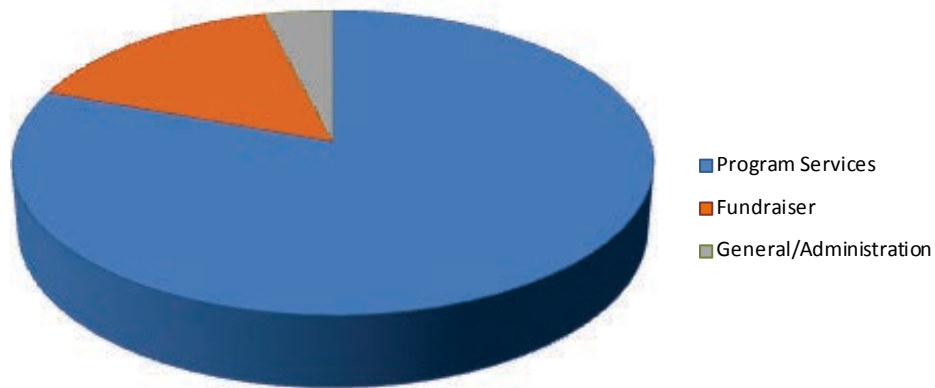
COMMUNITIES RAISING FUNDS

REVENUES



Business Community	\$152,090	44%
Individuals	\$144,617	42%
Foundations	\$44,500	13%
Other	\$3,526	1%
Total Revenue:	\$344,733	

EXPENSES



Program Services	\$213,856	81%
Fundraiser	\$40,881	15%
General/Administration	\$10,493	4%
Total Expenses:	\$265,230	

FYE 6/30/15

FINANCIALS

- DONATIONS OF \$20,000 AND MORE -



- DONATIONS OF \$10,000 AND MORE -



- DONATIONS OF \$5,000 AND MORE -

Country Fair White Elephant
Dorothy Harmsen & Bill Harmsen Sr.
Charitable Foundation
in memory of Ginger Guendelsberger

Dr. Grace Hou
Precision Toyota
Takeda Pharmaceuticals

Tucson Medical Center
University of Arizona Cancer Center
Ventana Medical Systems

- DONATIONS OF \$2,500 AND MORE -

Arizona Center for Cancer Care
Aslan Foundation
Dr. Don and Anne Brooks

Comprehensive Breast Center of Arizona
Thomas & Jeanne Elmezzi Foundation

Heinfeld, Meech & Company
Orangetheory Fitness
Schmidt & Barton Family Fund

- DONATIONS OF \$1,000 AND MORE -

Nancy & Corey Arvizu
Cochise Surgical Care PLLC
Colon & Rectal Center of AZ
Desert Diamond Casinos &
Entertainment

Glaz-Tech Industries
Glendale Firefighters
Ned & Sandy Herbert
Rick & Verla Herbert
Susan Kettlewell

Amy Knorr
One Woman Day Spa
Scottsdale Medical Imaging
Smart Squirrel
Tucson Glass & Mirror

- DONATIONS OF \$500 AND MORE -

BeachFleischman, PC
Biodesix
Caid, Inc.
Anne Camerato
Caris
Casino del Sol
Dr. & Mrs. Merlin Cohen
DPR Realty
Genesis OBGYN

Kim and Bob Guendelsberger
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Mr. William Konkle
Dr. Joseph Larsen
D.M. Lovitt Insurance
Kathleen Maison

Northwest Medical Center
Dale and Sharon Milton
Radiology Ltd., P.L.C.
Sherri & Joe Romanoski
Paul & Joan Romanoski
Sonora Quest Laboratories
Wealth Management Systems
Breast Center of Southern Arizona

Thank you to all our donors who enable us to provide BAG IT to individuals with cancer and their families around the state. Due to limited space, we are unable to list all who have generously made donations.

BAG IT

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ADDRESS: 7090 N. ORACLE RD., 178-184, TUCSON, AZ 85704

EMAIL: INFO@BAGIT4U.ORG

DONORS