

Caring for the Caregivers: Supporting the families and friends of patients



Chief Executive Officer Caregiver Action Network



Rose Gerber, M.S. Director of Patient Advocacy & Education Community Oncology Alliance





Today's Chat Agenda

- Updates: Community Oncology Alliance (COA) and COA's Patient Advocacy Network (CPAN)
- Learn about the Caregiver Action Network
- Understanding the role of caregivers
- Resources for caregivers

Learn more:

COA's Patient Advocacy Network: www.coaAdvocacy.org
Community Oncology Alliance: www.communityoncology.org
Caregiver Action Network: www.caregiveraction.org



Caring for the Caregivers:

Supporting the Families and Friends of Patients

Community Oncology Alliance Advocacy Chat December 8, 2021



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Caregiver Action Network

- CAN helps the over 90 million family caregivers in the U.S.
- These family caregivers are caring for:
 - An older loved one dealing with the impacts of aging.
 - A spouse with a chronic condition or disability.
 - A child with significant health care challenges.
 - A family member or loved one diagnosed with a mental illness.
- We help family caregivers prioritize their own mental health and establish self-care.
- We help family caregivers feel resourceful, supported, and heard.





Who Comes to CAN?







✓ I just realized I'm a family caregiver.



✓ I have been a family caregiver for years.



✓ I live far away and I'm on the caregiving team.



✓ I have a job and I'm the caregiver for my loved one.

Family caregivers and their loved ones are the only people **present** across all care settings.



Family Caregivers have the **desire** to make sure their loved one is as **healthy** and has as **high a quality of life** as possible.

Family Caregivers have an **intimate knowledge** of the patient.

Family Caregivers see the patient in their **own homes** and for **longer periods** of time than anyone in the provider community.



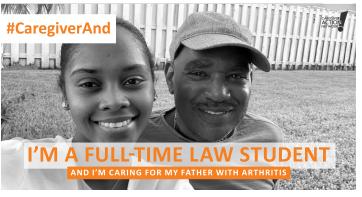
#CaregiverAnd



Family caregivers from all over, and representing diverse backgrounds and diverse caregiving situations, submitted photos and a bit about themselves to highlight unique identities, passions, and interests that make them who they are outside of their caregiving role.







Help for Cancer Caregivers

CAN's Help for Cancer Caregivers site provides those caring for loved ones with cancer with a number of tools and resources to help tackle the unique challenges they face.

HelpForCancerCaregivers.org/

Resources in the following categories:

- Bereavement
- Caring from Afar
- Coping Emotionally
- Keeping Healthy
- Practical Matters
- Working Together







A collaboration of Anthem, Inc., CancerCare, Caregiver Action Network, Indiana University and Michigan State University.

Caregiving is stressful.

ABOUT

This website can help you pinpoint your current sources of strain and create a Personal Care Guide to help improve your well-being.

Make a Personal Caregiver Guide

Answer 6 short questions based on how things have gone for you in the past seven days. A private Personal Care Guide will be instantly prepared for you.

How concerned are you about ...

... keeping yourself healthy in mind, body, and spirit?



Caregiver Video Resource Center

Caregiver Video Resource Center

Find comfort in knowing that you are not alone by listening to the experiences of your fellow caregivers.

Video Topics



Schizophrenia

Caregivers, mental health professionals, and leading advocates discuss the importance of early diagnosis and intervention.

WATCH VIDEO



Parkinson's Disease

Caregivers describe their journey through Parkinson's Disease.

WATCH VIDEOS



Alzheimer's Disease

Caregivers talk about their discoveries, share care hints and help you feel less alone.

WATCH VIDEOS



COPD

Listen as a caregiver describes taking on new responsibilities as her husband ages with COPD.

WATCH VIDEOS



Huntington's Disease

Family members share their experiences dealing with Huntington's Disease.

WATCH VIDEOS



Hands-On Care

Learn how to best care for your loved one at home.

WATCH VIDEOS





Caregiver Help Desk

<u>Caregiver Help Desk</u> offers free support to family caregivers across the country. It is staffed by caregiving experts who can help you find the information you need to navigate your caregiving challenges and support you on your caregiving journey. With Caregiver Help Desk you can:

- Have confidential conversations with caregiving experts about your caregiving questions
- Reach out by phone, email, and live chat
- Experts available Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM ET.









John Schall

www.CaregiverAction.org

CaregiverAction.org/resources/blueprint
Caregiveraction.org/resources/schizophrenia

Stay Connected:

Twitter: @CaregiverAction

Facebook.com/CaregiverActionNetwork



Thank You to John Schall & Our Listeners!

Don't miss our first advocacy chat of 2022 12pm | January 12th



Crystal Ball for Oncology in 2022: What can we expect?

Ted Okon, Executive Director, Community Oncology Alliance