



**SOUTH SOUND  
CARE FOUNDATION**  
*Shining a Light on Cancer Research*

**2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

## FROM OUR FOUNDER

*When we launched the South Sound CARE Foundation in 2008, our desire was to bring novel treatments and better access to research options for our cancer patients in the South Sound. In 2023, we made great strides toward our mission through incredible new clinical treatment options and collaborations. We have patients who are living longer, and they are living better lives.*



Dr. Frank Senecal

*Last year, I talked about Adeline, a young woman suffering from an aggressive brain cancer. This bright young woman had experienced a rapid reoccurrence to her resected tumor. She was struggling with walking and speaking, and was severely fatigued. The South Sound CARE Foundation was able to access the NEO 100 treatment for her, and after 12 cycles and almost one year of treatment, she is truly living life again. Adeline recently traveled to Florida with her husband and two young children, and has even resumed her yoga practice. The size of her tumor has shrunk from the size of a lemon to the size of an acorn.*

*2023 also marked important collaborations with MultiCare—we have now opened two trials from the National Cancer Institute through the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG). These focus on breast cancer and lung cancer. We are also excited to work with Dr. Lu at the Salish Cancer Center to bring access to research to the Puyallup Tribe and the Salish Cancer Center.*

*Thank you for partnering with us on this journey and sharing in our desire to make a difference with local cancer patients.*

## OUR STAFF



Sally Glover,  
Executive Director



Jeni Spokely,  
Research Manager



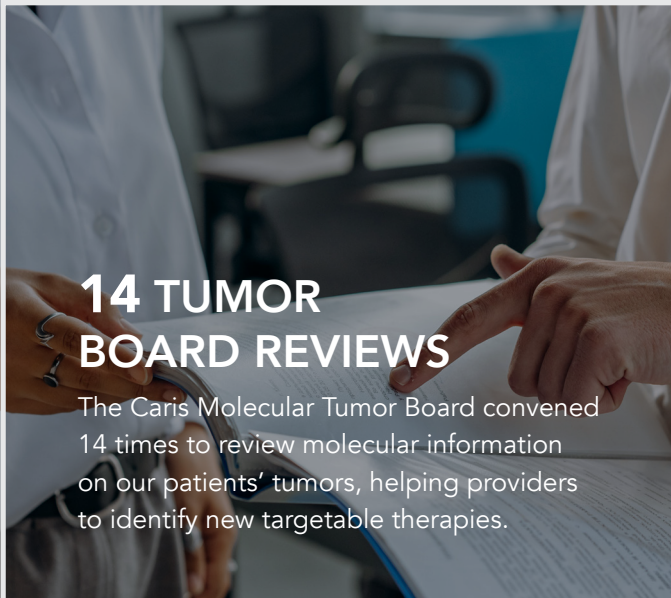
Kimberly Burton,  
PhD, Study Director



Samantha Elliott,  
Research Coordinator



Jodi Thiel, Cancer  
Research Coordinator



## 14 TUMOR BOARD REVIEWS

The Caris Molecular Tumor Board convened 14 times to review molecular information on our patients' tumors, helping providers to identify new targetable therapies.



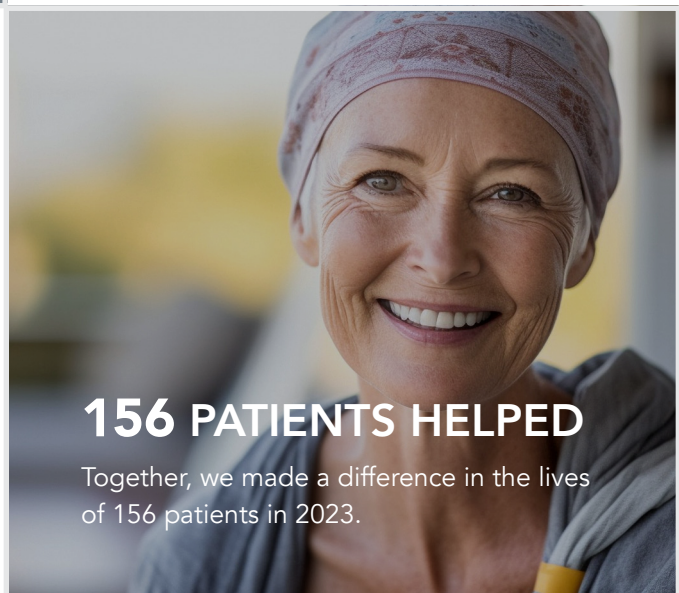
## \$306K IN MOLECULAR TESTING

Patients received critical molecular testing valued at \$306,000 thanks to our partners at Caris Life Sciences.



## 12 CLINICAL TRIALS

Partnering with Multicare, we increased local research trial options with the addition of 12 industry trials in pancreatic cancer, colon cancer, prostate cancer, bladder cancer, breast cancer, Multiple Myeloma, Myelofibrosis, and MDS/AML.



## 156 PATIENTS HELPED

Together, we made a difference in the lives of 156 patients in 2023.

## AS WE LAUNCH INTO 2024...

Our hope is to report on even more extensive community collaborations and a central focus on research options, coming together not as independent practices and health care systems, but as a community focused on patient care and access to research.



## \$1.5M VALUE OF MEDICATION RECEIVED

\$1.5 million worth of medication received through our applications for Off Label Use and Compassionate Use. SSCF Coordinators navigated the complex regulatory process with the FDA and pharmaceutical companies to bring these agents to our patients.



# KNOWLEDGE-SHARING TOWARDS A CURE

*Triple negative breast cancer is an aggressive and dynamic disease, with metastases displaying characteristics that frequently differ from the primary tumor. It is more fast-growing than other types of breast cancer and has a higher risk of metastasis and recurrence.*

As an innovative approach to determining the feasibility and merit of performing and analyzing biopsies to inform patient treatment, the Intensive Trial of Omics in Cancer (ITOMIC) study was launched as the South Sound CARE Foundation's first significant trial. Designed by Dr. Tony Blau, Dr. Sibel Blau and Dr. Frank Senecal, the study began enrolling patients in 2013.

In 2018, the CARE Foundation hired Study Director, Dr. Kimberly Burton, who brought the trial in-house. Burton shares,

“Like many, I have been touched by cancer and greatly appreciated the opportunity to participate in this groundbreaking clinical trial. When the trial moved from the University of Washington to the South Sound Care Foundation, I wanted to continue with this work in hopes of providing clinical trial opportunities for women faced with the difficult diagnosis of cancer.”

## **Local Treatment Informed by National Expertise**

Patients participating in the trial enroll in All4Cure, an innovative data-sharing platform that aims to harness the power of genomic testing and collaborative knowledge-sharing to enhance patient care and accelerate cancer research. Their test results and medical records are shared on the platform, allowing experts across the country to review cases, provide feedback, and offer insights into treatment options based on similar genomic profiles—a shared resource rarely seen in traditional medical settings.

Leveraging this expansive network of cancer advocates, experts, patient data, and resources through All4Cure, The South Sound CARE Foundation and our medical partners are bringing the most innovative treatment options, research, and resources to patients in our South Sound community. Thank you for making this collaborative care possible.



*All4Cure medical platform.*



## EXPLORE A HEARTENING PATIENT UPDATE:

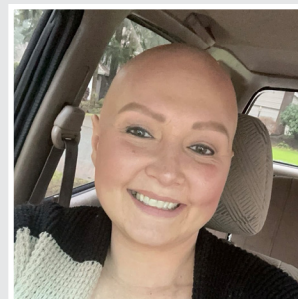
### TABATHA

In 2016, Tabatha, then 35 years old, noticed a lump in her armpit. Despite two normal mammograms, a biopsy in 2018 revealed triple-negative breast cancer. Tabatha underwent chemotherapy, a bilateral mastectomy, and radiation. She remained disease-free until January 2023 when a biopsy revealed a recurrence in her bones.

Dr. Sibel Blau engaged the South Sound CARE Foundation for additional resources. Tabatha embarked on a new treatment journey and joined the All4Cure platform, enabling her team to monitor progress, access her test results and records. CARE Clinical Research Coordinator, Jodi Thiel, helps Tabatha navigate the day-to-day course of treatment, accompanying Tabatha to appointments, taking notes, assisting with scheduling, and providing ongoing support.

Tabatha shares, "Sometimes as a patient, you feel like you're another number in the system. But with the CARE team, you feel like you're noticed, a person—you matter."

As of January 2024, Tabatha's PET scans show stable disease—an encouraging development!





## AN EXCITING COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

*We are thrilled to announce a new collaboration with the Puyallup Tribe and Dr. Lu of the Salish Cancer Center, aimed at extending access to cutting-edge research and trials to patients who are navigating the complexities of cancer.*

The Salish Cancer Center, a state-of-the-art facility in Tacoma, Washington, was the first Tribe-owned facility of its kind in the United States when it opened in 2015. Since then, it has been at the forefront of community-centered cancer care. Committed to providing evidence-based and personalized cancer treatments, the center offers chemotherapy, naturopathic integrative oncology, targeted anti-cancer therapies, acupuncture, native healing, and immunotherapies. The South Sound CARE Foundation looks forward to expanding the range of innovative cancer research options available to the Salish Cancer Center's patient population.

"Our Salish Cancer Center is open to the public. All patients who need service are welcome," Puyallup Tribal Councilwoman Monica Miller said, emphasizing that no patients are turned away. The South Sound CARE Foundation will work with Dr. Lu and his team to provide clinical research options for patients who are no longer responding to standard of care treatments. Patients will have access to these resources locally, allowing them to remain close to home—surrounded by their loved ones and communities—while receiving treatment.

As we embark on this collaborative endeavor, we look forward to making a positive impact on the lives of our South Sound community members, fostering a brighter and healthier future for all. Through shared knowledge, compassion, and dedication, we believe that together we will contribute to advancements in cancer care and, most importantly, will bring hope and healing to those who need it most within our communities.



Stanlee Lu, Medical Oncologist



CARE Board Chair Mary Byrne and Executive Director Sally Glover with Puyallup Tribal Council Members at the Salish Cancer Center's first Giving Hope Gala



Salish Cancer Center Facility | State-of-the-Art Infusion Center



## EXPANDING ACCESS WITH MULTICARE

*“We’re thrilled to announce an exciting partnership with the MultiCare Institute for Research & Innovation, bringing cutting-edge breast cancer and lung cancer studies from the National Cancer Institute through the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG) directly to patients in our South Sound community.*”

This collaboration marks a significant milestone in our mission to expand local access to groundbreaking cancer research. Typically, cooperative group studies like these are conducted at large treatment centers, primarily situated in major metropolitan areas with substantial patient populations. Partnering with MultiCare, Northwest Medical Specialties, the Southwest Oncology Group (SWOG), and the National Cancer Institute, we’ve opened enrollment to these studies locally, and with your generous support, we’re providing them at no cost to individual patients.

*Together, we made great strides in bringing innovative cancer treatments to the South Sound in 2023, and look forward to expanding our collective impact in the years ahead!”*

*Interested in learning more?*

*Please visit our website for all the details.*

[www.southsoundcarefoundation.org/  
open-trials/the-pragmatica-lung-study](http://www.southsoundcarefoundation.org/open-trials/the-pragmatica-lung-study)





## \$1.14 MILLION RAISED FOR PATIENTS FIGHTING CANCER

So many people in our community worked hard to make our 10-year celebration a success! At our 2023 Beer & Bites celebration...

**125** people volunteered

**39** sponsors contributed \$280,000 to underwrite the event

**156** donors helped us put together an amazing collection of auction items

**550** people joined us for the evening

Thank you for being part of our community and giving hope to patients fighting cancer. We couldn't do this without you!



## THANK YOU TO OUR 2023 SPONSORS

### FOUNDING

The Rush Companies

### UNDERWRITING

Active Construction  
Anthony's  
Brink Law Firm  
Gray Lumber  
Kidder Mathews  
MultiCare Institute for Research & Innovation  
Spinnaker Property Management  
Tacoma Plumbing  
Jeff & Nancy Edwards  
Mo & Pam Manning  
VMFH  
Hokold Foundation  
Gilchrist Auto Centers

### PINK RIBBON

Gilead  
Cornell Plumbing

### YELLOW RIBBON

Northwest Medical Specialties  
Frontier Door and Cabinet  
Green Effects  
Flatiron Health  
Parr Lumber  
TRA Medical Imaging  
The Doty Group  
Commencement Bank

### BLUE RIBBON

TCF Architecture  
RPD  
JM Corp & Son Inc  
Kirby Electric  
Patriot Fire  
Cascade Construction  
KeyBank Dealer Services  
Seagen  
Master Builders Assoc.  
Arc Welding  
Larson and Associates  
Pamela's Interiors  
Total Property Services  
Daiichi Sankyo  
BeiGene

### WINE/BEER DONORS

Mercer Wine Estates  
Narrows Brewing

### CASH DONORS/DISPLAYS

Sound Credit Union  
Genentech  
NAI Puget Sound Properties  
Umpqua Bank  
Shea Properties  
Interior Wood Products

### IN-KIND DONORS

Bledsoe Family Winery  
DeLille Cellars  
Gig Harbor Candy Company  
Olympic Eagle Distributing  
The Waterfront Venue at Narrows Marina  
Superior Linen



SAVE  
THE  
DATE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2024

# BEER & BITES

SUPPORTING SOUTH SOUND CARE FOUNDATION

OCTOBER

05

• 2024 •

DOORS  
OPEN  
AT 5PM

**NARROWS MARINA**

9007 SOUTH 19TH STREET, TACOMA, WA

SHINING A LIGHT  
ON CANCER RESEARCH

[RUSHTOBEERANDBITES.COM](http://RUSHTOBEERANDBITES.COM)

**TOGETHER WE ARE  
PROVIDING INCREASED  
OPTIONS AND HOPE FOR  
CANCER PATIENTS.**

Do you want to help make a difference with South Sound cancer patients by providing 2024 Beer & Bites sponsorship?



Scan to  
become  
a 2024  
sponsor!

**\$20,000+ PRESENTING SPONSOR**

**\$10,000+ UNDERWRITING SPONSOR**

**\$7,500 PINK RIBBON SPONSOR**

**\$5,000 YELLOW RIBBON SPONSOR**

**\$3,500 BLUE RIBBON SPONSOR**

**\$2,500 A LA CARTE OPPORTUNITIES**



## BOARD MEMBERS

### PRESIDENT

Mary Byrne – Community Volunteer

### PAST - PRESIDENT

Carolyn Ho – Retired Education Administrator

### VICE PRESIDENT

Al Linggi – Retired Pharmaceutical Executive and Industry Consultant

### SECRETARY

Gwen Gilchrist – Retired Educator

### TREASURER

Wayne Mannie – President, Pacific Medical Specialty Group

### BOARD MEMBERS

Frank Senecal, MD – Founder, Northwest Medical Specialties

Brian Ho – Managing Principal, TCF Architecture

Joy Martin – Director of Oncology Services, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health

Craig Carter – Senior Oncology Specialist Novartis

Stan Flemming, DO MA – Vice President & Chief Medical Officer Pacific Medical Specialty Group

Sunil Rangarajan, MD – Medical Oncologist, MultiCare Health System

### BOARD MEMBERS – EMERITUS

Tony Pangiotu – President, Cascade 401K Consultants

Gordon Rush – Founder - The Rush Companies

## COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Bank of America Charitable Foundation

Ben B. Cheney Foundation

Benevity

Betcher Family Foundation

Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation

Charities Aid Foundation of America

Florence Kilworth Foundation

Gottfried and Mary Fuchs Foundation

Marco J Heidner Foundation

Melsness Foundation

Names Family Foundation

National Philanthropy Trust

Oscar T. and Olivann Hokold Foundation

Puyallup Tribe of Indians Charity Trust

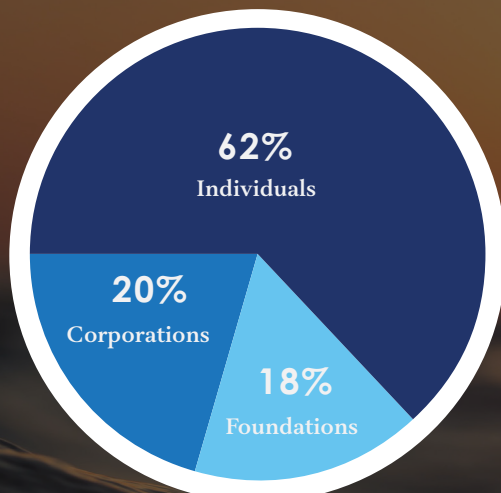
Schwab Charitable Gift Trust

TRA Medical Imaging Foundation

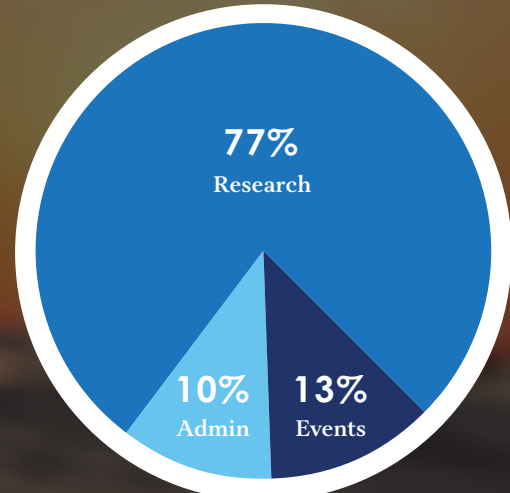
Washington State Auto Dealers

Whisper Foundation

### REVENUE



### EXPENSES





## DONOR SPOTLIGHT: MEET TIM & KIRSTEN WYNNE

*Meet CARE donors, Tim and Kirsten Wynne, partners in life and philanthropy. Local, small business owners themselves, they understand the monumental impact of a strong community rallying around those who need it most, and take pride in supporting CARE and other philanthropic causes dear to them.*

### How did you get involved with CARE?

**KIRSTEN:** Gordon invited us to sit at his table at Beer and Bites the year we met him. You get to the event, and see the profound impact that your work is doing for people in their lives, and how can you say no?

**TIM:** We got involved with CARE through Gordon, but my relationship with cancer comes professionally. For over 30 years, I've worked with surgical products that treat cancer, and know the course that a prognosis puts patients and their families on.

We went through it ourselves. I was diagnosed with melanoma 20 years ago. There is this period where you don't know if it's spread. Even if it hasn't metastasized, which it hadn't in my case, it changes lives.

### Why is CARE important to the South Sound Community?

**KIRSTEN:** We've seen first hand the impact on people who don't have access in their local communities to the kind of care that CARE provides. Tim's from Montana. One of his best friends' was diagnosed with esophageal cancer. He and his wife came to live with us for 6 months while he was receiving treatment in Seattle because they didn't have access to treatment at home in Montana.

The work CARE is doing makes it so people here in South Sound hopefully don't have to uproot their lives and live somewhere else while they are going through probably the most difficult thing they've dealt with in their lives.

**TIM:** A lot of people don't know this, but 35-40% of all humans will be diagnosed with cancer sometime in their lives. Cancer survival rates have increased dramatically. This is not because cancer has become less lethal on its own. It's because of the efforts of organizations like CARE and the willingness of people to participate in research. Some patients survive and live longer than they would have, which is a victory. These trials also capture important data that can help those who face cancer downstream.

### Why is CARE a priority in your giving?

**KIRSTEN:** It feels to me that CARE is helping people who had nowhere else to go. There is no question in my mind that our donations are helping to make a profound difference in peoples' lives.

### What would you say to someone considering supporting CARE for the first time?

**TIM:** Come to Beer and Bites and see the energy of the organization. This tells you all you need to know. There are plenty of people and causes, but it would be hard to argue that the South Sound CARE Foundation isn't one that should be strongly considered!



## THANK YOU

for believing in CARE. You have  
helped your neighbors fighting  
cancer in the South Sound.

### SOUTH SOUND CARE FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 1314, Tacoma, WA 98401

Phone: 253-220-5003

[www.southsoundcarefoundation.org](http://www.southsoundcarefoundation.org)



South Sound CARE Foundation is a registered nonprofit organization in  
Washington and recognized as a 501(c)3 organization by the IRS.