

Gateway to hope

empowering
caring

courage

strong

loving

life-changing

mother

compassion



advocate
Joy
Liana

confident
kind
resilience

friend

support

joy





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Pictured on the cover: Tatjana, a former patient, was diagnosed with Stage III breast cancer in 2016. She received assistance from Gateway to Hope.

"Most supportive organization I have ever had during my cancer journey."

Dear Gateway to Hope Supporters,

In 2022, GTH set out to prove that we aren't just about breast cancer. **We are about people.** The people whose lives are affected by breast cancer – which, it turns out, is all of us. Every 90 minutes, a person in Missouri is diagnosed with breast cancer. 1 in 8 women will receive a breast cancer diagnosis in their lifetime. Think about the last time you were in the room with at least 8 other women: perhaps shopping in the grocery store, at a school function, at a fellowship gathering for your faith community, or at a family reunion. Chances are that several women in that room have received this diagnosis, or will, in their lifetime. This is a fact of life that so many of us live with each and every day. It exists all around us.

By now, you know that **half of those diagnosed with breast cancer have had to choose between lifesaving health care and their family's welfare.** Food on the table. A roof over their heads. A safe environment to raise children. Often, those who are faced with those decisions were doing fine before their diagnosis. They are all of us – living our lives, making a living, and raising our children and grandchildren. Living with some struggle, but mostly joy. Breast cancer can threaten to take that away – with possible late-stage diagnosis, mounting bills, and a maze of doctor appointments to navigate. **It's overwhelming. But it doesn't need to be that way. We are here to meet that need** and alleviate those stressors, so women can live with joy even when facing a diagnosis.

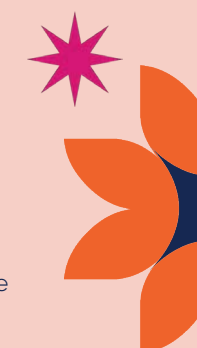
We're here to make sure that late-stage diagnoses don't happen, so women can thrive for decades beyond their diagnosis. And YOU – our supporters – make this possible.

In 2022, we assisted more people than ever before because of our specially trained Patient Navigators, our financial assistance programs, and the support from our community. At Gateway to Hope, we look at the individual person and engage them with all the things a person needs when trying to access care but finds that our health system is daunting, overwhelming, and confusing. As you look further into this book, we hope you recognize the real words from our patients about their experiences with breast healthcare and Gateway to Hope. **Gateway to Hope is about empowering our patients and community to not only survive – but thrive!** We're shifting the focus from the disease to the people and the solution. There are many heroic and important efforts out there focused on finding a cure for this disease, but that solution is not here yet. Breast cancer is a fact of life for 1 in 8 of us. But it doesn't have to be a source of emotional pain, financial stress, or the end of the road. With your help, Gateway to Hope can impact lives by focusing on the needs of people navigating their breast health journey. I hope you'll reflect on this vision, reflect on the impact we've had so far together as you read these pages, and join us as we continue to grow.

With gratitude,

Katie Manga

Chief Executive Officer | Gateway to Hope



Who We Are




Where you live, the color of your skin, and your income should not predict your breast cancer outcome, but they do. Gateway to Hope is committed to changing that.



Low-income women in Missouri have a 1-in-3 chance of being diagnosed with late-stage disease.
(a nearly 20% greater risk than more affluent women)



St. Louis is still leading the nation in breast cancer disparities. Black women are twice as likely to die than their white peers.

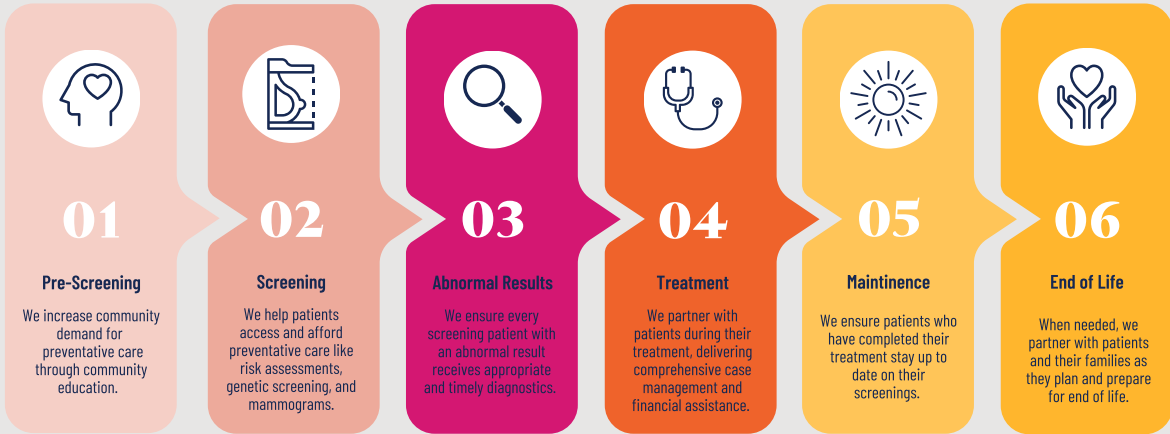


Rural patients face similarly disparate outcomes. Women in some Missouri counties must drive two hours to receive a quality screening or treatment.

We're here to change these stats and transform lives.

Gateway to Hope is helping people access their first mammogram, have the courage to face diagnostics after an abnormal screen, complete their breast cancer treatment, and become empowered healthcare consumers in all areas of their life. We are also committed to impacting upstream conditions that affect breast health disparities.

Continuum of Care



The Work We Do



Treatment Navigation+

Matched with a Treatment Navigator, patients actively undergoing breast cancer treatment have a partner throughout their breast cancer journey. Our navigators act as a guide throughout the treatment process, taking the mystery out of what treatment might be like by helping patients prepare for medical visits and ultimately learning to be their best advocate during treatment. With your help, we provide up to \$1,000 in direct financial assistance to help patients meet their basic needs. Because of the increasing number of patients with Stage IV (incurable) disease, we have expanded our treatment program to support the unique psychosocial needs of patients through treatment and, when needed, end of life.

Screening Navigation+

Rarely or never screened clients work 1:1 with a Screening Navigator to access and afford preventative breast healthcare, like risk assessments, genetic screening, and mammograms. Through the support of generous donors, we provide financial assistance also to cover co-pay, out-of-pocket, and transportation costs for patients up to \$300. In 2023, we were awarded a contract with the State to deliver our Screening Navigation+ Program across Missouri. This partnership is just the beginning of what can become a significant model for impact.



And it goes BEYOND navigation.

We increase community knowledge of quality, accessible, and affordable breast healthcare. Gateway to Hope leads fact-based community discussions, engages in one-on-one and group education, partners with other providers at health fairs and community resource events, and curates media to disseminate accurate and timely information.



We collaborate with health systems and policymakers to reduce barriers to care. We partner with health systems across Missouri to coordinate data sharing, facilitate community-based research, and convene providers to address patient outcomes across hospitals, communities, and regions. We are leading community-based research in collaboration with leading research institutions to understand better and address barriers to care. And our staff serves in leadership roles on community councils designed to build stronger relationships between citizens and the healthcare system.

Meet Amy

Gateway to Hope Recipient

Patients like Amy, turn to us for essential emotional support, guidance and expertise in navigating their care, and financial assistance that covers their basic needs—so they can get and stay well.



Amy is a 42-year-old single mom of 3 children aged 4, 8, and 10. She noticed a lump in her breast when she was pregnant with her 3rd child in 2019. Doctors told her it was likely due to the pregnancy and that she shouldn't be concerned. But the nagging worry wouldn't go away. Because of the pandemic, Amy delayed her well-woman's exam until late 2021. At her appointment, a new physician urged her to get a screening despite the co-pay on her high deductible plan. After another six months delay, she finally got her mammogram, and shortly after, she learned she had Stage III breast cancer.

When Amy was finally referred to Gateway to Hope, she had lost her job because of her illness, and her family was homeless and struggling to find permanent housing. Her navigator got right to work, immediately helping her identify housing and helping to pay her security deposit and first few months of utilities. Her navigator helped her get beds for herself and her children and access community programs to outfit her new home with additional furniture and supplies. GTH helped Amy enroll in public and private programs to help her weather the financial stress. Most recently, GTH provided emergency funds for new tires so she could travel to medical services because hers were unsafe. While still navigating treatment, Amy and her family are finding their feet and hopeful for the future.

I was so relieved to find Gateway to Hope. They were the biggest help!

More than half of those diagnosed with breast cancer have had to choose between lifesaving health care and their family's critical needs. Food on the table. A roof over their heads. A safe environment to raise children. Or their well-being. Gateway to Hope stands in the gap for patients—uncovering their unspoken and unmet needs, helping them advocate for and access essential care, and walking their breast health journey with them.

We stand in the gap for patients in treatment and in late 2022, we stepped forward and launched our new screening navigation+ program. It's patients like Amy who inspired this bold leap forward.

If Amy had connected with a screening navigator before her diagnosis— she would have been empowered with the resources and support to trust her gut. The team could have assisted Amy with scheduling and affording her screening and diagnostics. These services could have made the difference between a Stage I and an advanced Stage III diagnosis.

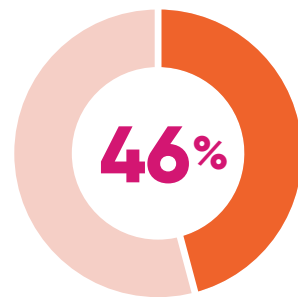
We know, and research tells us you can prevent late-stage diagnoses with regular quality breast screenings. Late-stage diagnoses lead to an increase in emotional, physical, and economic hardships. Our new Screening Navigation+ Program helps people like Amy access affordable, timely, quality breast screenings and saves more lives!

Our Impact By the Numbers

We serve people across Missouri and parts of Southern Illinois

409

patients were served by Gateway to Hope in 2022.

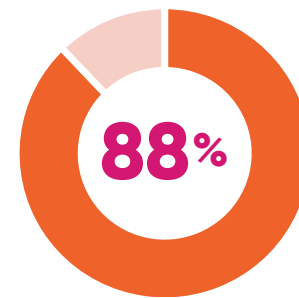


of our patients who were Women of Color – a growing cohort each year.

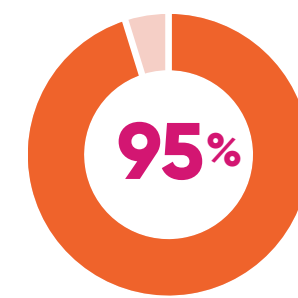


1-in-3 of our patients had late-stage disease.

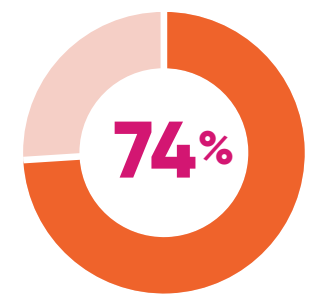
The Results



of our patients adhered to their treatment – 30% more than national averages.



of our patients maintained stable housing and health insurance during treatment.



of our patients report experiencing less stress, improved coping skills, and increased confidence navigating care.

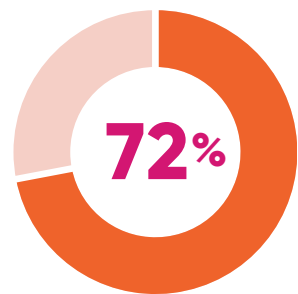
My Patient Navigator made this journey so much better and easier. I am beyond grateful for them.



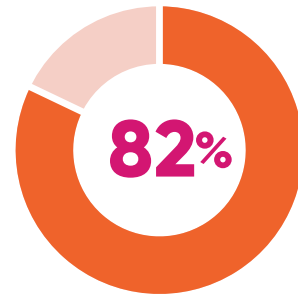
\$220K

in direct financial assistance was provided to patients.

I don't know what I would have done without my Patient Navigator. They were absolutely the best in every way!



of our patients lived and received treatment in the St. Louis region.



of our patients lived at or below 250% of the federal poverty level.

16

the average number of contacts patients had with their navigator throughout their treatment journey.

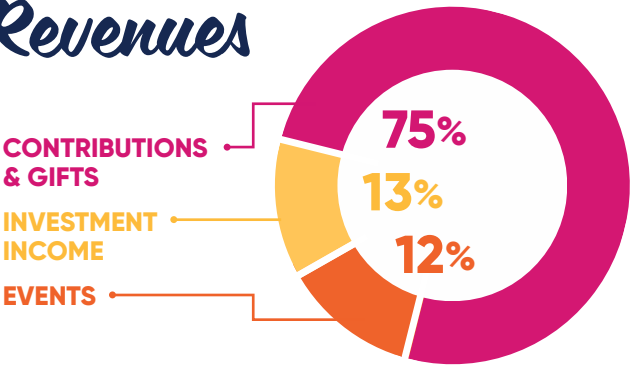
The people we served all met our eligibility requirements of an annual income of less than 450% the poverty rate, and 80% of these women have a household income of less than 250% of the rate (which, for a single individual, is \$32,000 a year.)

Gateway to Hope is committed to being a transparent organization that our community can trust. Your generous donations go to our mission and impact in the community.

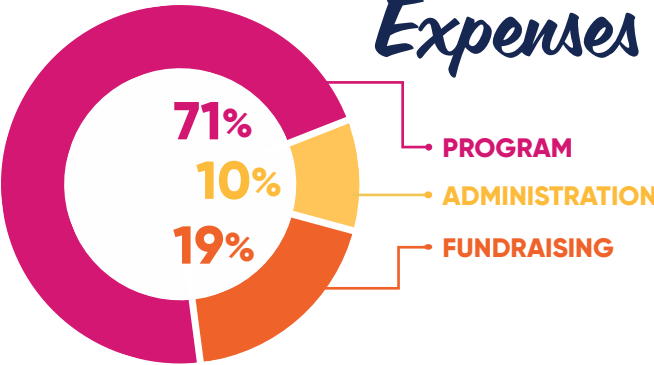
Financials

In 2022, Gateway to Hope's operating budget was \$1.8 million, and we maintained a Gold rating from GuideStar for our use of funds and transparency in public reporting of our financials and impact.*

Revenues



Expenses



*Please view our audited financial statement on our website - www.gthstl.org

Our Dedicated Team

We continue to expand our team to meet the needs of our community.

13

full-time employees and counting.

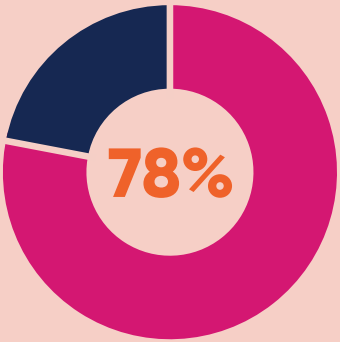
We regularly rely on volunteers, seasonal employees, internships, and practicum students to support our efforts.

In 2022, the efforts of our staff enabled them to reach hundreds of providers, community partners, and leaders across this region.

We have a dedicated board of directors representing medical specialties, business and nonprofit understanding, and respected financial institutions.

Stepping into '23

Your investment has made an impact in the first half of 2023!



So far, we are on pace to exceed our navigation goals, reaching more patients than ever before!

As of June 30, 2023, Gateway to Hope is 78% to our goal of navigating 400 patients actively undergoing breast cancer treatment.

Meeting the Need

We are scaling screening navigation state-wide! Gateway to Hope has recruited more than 200 women to our Screening Navigation+ program. These rarely or never screened women face common barriers to screening, like cost and transportation. But your support means we can ensure they get the care they deserve!

Expanding Support

For the first time, we established monthly support groups for Metastatic breast cancer patients, **who represent more than 1/3rd of our current treatment patients.**



Continuing to build partnerships in our community.



Gateway to Hope continues to collaborate with policymakers, thought-leaders, universities, and hospital systems on essential community-based research. In December of 2022, GTH was awarded a multi-year grant from the Missouri Foundation for Health to understand disparities in breast cancer outcomes and screening access. We've begun working on a state-wide baseline report on breast cancer disparities to convene and mobilize coordinated action with partners, payers, and providers later this year. This is just one of five funded research projects GTH is leading.

Thank you, Donors

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DECEMBER 31, 2022

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**Donation to Gail’s Legacy in honor of Gail Gast
***Donation to Stephanie’s Wish in honor of Stephanie Simon Allen

To view our entire donor list, please visit www.gthstl.org



Former GTH Patient, Dacia, and her best friend, Victoria.

*Gateway to Hope was
a huge blessing for
my family!*



Former GTH Patient, Tatjana, and her daughter, Ida.

*We would love
the chance to
tell you more.*

Contact us to discuss Gateway to Hope's
future and how you can get involved.

✉ development@gthstl.org

🌐 www.gthstl.org

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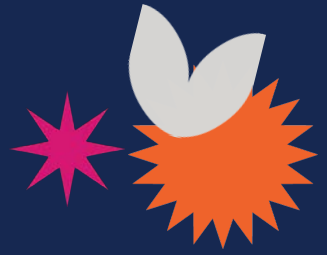
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Our Mission

Our mission is to champion change by removing barriers to affordable, timely, quality breast healthcare, and empowering people to live full and healthy lives.

*Thank you
for your
support.*

