

2024 2025 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT



FONDATION DU
CANCER DES CÉDRES
CEDARS CANCER
FOUNDATION



Dr. Jamil Asselah
Medical oncologist and
researcher, MUHC

I
GIVE
MY
BEST

GIVE
THE BEST
YOU CAN

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THANK YOU FOR STANDING WITH US IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEDARS CANCER FOUNDATION

Dear friends and supporters,

At the Cedars Cancer Foundation, our mission is clear and unwavering: to improve the health and well-being of pediatric, adolescent, young adult, and adult cancer patients—and their families—throughout and beyond treatment. We do this by raising critical funds to support excellence in Cancer Care, Research, and Education at the McGill University Health Centre (MUHC).

Thanks to your unwavering generosity and belief in our cause, this past year has been one of bold strides and lasting impact.

The launch of the Together Against Cancer Campaign—a unique collaboration with the Montreal General Hospital Foundation—was a defining moment. With an ambitious goal of raising \$100 million, this initiative will fund transformative projects that enhance the experience, quality of life, and outcomes for cancer patients across the MUHC.

Another major milestone was the creation of the Cedars CanSupport Endowment Fund. This fund ensures that Cedars CanSupport’s vital psychosocial programs and services—so essential to patients and their families—will continue in perpetuity. It secures the future of compassionate care and reinforces our dedication to treating the whole person, not just the disease.

Please read on to discover how your donor dollars were used to support compassionate cancer care, innovative research and inspiring education and training, and the impact that your generosity had on both the healthcare professionals who are fighting cancer and the people who are living with it.

None of this would be possible without you. Your support fuels our progress and inspires hope.

On behalf of everyone at Cedars, thank you for believing in our mission and for standing with us in the fight against cancer. Together, we are stronger.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Michael Flinker
Chair, Board of Directors
Cedars Cancer Foundation



Jeff J. Shamie, MPA
President and CEO
Cedars Cancer Foundation

A MESSAGE FROM THE MUHC



Transforming the journey of cancer patients and their families

As the leading cause of death in Quebec and in the rest of Canada, cancer takes an enormous toll on society. The McGill University Health Centre (MUHC) is deeply aware that patients and families all across Québec depend on the tertiary and quaternary care teams of its Cancer Care Mission to provide exceptional compassionate care and to innovate.

In 2024-2025, the MUHC set ambitious and measurable goals for continuous improvement, including leveraging technological tools to facilitate rigorous monitoring and innovation. A healthy and respectful environment for all, a patient experience that takes into account the diversity and different needs of the population and practices aimed at excellence were among its priorities. In cancer, clinical professionals and researchers did their utmost to reduce the prevalence and mortality rate of the disease. They pushed the boundaries of current knowledge to accelerate the development of new diagnostic tests, cancer markers, therapies and clinical trials, while also assuring effective teaching and training for students, residents and post-docs, amongst others. They also used local to global partnerships to launch new approaches, such as a surgical device to differentiate between cancerous and healthy tissue, and advance personalized, precision medicine.

Community engagement propels discovery and gold-standard practices. The MUHC is grateful to the leadership team, board, staff and volunteers of the Cedars Cancer Foundation for helping its patients live longer and better. It is also our pleasure to congratulate the Foundation on the occasion of its 60th anniversary and on the 25th anniversary of Sarah’s Fund for Cedars. Together, with the sustained support of Cedars’ generous community, we can achieve great things in cancer care, research and education.

Thank you.



Peter Kruyt
Chairman of the Board of
Directors of the Establishment
McGill University Health Centre



Lucie Opatrny, MD, M.Sc., MHCM, FRCPC
President and Executive Director
McGill University Health Centre

A MESSAGE FROM THE MUHC CANCER CARE MISSION



Cancer is not going away.

In 2024, an estimated 67,219 people in Quebec were diagnosed with cancer, averaging about 184 new cases per day. Unfortunately, incidences are actually on the rise, due mainly to our ageing population. There is good news, though: As a result of major advances in cancer research, treatment and care, cancer patients are living longer—and better—than ever.

At the MUHC Cancer Care Mission, our goal is to reduce the burden of cancer, its mortality, and its cost, while improving the care and support we provide. Our multidisciplinary teams of oncologists, hematologists, nurses, psychologists, pharmacists, nutritionists, technologists, social workers, administrative staff, and dedicated Cedars CanSupport volunteers, give their very best every day to achieve this objective.

We are committed to innovation in treatment, research, education, and supportive services. But we can't do it alone. Government funding covers the basics, but, to go beyond and offer the exceptional care our patients deserve, we rely on philanthropy.

That's why the Cedars Cancer Foundation is so vital. As the long-standing, major funding partner of the MUHC Cancer Care Mission, Cedars helps us meet priority needs and pursue excellence in every area of our work.

We are grateful to Cedars and to its dedicated community of donors. Their support helped us in our fight against cancer in very meaningful and impactful ways in 2024-2025, as you will see in this report.

Together, we are changing lives and bringing hope to thousands of patients and families across Québec.

Sincerely,



Armen Aprikian, MD
Co-Director, MUHC Cancer Care Mission
Medical Director, Cedars Cancer Centre



Christine Bouchard, RN
Co-Director, MUHC Cancer Care Mission
Nursing Directorate

TOGETHER AGAINST CANCER: A \$100 MILLION JOINT CAMPAIGN TO SUPPORT THE MUHC'S FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

On February 4, 2024 - World Cancer Day - the Cedars Cancer Foundation and the Montreal General Hospital Foundation joined forces to launch an ambitious joint fundraising campaign called "Together Against Cancer."

The goal of this special collaboration is to rally the community and to raise \$100 million to support projects that will facilitate access to the best oncology care and services, fund research and innovation, and offer personalized care that can save countless lives.

The campaign priorities are grouped into three categories:

EQUAL ACCESS TO THE BEST CARE AND SUPPORT

Fundraising objective: \$25M+

Initiatives that will ensure that people of all ages, and from all regions of Quebec, have equal access to the best care and support

PERSONALIZED, PRECISION CANCER CARE

Fundraising objective: \$50M+

Next-generation technologies, equipment, and research that will make cancer treatments more personalized, precise and effective

LIFE-CHANGING INNOVATION AND RESEARCH

Fundraising objective: \$25M+

Groundbreaking initiatives that will revolutionize cancer research and surgery

In its first year, the joint campaign raised \$68 million toward its \$100 million goal, of which \$40 million was raised by Cedars.



"With your help, we can make the Cedars Cancer Centre at the MUHC the destination for specialized radiation therapy for cancer patients from across the province."

Dr. Tarek Hijal
Director, Division of Radiation Oncology, MUHC



"Our new program will offer adolescent and young adult patients holistic care and access to the latest research and clinical trials to meet their unique needs."

Virginia Lee, R.N., PhD
Manager, Supportive and Palliative Care Program and Services, MUHC



"I was diagnosed with breast cancer in spring 2023, at the peak of my career and in great shape. Feeling like you're being well cared for – and that people care – made such a difference."

Marie-Lucie
Patient in remission

DONOR DOLLARS AT WORK

THE IMPACT OF YOUR GENEROSITY IN 2024-2025

SNAPSHOT OF DONATIONS RECEIVED

\$8,822,466 Total Raised

11,309 Total number of donations

YOUR IMPACT ON CANCER RESEARCH

Total amount disbursed: \$2,028,066

A few examples

- \$253,857** in funding for systemic oncology clinical trials
- \$133,312** in funding for radiation oncology clinical trials
- \$185,000** in funding for research into integrating AI into radiation oncology
- \$47,817** in funding for research into adolescent and young adult (AYA) cancers
- \$110,000** in Cedars Oncology Research Fellowship grant money given to **6** MUHC researchers

YOUR IMPACT ON CANCER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Total amount disbursed: \$658,053

A few examples

- \$326,641** in funding to support McGill Postgraduate Medical Education Fellowships in Oncology
- 10** McGill Postgraduate Medical Fellows in Oncology, from **8** countries, came to train at the MUHC
- 6** Cedars Visiting Professors shared their expertise with approximately **360** medical professionals and students
- 320** people (approximately) attended
- 4** Cedars CanSupport Public Lectures

YOUR IMPACT ON CANCER CARE

Total amount disbursed: \$2,231,286

A few examples

Cedars Cancer Centre

- 167,927** unique patient visits to the Cedars Cancer Centre
- 26,271** radiation oncology treatments given
- 20,900** systemic oncology treatments given

Cedars CanSupport

- 7,981** visits to the Cedars CanSupport Resource Centre (for information, cancer resources, head coverings)
- 2,391** patients enrolled in complementary therapy programs and support groups
- \$79,675.40** distributed in humanitarian financial assistance to **344** patients
- \$33,000** distributed by the Holiday Fund (cheques, gift cards, holiday food and gift baskets)
- 1,200** 'The Bell' Fund Comfort Kits distributed to newly-diagnosed patients
- 65** Cedars CanSupport volunteers working in the Cedars Cancer Centre and RVH Palliative Care Unit
- 6,624** hours worked by volunteers

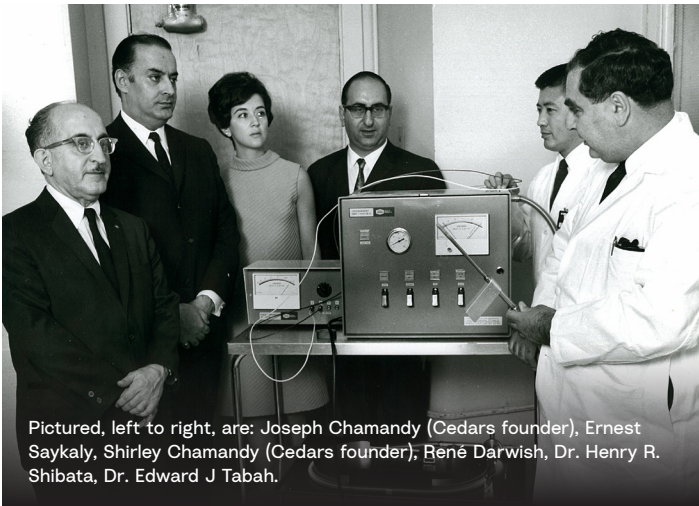
Supportive and Palliative Cancer Care

- \$371,061** in funding for the MUHC Psychosocial Oncology Program, which provided an average of **4.7 hours** of psychological, social and emotional support services to **820** patients and **206** family members
- \$141,028** in funding for the MUHC Lymphedema Clinic
- 1,100** visits to the MUHC Lymphedema Clinic every year
- An average of **70** therapists are trained to specialist level at the MUHC Lymphedema Clinic every year

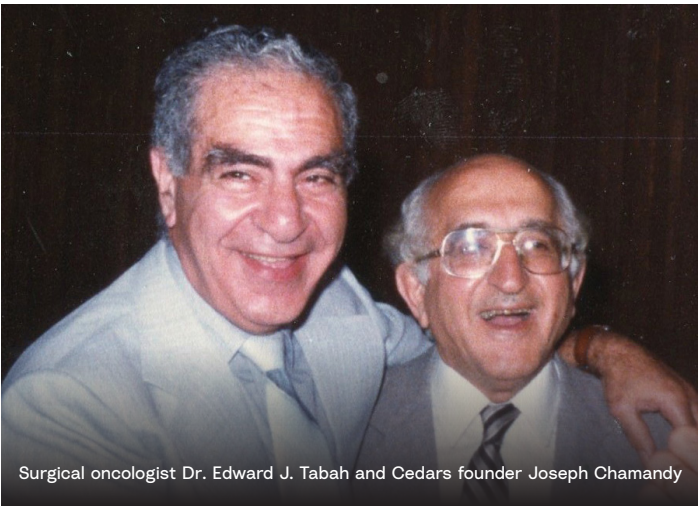
Sarah's Fund for Cedars

- \$573,847** in funding for pediatric hematology-oncology at the Montreal Children's Hospital
- 50** visits by Dr. Clowns to patients on Sarah's Floor
- 95** pet therapy sessions for patients on Sarah's Floor
- 10** parents of pediatric cancer patients received psychological support through the H.O.P.E. program
- 53** gift cards for a restaurant located in the hospital were given to families in need (\$25 each)
- 60** families residing far from Montréal were accommodated at Pavillon Kat Demes
- 1** additional dedicated nutritionist was hired, which meant that 5 or 6 more patients were seen every day

WHO WE ARE



Pictured, left to right, are: Joseph Chamandy (Cedars founder), Ernest Saykaly, Shirley Chamandy (Cedars founder), René Darwish, Dr. Henry R. Shibata, Dr. Edward J. Tabah.



Surgical oncologist Dr. Edward J. Tabah and Cedars founder Joseph Chamandy

A FOUNDATION WITH A LONG HISTORY OF FIGHTING CANCER IN MONTRÉAL

OUR HISTORY

Cedars was founded in 1966 by a group of individuals who overcame personal loss and dedicated themselves to fighting cancer and to alleviating its effects on patients of all origins and their families. Cedars is the story of how one community rallied to support and help the wider public for a cause that affects so many. As cancer knows no bounds, we found strength in unity, openness, generosity and togetherness. This is what has driven our growth and impact throughout the years.

USING DONATIONS WHERE THEY MATTER THE MOST

It's thanks to our generous donors, who believe in our mission and share our drive for excellence, that we are able to help the MUHC take its fight against cancer to the next level, and that we can provide a range of services and support programs to care for the minds, bodies and spirits of MUHC cancer patients and their families.

The funds that are entrusted to us are used to directly to address the most pressing needs of the MUHC Cancer Care Mission, so that, together, we can continue to better the lives of cancer patients and their families, at every step of their cancer journey.

OUR VISION

To ease the pain and suffering caused by cancer.

OUR MISSION

To improve the health and well-being of pediatric, young adult and adult cancer patients, and their families, throughout and beyond treatment, by leading philanthropic initiatives that support excellence and innovations in clinical care, research, education, as well as supportive and palliative care services.

A MAJOR PARTNER IN THE MUHC'S FIGHT AGAINST CANCER

The Cedars Cancer Foundation aims to ease the pain and suffering caused by cancer. Our mission is to improve the health and well-being of pediatric, young adult and adult cancer patients, and of their families, throughout and beyond treatment, by leading philanthropic initiatives that support excellence and innovations in clinical care, research, education, and supportive and palliative care services.

We exist to expand the MUHC's global expertise on cancer. The funds we raise through our strategic partnerships and events ensure that the MUHC stays at the leading edge of cancer care, research, education, and supportive services. We salute the interdisciplinary teams of physicians, nurses, nutritionists, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, psychologists, social workers, psychiatrists, researchers, other professionals, and volunteers who make up the Cancer Care Mission of the MUHC, and we work hand-in-hand with its leadership to ensure that their priorities are met.

The Cedars Cancer Foundation's core activities are devoted to supporting the Cedars Cancer Centre, which is the hub of all cancer care, research and

teaching at the MUHC and which consolidates all aspects of the MUHC's Cancer Care Mission in one location. It's where patients of all ages are provided with the latest in cancer treatments, including medicine, surgery, and radiation oncology, as well as complementary care, including supportive and palliative care, nutrition and social services.

We also support the Cancer Research Program of the Research Institute of the MUHC, whose world-class researchers conduct basic, clinical and evaluative research in collaboration with the Cedars Cancer Centre.

In addition, Cedars is a founding partner and supporter of the Rossy Cancer Network, which brings together McGill University and its teaching hospitals (the MUHC, the Jewish General Hospital, and St. Mary's Hospital Centre) to improve the quality of every patient's experience and care outcome. The network provides an exceptional opportunity to advance care, using a common framework of quality, resources and tools. Its goal is to improve clinical outcomes, have a positive influence on research and teaching, and enhance efficiencies.

WHOLE-PERSON CANCER CARE

Whole person cancer care is a holistic approach that combines conventional cancer treatments with therapies and support for a patient's overall well-being, addressing physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs.

At Cedars, we understand that cancer patients need more than just medical care. That's why we fund programs that provide whole-person care adapted to all age groups: pediatric, adolescent and young adult (AYA), adult, and geriatric. Whole-person care refers to services and treatments that relieve physical and emotional suffering and that improve health and wellbeing. There is ample evidence that whole person care benefits patients across the entire trajectory of their illness. It enhances the quality of life and psychological well-being of both patients and their loved ones, and even, in some cases, longevity. And, the earlier the care is provided, the greater the benefits.

Through **Sarah's Fund for Cedars**, we help improve the care and quality of life of pediatric cancer patients and their families on Sarah's Floor at the Children's. Through the **Jackie Aziz AYA Program at Cedars**, we help provide adolescents and young adults with holistic care and access to the latest research and clinical trials that meet their unique needs. Through **Geri-CARE**, we help provide individualized exercise, nutrition and supportive therapy programs that help older cancer patients live better and cope better with their illness. And, through **Cedars CanSupport**, we provide evidence-based complementary support and therapies to improve the quality of life of cancer patients and families, from the moment of diagnosis right through to the end of treatment – or end of life.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We are privileged to have extraordinary women and men sitting on our Board of Directors. They inspire us with their generosity and dedication.



Michael Flinker
Chair of the Board



Diana Ferrara Scalia
Co-Vice-Chair



Stella Vassallo
Co-Vice-Chair



Michael D. Newton
Treasurer



Frank Rana
Secretary



Tony Aksa
Immediate Past Chair



Gwen Andrews Nacos
Director



Dr. Armen Aprikian
Director



Christina Ayoub Miller
Director



Lynn Aziz
Director



Anthony Calvillo
Director



Andrew Carter
Director



Catherine Cook
Director



Nour Dayeh
Director



Dr. Tarek Hijal
Director



Sam Kersheh
Director



Nadim Rizk
Director



Jeff J. Shamie
Ex-Officio Director



Dr. Roger Tabah
Director



Peggy Tabet
Director



Demo Trifonopoulos
Director



Adam Turner
Director



Alain Biron
Observer



Sarah Cook
Observer



Wajih Chemali
Observer



Ariel Dayan Medalsy
Observer

WHAT WE SUPPORT

OUR PILLARS OF ACTION : CANCER CARE, RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

To fulfill our mission, we focus on supporting three pillars of action:



Dr. Justin Sanders
Palliative Care Physician
Director, MUHC Division of Supportive and Palliative Care
Kappy and Eric M. Flanders Chair in Palliative Care Medicine, McGill University

Compassionate Cancer Care

Our objective is to offer every cancer patient at the MUHC the highest level of care – care that combines conventional cancer treatments with therapies and support for a patient’s overall well-being, addressing physical, emotional, social, and spiritual needs.

We want to ensure that no one is left behind and that supportive care is provided to people of all ages and at every stage of their cancer journey.



Dr. Sinziana Dumitra
Surgical oncologist, MUHC
Associate Professor,
Department of Surgery,
McGill University

Innovative Cancer Research

Monetary contributions to Cedars help the MUHC Research Institute’s Cancer Research Program (CRP) conduct research focused on finding a cure, so we can create a future without cancer. Financial support also helps CRP researchers develop better and more creative therapies and care protocols, to help mitigate the primary impact of cancer on quality of life. The CRP currently works on innovative projects in the fields of immunotherapy, molecular profiling and targeted therapies.



Dr. Carolyn Freeman
Radiation Oncologist (retired)
Former Director, MUHC Division of Radiation Oncology
Special Advisor, Cedars Visiting Professorships Program

Inspiring Cancer Education and Training

Cedars supports visiting professorships, fellowships, public lectures, and the provision of educational material for patients, healthcare professionals and visitors of the MUHC. The community’s generosity helps teach, train and mentor an increasing number of students and professionals every year at the MUHC, which is the largest teaching facility of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at McGill University.

WHAT WE SUPPORT

THE MUHC CANCER CARE MISSION



Leading the way to better cancer care

The Cancer Care Mission at the MUHC offers the highest level of treatment and care to cancer patients of all ages, and all stages of their illness. Some 20 interdisciplinary teams offer specialized cancer care, using state-of-the-art technology at every stage of the disease continuum, from prevention to remission or end-of-life care. We often work in concert with local and regional teams and have a tradition of partnership with Montréal’s cultural communities. In fact, the MUHC has developed a unique expertise in a trans-cultural approach to cancer care.

The Cancer Care Mission’s interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary teams play a leadership role in:

- Developing provincial, national and international care standards;
- Delivering ultra-specialized care not available in other centres;
- Establishing partnerships and international exchange programs;
- Supporting the development of medical and paramedical specialties.

CANCER CARE MISSION (CCM) EXECUTIVE

Dr. Armen Aprikian	Director, Cancer Care Mission; Medical Director, Cedars Cancer Centre
André Bonnici	Director, Pharmacy
Christine Bouchard	Associate Director, Cancer Care Mission, Nursing Directorate
Dr. Nathaniel Bouganim	Director, Division of Medical Oncology
Dr. Denis Cournoyer	Hematologist-oncologist; Associate Professor., McGill University
Jessica Gluszek	Assistant Chief Technologist, Radiation Oncology
Dr. Tarek Hijal	Director, Division of Radiation Oncology
Corey Hoare	Vice-Chair and Users’ Committee Representative
Chelsea Ilagan	Senior Advisor, Implementation of Trajectories by Tumour Site
Tina Kusaian	Nurse Manager, Ambulatory Oncology Services
Virginia Lee	Manager, Supportive and Palliative Care Program and Services; Co-Director, Cedars CanSupport
Dr. Christine Legler	Medical Lead Oncology Day Centre & Associate Director - Division of Medical Oncology
Dr. Annie Leung	Assistant Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology
Julie Mathieu	Nurse Manager, Palliative Care Services
Tina Mezzacappa	Manager, Clinical Nutrition
William Parker	Chief, Medical Physics
Lara Perry	Manager, Ambulatory Services
Dr. Gizelle Popradi	Director, Stem Cell Transplant Program; Clinical Teaching Unit Director, Hematology & Transplant
Dr. Ramy Saleh	Medical Director, Oncology Clinical Trials, RI-MUHC
Dr. Justin Sanders	Director, Division of Supportive and Palliative Care
Dr. Catherine Vézina	Director, Division of Hematology-Oncology, Montreal Children’s Hospital

WHAT WE SUPPORT

THE ROSSY CANCER NETWORK

The Rossy Cancer Network (RCN) is a partnership between the McGill University Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, the McGill University Health Centre, the Jewish General Hospital, and the St. Mary’s Hospital Centre. It was launched in 2012 to improve the quality of care for patients suffering from cancer treated within the McGill Academic Health Network. Its vision is to build the RCN into a world-class comprehensive network with outcomes in cancer survival, mortality, and patient satisfaction rivalling the world’s best within 10 years. The RCN is focused on improving care coordination, treatment outcomes, and the overall patient experience.



Progress and impact highlights

Assessing and improving the patient experience

Every year, the RCN mails surveys to 1,660 patients. By 2024, approximately 3,300 patients had responded to the survey. The results provided valuable insights into the patient experience and have driven new initiatives to improve it, including: new waiting room management systems; enhanced data sharing platforms; better monitoring of patients’ emotional health; a new program to build awareness about and access to clinical trials; and new services to help patients cope with pain and other cancer symptoms.

Academic Programs

The Cancer Care Quality and Innovation (CQI) Program fosters collaboration and spearheads initiatives in teaching, research, and education. Since 2014:

The CQI Research Fund funded 45 projects worth over \$3.75M, resulting in 24 peer-reviewed publications

The CQI Education Fund has awarded 175 grants, totaling over \$270,000

The QI² Fund has awarded over \$400,000 to 16 projects focused on operational improvements in cancer care

The Kuok Fellowship has given a total of \$545,000 to 12 graduate students in areas of quality care improvement

Distress Screening Program

The RCN has become a provincial leader in distress screening, sometimes referred to as symptom management. Since 2014:

- It has committed approximately \$2 million in funding to support distress screening in the RCN’s mandate
- Over 10,000 screenings have been conducted at RCN-partnered hospitals, benefitting over 3,000 patients

Clinical Trials Program

Launched in the spring of 2024, this program seeks to address gaps in trial awareness and improve access for healthcare professionals, patients, and advocacy groups. In the short term, it will create new section on the existing RCN website that presents up-to-date clinical trial data.

Cedars is a founding partner of the Rossy Cancer Network and has committed \$7.2 million to it since its inception, on behalf of the MUHC. We are proud to be part of this long-term collaborative initiative that aims to provide the highest standards of care across the entire McGill Academic Health Network.

SPOTLIGHT ON COMPASSIONATE CANCER CARE

\$ 2,231,286 disbursed to support compassionate cancer care at the MUHC in 2024-2025

CEDARS CANSUPPORT

Helping cancer patients and their families – one person at a time

Gwen Andrews Nacos founded Cedars CanSupport in 1989, after her own cancer diagnosis and treatment, with a mission to ensure that no patient at the Royal Victoria Hospital would have to go through their cancer journey alone. Since then, Cedars CanSupport has grown considerably and has helped thousands of MUHC patients and families get through one of the most difficult times of their lives.

Today, Cedars CanSupport is funded by Cedars and managed by the MUHC, as part of its Cancer Care Mission’s Supportive and Palliative Care Division. In collaboration with the MUHC healthcare team, Cedars CanSupport provides complementary support, alongside conventional treatment, to improve the quality of life of patients and families. The programs and services offered by Cedars CanSupport are evidence-based and specially designed to improve the well-being of cancer patients, which, in turn, improves patient outcomes. They are entirely funded by the generous contributions of donors.



Your impact in numbers – A few examples

2023-2024	2024-2025
6,039	7,981
Number of visits to the Cedars CanSupport Resource Centre (for information, cancer resources, head coverings)	
1,420	2,494
Number of patients enrolled in complementary therapy programs and support groups	
1,254	1,696
Number of hours worked by complementary therapists (art, writing, massage, yoga)	
\$89,798	\$79,675
Amount distributed in humanitarian financial assistance	
367	344
Number of patients who received humanitarian financial assistance	
\$22,400	\$33,000
Amount distributed by the Holiday Fund (cheques, gift cards, holiday food, gift baskets)	
142	176
Number of individuals (patients, partners, children) who received Holiday Fund assistance	
1,200	1,200
Number of 'The Bell' Fund Comfort Kits distributed to newly-diagnosed patients	
56	65
Number of Cedars CanSupport volunteers working in the Cedars Cancer Centre and RVH Palliative Care Unit	
5,628	6,624
Number of hours worked by volunteers	

Your impact - in their words

“The meditation sessions help me feel calmer and they give me a break from all the stress I’m feeling.”

“Who knew I’d improve my art skills while undergoing cancer treatments in my seventies!”

“Talking to others who are going through cancer made me feel less alone. We really understood each other.”

“I didn’t like the way I looked without hair. When I tried on a few wigs at the hospital, it was actually fun. I picked one that made me look more like myself again.”

2024 BDO CEDARS CANSUPPORT DRAGON BOAT RACE

Raised over \$675,000 for Cedars CanSupport

Founded in 2006, this event is the main annual fundraising activity for Cedars CanSupport. The 19th edition of the race, held on Saturday, September 7, 2024, brought out over 500 paddlers on 28 boats and raised over \$675,000 for Cedars CanSupport. Cedars is extremely grateful to BDO, our event title partner, whose employees, families and friends have raised nearly \$8 million for Cedars CanSupport throughout the years. Cedars also wishes to thank the following people for their hard work and dedication: the 2024 honorary co-chairs, Jaimie Auger and the late Ernie Furt, of BDO; the emeritus event chair, Gwen Nacos; and the event co-chairs, Ted Kalil and Stephanie Taylor Kalil and David and Claudia Aboud.



GALA SOIRÉE CELEBRATING THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF CEDARS CANSUPPORT

Raised over \$2,430,000 for Cedars CanSupport

On Saturday, October 26, 2024, 350 guests gathered for a glamorous evening hosted by the Cedars Cancer Foundation to help secure the future of supportive care for cancer patients and their families at the MUHC. The special event celebrated the 35th anniversary of Cedars CanSupport and paid tribute to its founder, Gwen Andrews Nacos. The proceeds from the event served to create the Cedars CanSupport Endowment Fund, which will ensure that Cedars CanSupport’s vital programs and services are sustained in perpetuity. Cedars thanks the following individuals and organizations for their generous contributions to this cause: The Rossy Foundation; The Tom and Gwen Nacos family; Michael Flinter and Dr. Marcia Gillman; the Shadeed and Assi families; the Albert and Florence Aziz Family Foundation; the Mi Corazon Foundation; Andrew Lutfy and family; Frank and Mary Rana; and Power Corporation of Canada.



SARAH'S FUND FOR CEDARS

Improving the lives of young cancer patients and their families since 2001

Sarah's Fund for Cedars was founded 2001. Its mission is to improve the care, experience, and quality of life of young cancer patients being treated on Sarah's Floor, and to provide support services to their family members. Sarah's Fund has since become a vital partner of the Hematology-Oncology Division at the Montreal Children's Hospital, for which has raised almost \$15 million. This has allowed for state-of-the-art upgrades to treatment rooms, research labs, and education labs; for the implementation of progressive psychosocial programs; for social services; for child-life services; and for contributions to pediatric hematology-oncology research.



Your impact in numbers – a few examples

50

Visits by Dr. Clowns to patients on Sarah's Floor

10

Parents of pediatric cancer patients received psychological support through the H.O.P.E. program

60

Families residing far from Montréal were accommodated at Pavillon Kat Demes

\$573,847

in funding for pediatric hematology-oncology at the Montreal Children's Hospital

95

Pet therapy sessions for patients on Sarah's Floor

53

\$25 gift cards for a hospital restaurant were given to families in need

1

Additional dedicated nutritionist was hired, which meant that 5 or 6 more patients were seen every day

2024 STROLL & DASH

Raised over \$238,000 for Sarah's Fund for Cedars

Stroll & Dash is the main annual fundraiser for Sarah's Fund for Cedars. It's a lively, family-oriented, all-day, outdoor event that involves short walking and running races, all of which are done in a spirit of fun, rather than competition. It's an opportunity to raise funds, to raise awareness, and to celebrate the young "heroes" from Sarah's Floor. Held on Sunday, October 6, 2024, the 23rd edition of Stroll & Dash raised over \$238,000 for Sarah's Fund for Cedars. Cedars is very grateful to the event co-chairs, Jessica Lutfy and Casey Tabah, and to the honorary event co-chairs, Lorena Cook and Catherine Cook, for their time, expertise and dedication.



THE JACKIE AZIZ ADOLESCENT AND YOUNG ADULT (AYA) PROGRAM AT CEDARS

Addressing the unique needs of cancer patients aged 15 to 39

The Jackie Aziz AYA Program at Cedars was launched in 2022 to help address the unique challenges of cancer patients aged 15 to 39 being treated at the McGill University Health Centre. The mission of the program is to effect positive change for AYA patients and their loved ones impacted by cancer, at every stage of their journey: diagnosis, treatment, survivorship, and, if required, end-of-life. The program aims to reduce the barriers to research and care, improve disease outcomes, and enhance quality of life for AYA patients. It also serves to address the psychosocial and wellbeing issues unique to adolescents and young adults living with cancer.



Your impact - in their words

— Ryan, AYA cancer survivor

Having the support of peers in the same age category makes us feel that we are not alone and that there are resources pertinent to our particular stage of life. This makes the battle easier to fight.

Inaugural JAX social gathering for patients and survivors

— Silvia, parent of AYA patient

The JAX AYA Clinical Research Coordinator helped us navigate and access a clinical trial for my daughter, giving us the help and hope that we needed to move forward.

Inaugural JAX social gathering for patients and survivors

— Marie, AYA patient

The AYA Program has been such a meaningful part of my experience. Through their events and community, I've connected with other young adults facing similar challenges – whether they're fellow breast cancer thrivers or navigating other types of cancer. There's something incredibly powerful about being seen and understood by people your age going through the same thing. The support JAX offers is real, it's human, and it makes a difference.

Inaugural JAX social gathering for patients and survivors

2024 JACKIE AZIZ AYA GOLF TOURNAMENT

Raised over \$322,000 for the Jackie Aziz AYA Program at Cedars

The Jackie Aziz AYA Golf Tournament is the main annual fundraising event for the Jackie Aziz AYA Program at Cedars. Its second edition, held on Monday, September 16, 2024, at the Arundel Golf Club, raised over \$322,000. It brought together 126 golfers, who honoured Jackie's memory and raised funds to support the unique psychosocial and medical challenges faced by adolescent and young adult cancer patients. Cedars was very proud to be part of this event and is extremely grateful to the Aziz family and to Mike Piers for their involvement and dedication.



SPOTLIGHT ON CANCER RESEARCH

HELPING TO IMPROVE CANCER TREATMENTS – AND ACCESS TO THEM

\$ 2,028,066

disbursed to support innovative cancer research in 2024-2025 at the MUHC and its Research Institute

Cedars is proud to support the brilliant scientists at the Cedars Cancer Centre and the RI-MUHC through targeted fundraising campaigns, research funds, and research grants. Their groundbreaking work is improving cancer treatments – and access to them. Here are a few highlights from the many research initiatives that Cedars supported in 2024-2025.

PROSTATE CANCER

Longitudinal Molecular Characterization of Lethal Prostate Cancer: A Major Step Towards Precision Oncology

The Cancer Research Program at the RI-MUHC is a major hub for research into lethal and metastatic prostate cancer. In 2024, a multi-disciplinary team of clinicians and researchers from three institutions in Québec, including co-lead researchers Dr. Simone Chevalier and Dr. Armen Aprikian, both senior RI-MUHC Cancer Research Program scientists, united to accelerate precision medicine for patients with prostate cancer. The team is deploying a multi-pronged approach to better understand why some prostate cancer patients respond to treatment and others don't, with the goal of developing tests that predict who is at a greater risk of suffering from disease progression and creating interventions to stop it from occurring. This major Canadian research initiative is supported by the Marathon of Hope Cancer Centres Network (MOHCCN), under the Gold Cohort Pan-Canadian Projects, and by PROCURE.

Simone Chevalier, Ph.D.,
Senior Scientist, Cancer Research Program, RI-MUHC
Scientific Director, PROCURE Alliance Prostate Cancer Biobank

This project represents a significant step forward in understanding and combating lethal prostate cancer. By harnessing cutting-edge molecular and imaging techniques, we aim to transform how we diagnose and treat this complex disease.

SARCOMA

Launch of new clinical trials by the Sarcoma Research Consortium of Quebec (SaRC-Q)

SaRC-Q is a collaborative initiative involving medical oncologists and sarcoma experts from multiple hospitals and research centres across Quebec. It aims to improve access to sarcoma clinical trials and accelerate therapeutic innovation. Co-founded in 2023 by MUHC medical oncologist Dr. Ramy Saleh, SaRC-Q is one of the priority initiatives supported by the Together Against Cancer campaign, through which Cedars hopes to raise \$3.5 million. In 2024, SaRC-Q continued expanding its portfolio to include 15 sites and a larger number of trials targeting various sarcoma subtypes. Notable trials opened in 2024:

- **TANGENT:** Phase III Emactuzumab Study in Tenosynovial Giant Cell Tumor (TGCT). This marks the first pan-Quebec initiative offering access to a potentially disease-modifying therapy for this rare and debilitating tumor.
- **POLARIS:** Phase III Leiomyosarcoma Trial: A pivotal study enrolling patients with advanced leiomyosarcoma to evaluate a first-in-class targeted therapy aimed at improving survival outcomes in a disease with limited treatment options.

Dr. Ramy Saleh, Medical Director, Oncology Clinical Trials, RI-MUHC, and Co-Founder, SaRC-Q

Additional trials are underway focusing on immunotherapy, targeted therapies, and novel drug combinations for rare sarcoma subtypes – including studies unique to Quebec that will bring together pediatric and adult patients under one research network.

Pioneering liquid biopsy assays for osteosarcoma

Dr. Joanna Przybyl is known for her pioneering work on developing liquid biopsy techniques for the diagnosis, monitoring, and personalized treatment of sarcomas. Her work is focused on improving clinical outcomes for patients with bone and soft tissue tumors, including osteosarcoma and desmoid tumors. In 2024, Dr. Joanna Przybyl received a Terry Fox New Investigator Award for her multi-year project to create a novel liquid biopsy test for osteosarcoma. This approach promises more personalized and effective treatment while sparing patients from ineffective, highly toxic treatments. Also in 2024, her lab's research, which revealed unexpected molecular heterogeneity in desmoid tumors and showed that recurrent tumors can develop new molecular alterations, was published in *Clinical Cancer Research*.

Dr. Joanna Przybyl, Principal Investigator, Cancer Research Program, RI-MUHC

Liquid biopsy is an innovative technology that's already transformed clinical care for patients because it allows us to analyze genetic changes in the tumour using a simple blood draw, rather than the invasive procedures usually required to access genetic material.

The first multimodal deep-learning model to optimize care for sarcoma patients

In 2024, a research team at the RI-MUHC developed the first multimodal deep-learning model to optimize care for sarcoma patients. It uses AI to analyze complex data and can more accurately predict overall survival and the risk of metastasis in soft-tissue sarcoma patients compared to traditional methods. This new model, recently published in the journal NPJ Precision Oncology, will potentially lead to more personalized treatment plans and better outcomes for patients.

Dr. Anthony Bozzo, Junior Scientist, Cancer Research Program, RI-MUHC

By improving the accuracy of predictions, this new model could help healthcare providers better manage sarcoma, ultimately leading to improved outcomes for patients. Our work is a promising step towards more individualized and effective treatments for sarcoma patients, and it showcases the potential of AI in transforming cancer care.

BREAST CANCER

Single pre-operative radiation therapy (SPORT-CK) trial for low-risk breast cancer

In 2024, Dr. Tarek Hijal (MUHC) and Dr. Michael Yassa (Maisonneuve-Rosemont Hospital) announced the development of a novel treatment protocol for stage 1 breast cancer that could eliminate the need for surgery. The strategy aims to reduce treatment duration, hospital visits, and side effects, and to improve cosmetic outcomes. Tested in two clinical trials involving women over 60 with low-risk breast cancer, the strategy yielded positive results, which were published in Radiotherapy and Oncology (the Green Journal) in September 2024. A third trial is currently underway, tracking patients for one-year post-radiotherapy to assess if the tumour has shrunk enough to avoid surgery or enable a less invasive procedure.

— Dr. Tarek Hijal, Director, Division of Radiation Oncology, MUHC Investigator, Cancer Research Program, RI-MUHC

Our results are guiding the development of a fairly revolutionary protocol. It will take more time and larger studies to confirm the results in the longer term, but, based on the encouraging results already obtained, we are hopeful that we will be able to reduce the number of treatments and improve cosmetic outcomes for women with low-risk breast cancer.

GYNECOLOGICAL CANCERS

The DOvEEgene test entered its third and final clinical trial phase

The Dagenais Joly-Smith Fund at Cedars has raised over \$1.2 million for the groundbreaking DOvEEgene project since 2016. Under the leadership of gynecological oncologist Dr. Lucy Gilbert, the DOvEEgene team has developed a revolutionary genomic PAP test that can detect ovarian and endometrial cancers as early as stage 1. The DOvEEgene test uses next-generation sequencing to analyze 23 genes linked to ovarian and endometrial cancers, aiming to detect them at stage 1 rather than stage 3 or 4. In 2024, the DOvEEgene test entered its third clinical trial phase. This phase represents the culmination of over 15 years of research and development since the DOvEE project began in 2008 and marks a step toward regulatory approval and clinical adoption. If successful, DOvEEgene could transform gynecologic cancer screening and save thousands of lives annually.

2024 CEDARS RUN FOR OVARIAN CANCER

Raised over \$137,900 for the DOvEEgene Project

The Cedars Run for Ovarian Cancer is the annual fundraiser for the Dagenais Joly-Smith Fund of the Cedars Cancer Foundation, and all proceeds support the DOvEEgene Project, which, under the leadership of renowned MUHC gynecological oncologist Dr. Lucy Gilbert, has developed a revolutionary new genomic PAP test that can detect ovarian and endometrial cancers as early as stage 1. The event brings together families, friends, hospital employees, cancer patients, and cancer survivors, who participate in a 2km run/walk, a timed 5km run/walk, or a timed 10km run. The 9th annual Cedars Run for Ovarian Cancer, which took place on Sunday, October 20, in the Town of Mount Royal, brought together over 450 participants, volunteers and guests, and raised over \$137,900 for the DOvEEgene Project. Cedars extends its sincerest thanks to the founders and co-chairs of this event: the late Dominique Dagenais Joly-Smith, her husband, Stephen Joly-Smith, and their son, Maxime Joly-Smith.



CEDARS ONCOLOGY RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Supporting the research of our best and brightest young scientists

We are proud to support some of the MUHC’s most promising young scientists through our Oncology Research Fellowships program. The grants we award every year provide researchers with seed money, which can help them grow their labs and build research capacity, generate preliminary data, and position themselves to secure larger, long-term funding. Many of the researchers we have supported over the years have gone on to create highly respected labs, published in prestigious journals, and won awards for their discoveries.

Dr. Henry R. Shibata Cedars Cancer Research Fellowships are awarded to deserving young scientists who work in the area of basic or clinical oncology research at the MUHC. Kate McGarrigle Cedars Sarcoma Research Fellowships are awarded to healthcare workers working primarily in the field of sarcoma. Sarah’s Fund for Cedars Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Research Fellowships are awarded to candidates pursuing research in the field of pediatric hematology-oncology.

These fellowships allow outstanding cancer specialists to further their research and education, which benefits the hospital, McGill University and, above all, cancer patients.

Your impact in numbers

\$110,000

In Cedars Oncology Research Fellowship grant money given to 6 MUHC researchers:

Dr. Vanessa Di Lalla	Henry R. Shibata Cedars Research Fellowship Research in Radiation Oncology
Dr. Teodora Dumitra	Henry R. Shibata Cedars Research Fellowship Research in Complex Surgical Oncology
Dr. Jennifer Kalil	Henry R. Shibata Cedars Research Fellowship Research in Colorectal Cancer Liver Metastases
Dr. Samara Perez	Henry R. Shibata Cedars Research Fellowship Research in AYA Psychosocial Oncology
Dr. Joanna Przybyl	Henry R. Shibata Cedars Research Fellowship Research in Metabolic Reprogramming in Sarcoma
Dr. James Tsui	Kate McGarrigle Cedars Sarcoma Research Fellowship Research in AI, Oncology, Sarcoma
Dr. Carol Oliveira	Sarah’s Fund in Pediatrics Hematology-Oncology Research Fellowship Research in Pediatric Radiation Oncology

SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Joanna Przybyl

Dr. Przybyl has received two Cedars Oncology Research Fellowships. She has earned several awards, including the Terry Fox New Investigator Award, recognizing her innovative work on developing a liquid biopsy test to analyze osteogenic tumors and predict treatment outcomes. Her work has appeared in several medical and scientific journals, including Nature Communications, Clinical Cancer Research, and Cancer Research Communications.

Dr. James Man Git Tsui

Dr. Tsui has received three Cedars Oncology Research Fellowships. He has received numerous awards, including the FRQS Junior 1 Clinician-Scientist award for his work integrating artificial intelligence into radiation oncology. He has published in several respected medical and scientific journals, including PNAS, The Journal of Neuroscience, and Radiotherapy and Oncology.

SPOTLIGHT ON INSPIRING EDUCATION AND TRAINING

\$ 658,053 disbursed to support inspiring education and training at the MUHC in 2024-2025

CEDARS FELLOWSHIPS FUND

Supporting advanced training for top-tier physicians and researchers

A medical fellowship is a period of advanced training that physicians undertake after completing their residency. It allows them to specialize in a particular area of medicine, such as oncology, and to gain deeper clinical expertise, research experience, and academic exposure. McGill’s office of Postgraduate Medical Education offers several specialized oncology fellowships at the MUHC, including programs in breast cancer, brain cancer, and cancer genetics. Cedars is proud to support these oncology fellowships. They are a vital investment in the future of cancer care. They foster innovation and excellence in both patient treatment and scientific discovery. By funding these opportunities, the Cedars Cancer Foundation helps attract top-tier talent from all around the world to the MUHC, strengthens the academic mission of the MUHC, and ensures that the next generation of oncology leaders is equipped with the expertise and experience needed to improve outcomes for patients across Québec and beyond.

Your impact in numbers

\$326,641
In funding to support McGill Postgraduate Medical Education Fellowships in Oncology

10
Fellows in Oncology, from 8 countries, came to train at the MUHC

2024 CEDARS GOLF CLASSIC

Raised over \$601,500 for Surgical Oncology at the MUHC

This special fundraising event supports excellence and innovation in surgical oncology at the MUHC. The proceeds are used to endow the Peter Abraham Cedars Surgical Oncology Fellowship Fund and allow the Montreal General Hospital to invest in innovative surgical oncology projects that have the potential to change the way cancer is treated. The 45th edition of the tournament was held on Monday, June 17, 2024, and brought together 256 golfers at Royal Montreal Golf Club. Cedars extends a very special thank-you to the 2024 event co-chairs for their invaluable assistance in putting together this important event: Andrew Carter, Mark Krakower, Demo Trifonopoulos, Paul Sawaya, Dominic Costantini, and Kim Anderson.



CEDARS VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS IN ONCOLOGY

Hosting world-renowned experts to further in-house knowledge at the MUHC

Every year, through the Cedars Visiting Professorship Program, Cedars brings world-renowned cancer researchers, physicians and educators to the MUHC, so they can share their expertise with doctors, nurses, researchers and medical students. This allows healthcare teams to learn first-hand about the latest developments in pediatric, adolescent, and adult cancers, as well as in supportive and palliative cancer care. The program fosters thought-provoking discussions, stimulates innovation, creates opportunities for collaborations, and enhances the training of our healthcare professionals and students

Your impact in numbers

6 Cedars Visiting Professors shared their expertise with approximately 360 medical professionals and students

2024 Dr. Edward J. Tabah Visiting Professor in Surgical Oncology:

Sam Michael Wisemen, MD, FRCSC, FACS

Dr. Wiseman is a recognized international expert in the management of thyroid and parathyroid disease. He is a Professor of Surgery at the University of British Columbia and an attending surgeon at St. Paul’s Hospital, in Vancouver.



2024 Dr. Carolyn Freeman Visiting Professor in Radiation Oncology:

David Kirsch, MD, PhD

Dr. Kirsch is a prominent clinician-scientist and radiation oncologist known for his groundbreaking work in sarcoma research and radiation biology. He is a Senior Scientist at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre in Toronto and Director of the Radiation Medicine Program.



2024 Gwen and Tom Nacos Visiting Professor in Supportive and Palliative Care:

Charlotta Lindvall, MD, PhD

Dr. Lindvall is a distinguished physician-scientist who develops AI-driven tools to improve clinical decision-making and documentation. She is a palliative care physician and Director of Clinical Informatics and Computational Palliative Care Research at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.



2024 Vivian Saykaly Visiting Professor in Medical Oncology:

Lillian L. Siu, MD, FASCO, FAACR

Dr. Siu is a globally recognized medical oncologist, clinical trialist, and cancer researcher who has received multiple awards for her contributions to the development of anti-cancer drugs. She is a Professor of Medicine at the University of Toronto as well as a senior medical oncologist at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre in Toronto.



2025 Florence Flinker Visiting Professor in Colorectal Surgery:

Matthew Albert, MD, FACS, FASCRS

Dr. Albert is the founding physician of the Center for Colon and Rectal Surgery and a member of the elite colon and rectal surgery team at AdventHealth Medical Group in Orlando, Florida. He invented the revolutionary technique known as TAMIS - transanal minimally invasive surgery - and has trained thousands of surgeons.



2025 Dr. N. Blair Whittemore Visiting Professor of Sarah’s Fund for Cedars in Pediatric Hematology-Oncology:

Julie R. Park, MD

Dr. Park is a clinical scientist whose research focuses on translating laboratory discoveries to improve the survival of children with cancer. She is Chair of the Department of Oncology and Endowed Chair in Pediatric Oncology at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee.



2024-2025 EVENTS IN PICTURES

Thank you to the many extraordinary people who support us by donating their time and resources to ensuring the success of our fundraising events.



CEDARS CANSUPPORT PUBLIC LECTURES

Providing patients and caregivers with the latest news about cancer treatment and care

This public lecture series allows cancer patients to learn the latest news about the most common forms of cancer from experts in the field. Presenters include MUHC oncologists and, occasionally, Cedars Visiting Professors. The lectures can be attended in person or by videoconference, and they regularly attract over 75 participants.

2024-2025 Cedars CanSupport Public Lectures

May 7, 2024	News You Can Use about Bladder Cancer
May 28, 2024	News You Can Use about Supportive and Palliative Care
June 13, 2024	News You Can Use about Melanoma and Skin Cancer
February 4, 2025	World Cancer Day edition: Personalized, Patient-Centred Cancer Care

Your impact in numbers

≈ 360
People attended **4 Cedars CanSupport Public Lectures** (online and in-person)

— Jeff J. Shamie, President and CEO, Cedars Cancer Foundation

The McGill University Health Centre is a teaching hospital, whose educational mission dates back to 1823. It has been a training ground for generations of medical students, residents, and fellows, as well as nurses, for over 100 years. We're honoured to be contributing to this legacy.



2024 CEDARS ELECTRIC CAR RAFFLE

Raised over \$79,190 for the MUHC Division of Radiation Oncology

The 2024 Cedars Electric Car Raffle took place on October 3, 2024, at MINI Brossard. The holder of the winning ticket won a brand-new 2024 MINI Cooper SE 3 Door all-electric car. Proceeds from the raffle supported the Radiation Oncology Research Unit, which is a leading hub for translational and molecular radiation biology research, focused on improving cancer treatment outcomes.



Stroll & Dash

Ovarian Run

Cedars Golf Classic

PARTNER FUNDRAISING EVENTS

THANK YOU TO THE MANY ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS WHO RAISED FUNDS FOR US LAST YEAR



KIDS FOR KIDS GALA 2024

On April 26, 2024, the Kids for Kids Gala at Maison Principale brought together a community of passionate young leaders to raise critical funds for Sarah’s Fund for Cedars, which supports pediatric cancer patients at the Montreal Children’s Hospital. The evening was filled with joy, hope, and generosity, as attendees celebrated life while making a meaningful impact in the Montréal community. Thank you to Brahm Mauer for organizing this event.



SYMPHONY FOR THE BELL 2024

The 3rd edition of Symphony for ‘The Bell’ took place on Mother’s Day, May 12, 2024, at the magnificent St. Andrew and St. Paul Church. The concert, which was produced in partnership with the iMedici di McGill Orchestra and the Trio de l’Île, featured works by Ludwig van Beethoven, Edward Elgar, Jean Sibelius, Frederick Delius, and Edward Benjamin Britten. Proceeds from the event benefitted ‘The Bell’ Fund’s Comfort Kit Program, the Healing Notes Program, and Cedars CanSupport.



“LE RIRE C’EST LA SANTÉ” 2024

On May 29, 2024, Montréal school principal and stand-up comedian Joe Cacchione held a special fundraising event in support of the Shadd Health and Business Centre’s BDO Cedars CanSupport Dragon Boat Race team. Guests enjoyed dinner and comedy at Bâton Rouge Grillhouse & Bar Anjou. Cedars is very grateful to Joe and to Bâton Rouge for their support and for organizing such a fun event!



CAROL FOR A CURE

Held on December 15, 2024, this annual holiday sing-along supports liquid biopsy research led by Dr. Catalin Mihalciou, medical oncologist at the Cedars Cancer Centre, and honours the legacy of Rochelle Barr, who died of breast cancer in 2016. This festive tradition, which has been taken place annually since Rochelle’s diagnosis, supports the fight against a disease that affects so many women. Thank you to Reesa Barr, Zoë Mintz, and Team RockStarr for organizing this event, and to the dozens of volunteers who come out year after year to sing and raise awareness and funds for breast cancer.



VILLA MARIA COLOUR RUN FOR THE CURE 2024

On May 31, 2024, Villa Maria held its annual Colour Run for the Cure to raise awareness about breast cancer and funds for Dr. David Fleiszer’s Clinical Education Fund at Cedars, which supports excellence in training for MUHC surgical oncologists. Thank you to the Villa Maria Breast Cancer Awareness Committee, who organized the event, and to everyone who participated.



FRIGHT FOR A CURE

This haunted-house Halloween fundraising event was organized by Sterling and Zoe Mintz, to honour the memory of their mother, Rochelle, who passed away from breast cancer in 2016. Rochelle was born on Halloween, and she adored the spooky season. All proceeds benefited cancer research led by Dr. Catalin Mihalciou, medical oncologist at the Cedars Cancer Centre. Thank you to Sterling and Andrea Mintz, and to Zoë Mintz and Scott McClure, for organizing this event.



WOMEN CHEFS RISE FOR A GOOD CAUSE 2024

On Tuesday, November 19, 2024, the Program for Women’s Cancer Research in Radiation Oncology held its annual fundraiser: La Roche-Posay’s Women Chefs Rise. Guests enjoyed an unforgettable evening at Restaurant Portus 360, where top female chefs - including Helena Loureiro, Fisun Ecran, Sayaka Prefontaine, Roxanne Lafontaine, Thi Uyen Vu, and Neptaline Thermitus - came together to create a one-of-a-kind gastronomic experience in support of a great cause.



SHADES OF PINK 2025

The 6th edition of Shades of Pink, held on March 8, 2025, at Salle de Réception Le Classique in Saint-Léonard, was a great success. Guests enjoyed an evening of delicious food, lively music, and dancing, all while supporting the Cedars Breast Cancer Research and Care Fund. Thank you to Maria Mariani for organizing this event.

OUR MAJOR EVENT PARTNERS

Thank you to the individuals and organizations who contributed to our major events.



2024 BDO Cedars CanSupport Dragon Boat Race



2024 Cedars Auction & Raffle Soirée



2024 Stroll & Dash



2024 Cedars Run for Ovarian Cancer

Gwen Nacos Family
Mike Flinker and Family
Shadeed and Assi Families
Andrew Lutfy and Family
The Rossy Foundation

Brian and Alida Rossy Family Foundation
Adam Turner

Jack and Maureen Dym
Allan and Jane Edwards Foundation
Mark Saykaly Family

Albert & Florence Aziz Family Foundation
John and Phyllis Rae
Fondation Mi Corazon
Mi Corazon Foundation

Frank and Mary Rana
BANQUE NATIONALE

Peter & Claire Kruyt
Mountain Radiotherapy Associates
Catherine Cook and Family

Cedars CanSupport Gala Soirée



2024 Cedars Golf Classic

OUR FINANCIALS

FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

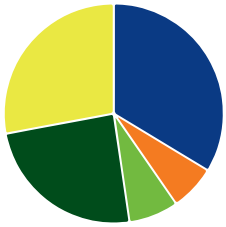
ALLOCATIONS



- The Best Care for Life Campaign
- Care (pediatric & adult)
- Research
- Education

\$ Amount
1,000,000
2,231,286
2,028,066
658,053
5,917,405

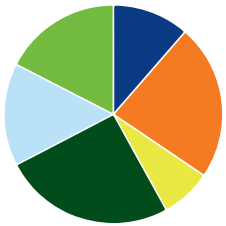
REVENUES



- Fundraising events
- Sarah's Fund for Cedars
- Jackie Aziz AYA Program at Cedars
- Donations
- Restricted donations
- The Best Care for Life Campaign

\$ Amount
2,968,793
593,283
645,745
2,148,884
2,465,761
0
8,822,466

DISTRIBUTION & EXPENSES



- Care (pediatric & adult)
- Research
- Education
- The Best Care for Life Campaign
- General, administration and fundraising expenses
- Charity events expenses

\$ Amount
2,231,286
2,028,066
658,053
1,000,000
1,335,743
1,533,079
8,786,227

INVESTMENTS IN MASTER TRUST AS AT MARCH 31, 2024

- The Best Care for Life Campaign Fund
- Sarah's Fund for Cedars
- Cedars Whole Person Care - CWPC Rossy and Frank Rana Fund
- Wilfrid Howick Humanitarian Fund
- Rossy Cedars Chair in Precision Oncology
- General Fund
- Other Funds

\$ Amount
4,663,021
3,040,546
1,755,617
1,302,914
1,215,960
4,962,063
530,032
17,470,153

WAYS TO SUPPORT US

FIND ONE THAT WORKS FOR YOU

Every gift that we receive allows us to improve the lives of cancer patients and their families across the continuum of life, from pediatric, adolescent and adult care, to survivorship, supportive and palliative care.

There are several ways to get involved in our fight against cancer. We want to ensure that everyone can find one that resonates with them. More information on ways to donate, and a secure donation platform, can be found on our website: www.cedars.ca.

THE CEDARS HEROES PROGRAM

There are many heroes at the Cedars Cancer Centre: physicians, nurses, PABs, therapists, technicians, staff members, and volunteers who go beyond the call of duty and who have a profound impact on the lives of patients and their families. The Cedars Heroes Program is a way for people to honour a healthcare worker who helped make their cancer journey more bearable. When you make a donation to the Cedars Heroes Program, your hero will be personally notified and will be presented with a special pin recognizing the exceptional level of patient care that they provide.

THE CEDARS GOVERNORS CIRCLE

We created the Cedars Governors Circle to help us build capacity to support cancer patients and their families. By making one or more donations totalling \$250 or more within a single calendar year (January 1 to December 31), a donor becomes a member of our exclusive Governors Circle and is recognized as a member of a special leadership program.

WAYS TO GIVE AND GET INVOLVED

- One-time donations
- Monthly giving
- Support Cedars’ Annual Appeal for Priority Needs
- Tax-smart giving (stocks and securities, in-kind gifts)
- Planned giving / Estate gifts
- Invest in research
- Invest in patient education oncology guides
- The Cedars Cancer Heroes Program
- Pay tribute to someone special (Honour / In Memory)
- Organize a fundraiser
- Participate in one of our fundraising events
- Donate to one of our fundraising events
- Sponsor an event
- Corporate donations
- Matching gifts
- Leadership gifts
- Transformational gifts
- Build a legacy
- Become Cedars CanSupport volunteer
- Volunteer at one of our fundraising events

People who want to find out more, or who want to discuss how a donation to Cedars can make a real difference in the fight against cancer, should contact us at 514-656-6662.

Scan this QR code to access our giving page:



A FEW OF OUR FUNDS

Here are just a few of the many impactful funds to which people can donate through Cedars. To view all of our funds, please visit our website: www.cedars.ca.

FRANK RANA’S SUPPORTIVE CARE CAMPAIGN

Since 2010, Frank and Mary Rana have rallied their friends, family and corporate colleagues around a cause that is very close to their hearts: supportive care. Thanks to their leadership and direction, over \$4.2 million dollars have been raised to fund Cedars Supportive Care programs and Cedars CanSupport. These vital funds have helped us improve the quality of life of MUHC cancer patients by enabling us to provide them with free psychological, emotional and spiritual support, practical information, and financial assistance. With the support of Frank and Mary Rana and their unrelenting Cedars Supportive Care Campaign, all these services and more will one day find themselves under one roof at the Cedars Oncology Supportive Care Centre (COSCO).

‘THE BELL’ FUND

‘The Bell’ Fund was launched on February 4, 2016 – World Cancer Day – with the ringing of a bell by the fund’s indefatigable founder, Judy Martin. In 2013, after a long battle with breast cancer, Judy donated the bell to the MUHC, which patients ever since then have rung to celebrate the end of their chemotherapy treatments. The goal of ‘The Bell’ Fund is to raise money so that every newly diagnosed MUHC cancer patient can be given a “comfort kit,” which contains a soft blanket, a water bottle, mints, a notepad and pen, and other items. ‘The Bell’ Fund also provides a soft blanket for every newly diagnosed child on Sarah’s Floor at the Montreal Children’s Hospital for their Pediatric Comfort Kit initiative.

THE WILFRID HOWICK HUMANITARIAN FUND

In 1991, in memory of a great humanitarian, and through generous donations from the Howick Family, the Cedars Humanitarian Fund was endowed as the Wilfrid Howick Humanitarian Fund. Through this fund, Cedars is able to provide assistance and resources to cancer patients in financial need. Our MUHC social workers identify which cancer patients and families require financial assistance. The Wilfrid Howick Humanitarian Fund allows Cedars to help those most in need, whether it be by covering the cost of home care equipment rental, transportation to and from hospital visits, parking fees, or even home care and childcare.

CEDARS HEALING NOTES FUND

Healing Notes aims to bring the comforting sounds of music into the daily lives of cancer patients treated at the Cedars Cancer Centre, and to further humanize the clinical setting. Every Tuesday at noon, Healing Notes presents a one-hour concert in the radiation oncology waiting area. Through classical, jazz or popular music, the aim is to create an atmosphere that promotes comfort and healing to everyone in the vicinity, whether they are waiting or simply passing by. The music also helps to ease stress for family and friends who accompany their loved ones through tests, treatments, and doctor visits.

THE PETER ABRAHAM CEDARS SURGICAL ONCOLOGY FELLOWSHIP FUND

Peter Abraham was a long-time member of the Cedars Board of Directors and was its Chair from 2006 to 2008. In his honour, the Cedars Cancer Foundation and his family established the Peter Abraham Cedars Surgical Oncology Fellowship Fund. The goal of the latter is to create a \$1.5 million endowment, to be held in perpetuity, which will be used to recruit and train top surgical oncology fellows on an annual basis and produce experts in surgical oncology who will help teach future generations of physicians and allied health professionals.

2024-2025 EVENTS IN PICTURES

Thank you to the many extraordinary people who support us by donating their time and resources to ensuring the success of our fundraising events.





FONDATION DU
CANCER DES CÈDRES
CEDARS CANCER
FOUNDATION

IN 2024-2025, WE TOOK A STAND
FOR CANCER PATIENTS AND
THEIR FAMILIES.

THANK YOU FOR
STANDING ALONG
WITH US.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our volunteers, donors, and sponsors for supporting the Cedars Cancer Foundation in our mission to improve the health and well-being of pediatric, adolescent, young adult, and adult cancer patients, and their families, throughout and beyond treatment.



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cancérologie
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Network

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de santé McGill



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Health Centre

Centre universitaire
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Institut de recherche



McGill University
Health Centre
Research Institute



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TOGETHER AGAINST CANCER

I
GIVE
MY
BEST

GIVE
THE BEST
YOU CAN



Christine Bouchard
Associate Director
MUHC Cancer Care Mission



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