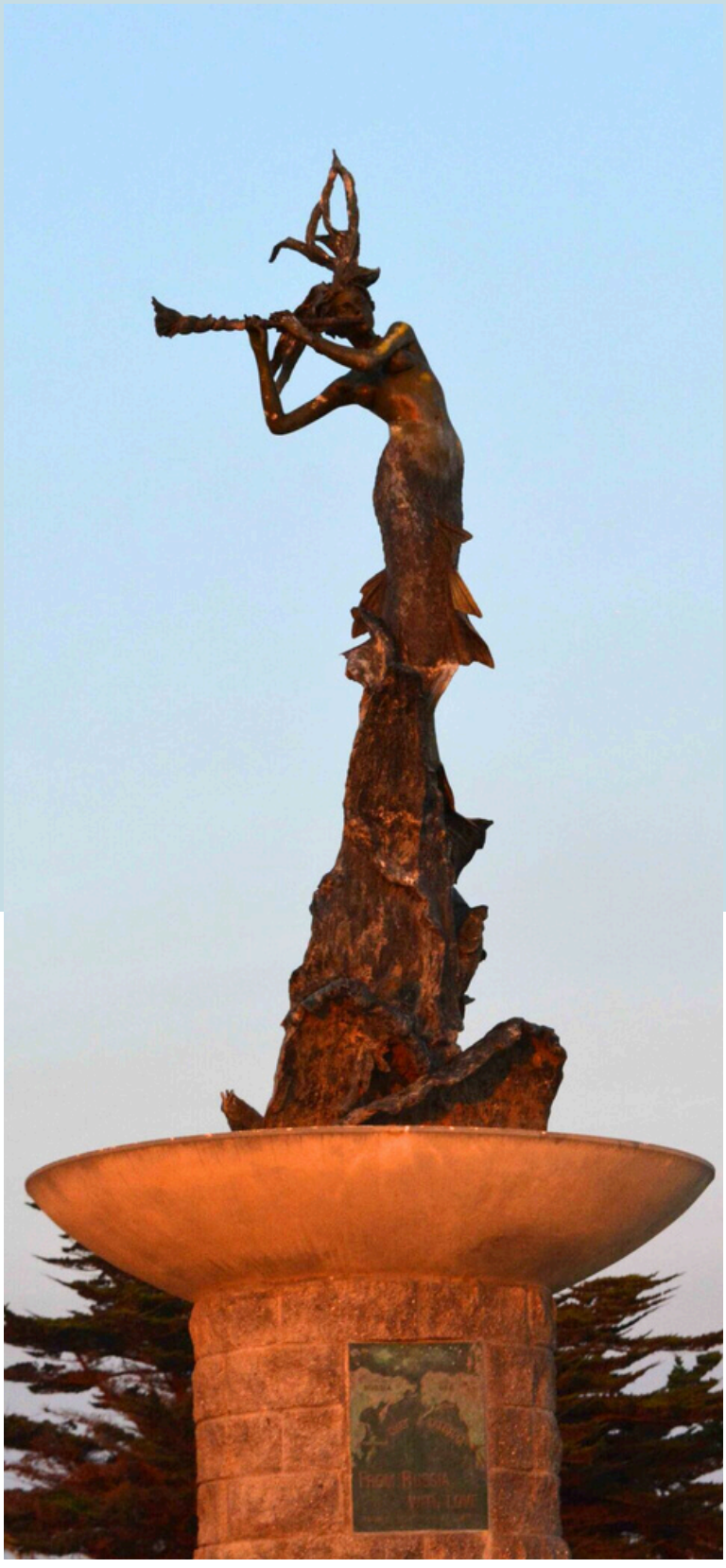
ANNUAL *Report* 2024



ANDREA'S FOUNDATION
Ventura, California
Supporting Families Challenged by Cancer Since 2008

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ABOUT US

Andrea's Legacy

The Andrea Grace Soter-Simonson Memorial Foundation was established in 2008 to honor the memory of Andrea Grace Soter-Simonson, whose strength, compassion, and commitment to community continue to inspire our mission.

Soter Point at Marina Park in Ventura, California, was founded by Andrea's Father, Andrew Soter, in Andrea's Memory. Today, the mermaid at Soter Point is a community cornerstone. The mermaid's image represents Andrea's Foundation, tying together a monument erected in Andrea's memory with the important non-profit work conducted in her name.

Vision

To build a Ventura County where every person battling cancer has access to essential resources and financial support so they can focus on healing.

Mission

Andrea's Foundation provides financial assistance, support, connection to resources, and encouragement to families challenged by cancer in Ventura County.

What we do

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, we bridge a critical gap for our community: giving families direct financial support via pass-through grants to cover the expenses associated with a cancer diagnosis. From medical and insurance costs, to basic living expenses, such as rent, utilities, and transportation, we are committed to supporting patients and their families so they can focus on healing.

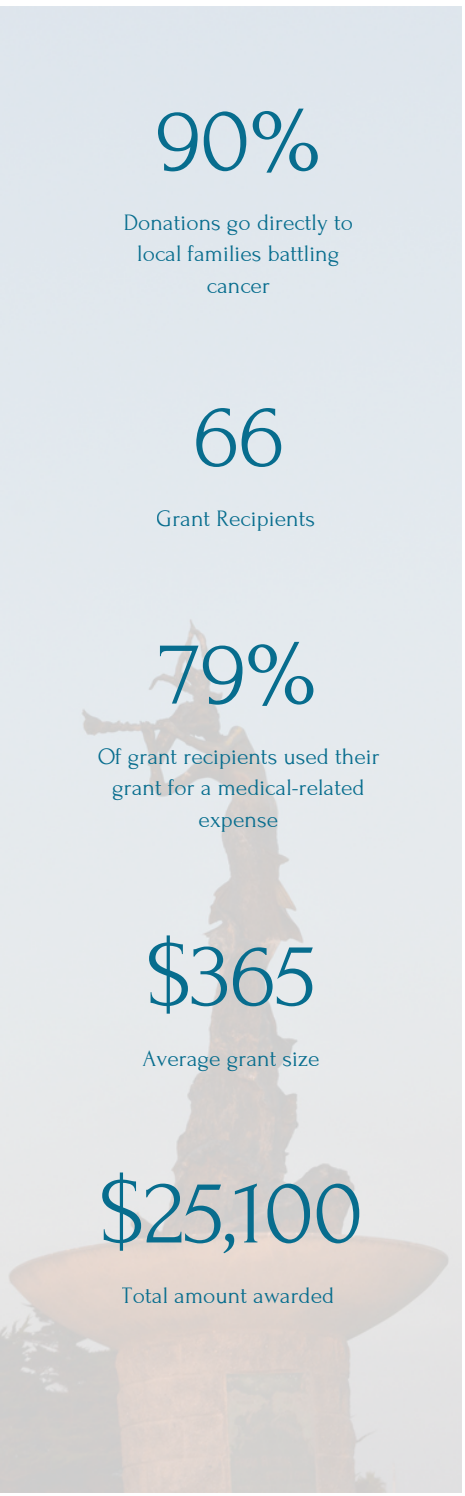
Grounded in Andrea's legacy, we are committed to serving people from all walks and stages of life, including children, seniors, agricultural workers, the unhoused, and vulnerable populations, ensuring every patient and loved one feels supported, uplifted, and cared for during their most difficult moments.

Our Team

Andrea's Foundation is led by a small but mighty team of local leaders and friends of Andrea who are committed to upholding her legacy in the community.

Patricia Perrine, MBA, Executive Director
Clifton Simonson, President, Andrea's Husband
Olivia Simonson, Esq. Vice President, Andrea's Daughter
Christian Simonson, Andrea's Son
Mark Patterson, Ph.D.
Curtis Warn
Ann Drescher
Paragon, Ph.D.
Claire Jenks
Terrie Longo
Dr. Dean Smith
David Chatfield
Darlene Compton

2024 OVERVIEW



90%

Donations go directly to local families battling cancer

66

Grant Recipients

79%

Of grant recipients used their grant for a medical-related expense

$365

Average grant size

$25,100

Total amount awarded

We are a small but mighty organization that is fiercely committed to supporting families battling cancer in our local community.

2024 was our 16th year supporting Ventura County families challenged by cancer. This year, we continued to work diligently to support our local community with pass-through grants and connections to resources in furtherance of our mission. We have seen firsthand, and our impact statements in this report show, that many in our community are struggling to balance the needs of a late-stage cancer diagnosis and basic living expenses.

In 2024, the Foundation provided $25,100 in direct financial assistance to 66 individuals and families. When we say "small but mighty," we mean it: this year, 90% of all donations went directly to grant recipients. With an average grant size of $365, 79% of recipients used their grants for essential medical expenses.

Our demographic impact this year was incredibly diverse, and we continued our service to children, the elderly, the unhoused, and farmworkers. We were humbled to serve those battling cancer who also lost their homes in the Mountain Fire.

This year, we continued our core programs, including our partnership with Healthcare Foundation of Ventura County, providing Thanksgiving meal gift cards to oncology patients in active treatment at Ventura County Medical Center. We also expanded our partnership with California Natural Resources Group on our Hope for the Holidays program. Together, we delivered Christmas trees, decor, and gift cards to 18 families in Ventura County.

We continue to see the impeccable strength and support in our own backyard. As we work to make our community a place where those in the fight of their lives receive the support they need to focus on healing, we extend our thanks to our incredible donors, corporate sponsors, and grant providers for their ongoing commitment to our organization's mission.

Honoring my mom, Andrea, with the ongoing fulfillment of our mission in her memory is a privilege. As you read through this report, I hope you feel our shared sense of of a beautiful and powerful feeling: hope.

Very Truly Yours,

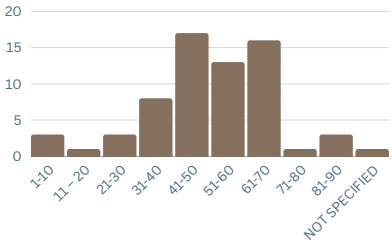
Olivia Simonson
Vice President
Andrea's Daughter

IMPACT SUMMARY

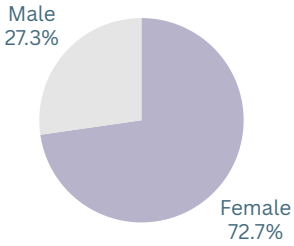
Demographics

The Foundation supported a diverse range of individuals in 2024, ranging in ages from 2.5 to 91. The majority of our grant recipients are female. Our grant recipients were from throughout Ventura County, but most resided in the cities of Oxnard and Ventura. These demographics highlight both the broad county-wide reach of our work and the areas where cancer-related financial need is most significant. Our applicants continue to come from underserved communities, including children, the unhoused, the elderly, and farmworkers.

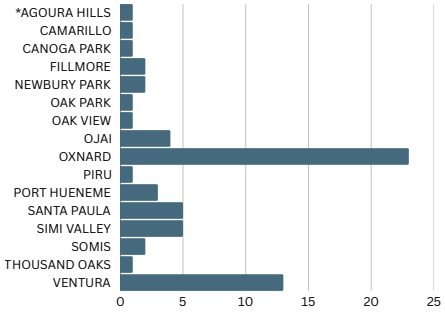
Age



Gender



Location



Who We Serve

CHILDREN	ELDERLY	UNDERSERVED	UNHOUSED	FARMWORKERS

Challenges

The cost of a cancer diagnosis in the United States is astronomical and growing. That is where Andrea's Foundation shows up to fill in the gaps for our community. In 2024, our grant recipients continue to face significant hardships due to high daily living expenses and housing. We continue to see a trend towards later-stage diagnoses post-COVID, with most applicants averaging a Stage 4 diagnosis. Grant recipients who used their funds for a non-medical expense paid for utiliy bills and unique supplements that are not eligible under EBT. Breast and colon cancers continue to be the most frequent cancer diagnoses for our applicants.

- Utilities & Supplements were the most common non-medical expenses
- Applicants have later-stage diagnosis and more support is requested for daily living expenses
- Breast & Colon are the Most Frequent Applicant Cancer Types

2024 PROGRAMS

Bountiful Blessings

Our annual partnership event with Healthcare Foundation for Ventura County, providing Thanksgiving meal cards to the oncology patients at Ventura County Medical Center, was a success. We provided 10 meals to local families.

Hope for the Holidays

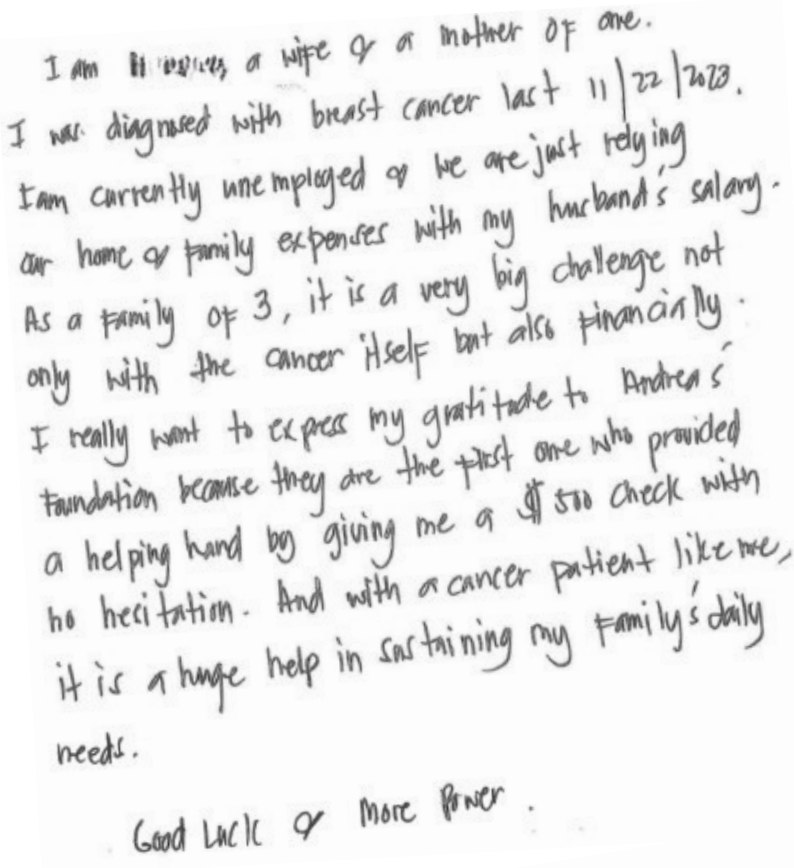
Our annual partnership with California Natural Resources Group for their Christmas tree delivery & gift card drive was a resounding success. Over 15 families of past grant recipients who opted in received a Christmas tree, decorations, and gift cards for the holidays.

Relief in Reach

Our ongoing Relief in Reach program includes a fund for helping our grant recipients with daily living expenses, including gift cards for gas, groceries, and necessities. It also includes access to other local organizations that provide support with housing, food, cancer support, wigs, and more.

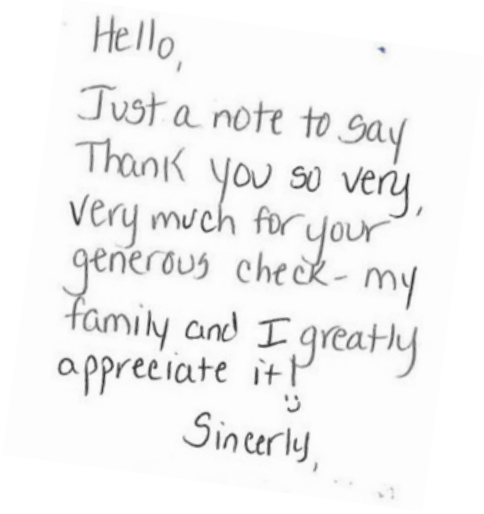
STATEMENTS of Thanks

"I really want to express my gratitude to Andrea's Foundation because they are the first one[s] who provided a helping hand."

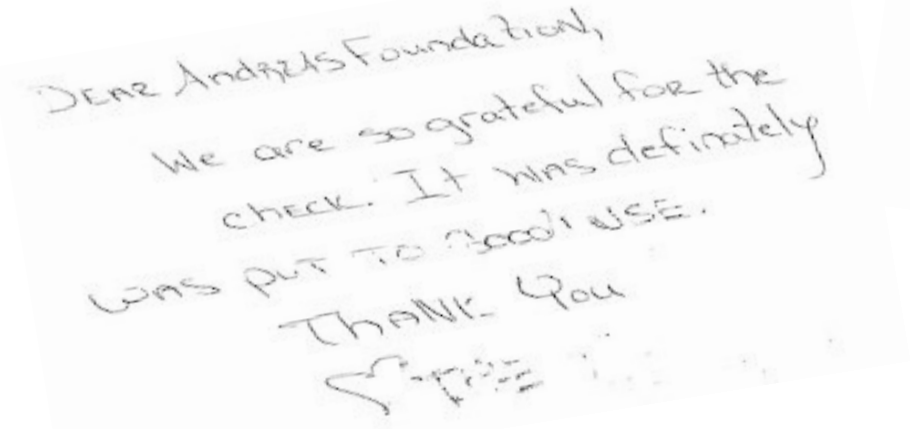


I am [illegible], a wife & a mother of one.
I was diagnosed with breast cancer last 11/22/2023.
I am currently unemployed & we are just relying our home & family expenses with my husband's salary.
As a family of 3, it is a very big challenge not only with the cancer itself but also financially.
I really want to express my gratitude to Andrea's foundation because they are the first one who provided a helping hand by giving me a $500 check with no hesitation. And with a cancer patient like me, it is a huge help in sustaining my family's daily needs.

Good Luck & more Power.



Hello,
Just a note to say Thank you so very, very much for your generous check - my family and I greatly appreciate it!
Sincerly,



Dear Andrea's Foundation,
We are so grateful for the check. It was definitely was put to good use.
Thank You
[illegible]

[illegible] a super Big Fat Thank You
The landlord just raised my rent.
I have asking & praying
Thank-You. Thank-You
Merci Avec
Tous mon coeur
Marie-Lyne

STATEMENTS *of Need*

Veronica has been battling breast cancer for over a decade. Last year, she was diagnosed with metastatic cancer and is undergoing chemotherapy. The stress of the diagnosis resulted in the termination of her marriage. She is suffering from stress and depression because of the uncertainty of her future.

Andrea's Foundation provided Veronica with a grant to cover her medical bills and give her hope in these challenging times.

Briana has brain cancer. She and her husband have 6 children — 3 of them are under 5 years old. Because of her treatment, she will be unable to work for nearly two months. With the financial pressure of treatment and caring for her family, Briana asked for assistance paying utilities for fear they would be turned off.

Andrea's Foundation gave Briana a grant to pay for her family's utility bills.

Daniel is single and lives on his own. He has also been diagnosed with prostate cancer. While he undergoes chemotherapy, he is unable to work and therefore has no income. He asked Andrea's Foundation for assistance with daily living expenses, including utilities, car insurance, personal needs, phone, and mortgage payments.

Andrea's Foundation showed up — providing a grant that Daniel can use to cover his basic living expenses while he fights his cancer battle.

Kailee is a young single woman with Hodgkins Lymphoma. Her chemotherapy treatments will last 6 months, and she is unable to work while she receives treatment. Kailee asked for help with her living expenses, car payment, and student loans.

Reality doesn't stop when you have cancer. Andrea's Foundation provided Kailee with a grant to cover her expenses while she receives treatment.

Jordan is a young boy with leukemia. His mom is widowed. He will receive monthly treatment for the next several days. The treatment is causing leg pain that is impacting his ability to walk. His mom has asked for help with daily living expenses.

Andrea's Foundation shows up to support families like Jordans and awarded a grant to Jordan to support daily living expenses.

Elliot is a young child with cancer. One parent is working, while the other just lost their job. They moved in with Elliot's extended family to reduce the financial strain while they work to move into their own place again.

Andrea's Foundation gave Elliot's family a grant to support living expenses.

THANK YOU *for Your Support*

ANDREA'S FOUNDATION

Ventura, California

Andrea Grace Soter-Simonson Memorial Foundation is a 501(c)3,
Public Benefit Charitable Organization EIN#26-2979142

1746-F South Victoria Avenue #245
Ventura, California 93003

	+1 805-477-9810 Ext. 126
	agssmemorialfoundation.org
	info@agssmemorialfoundation.org
	facebook.com/agssmemorialfoundation
	instagram.com/agssmemorialfoundation