Greetings,

It has been an exciting year of growth, outreach and work to keep BAG IT on the forefront of our ever-changing world of oncology, technology and guidelines/recommendations for cancer treatment accreditations for health systems.

BAG IT has steadily become a trusted statewide resource for comprehensive cancer centers, community clinics and other medical providers across Arizona. We reach about 25% of all those diagnosed with cancer in Arizona through 160 medical providers and other locations. BAG IT is helping many of them meet some of their requirements for national and federal accreditations.

BAG IT increased its efforts in training this year, particularly to those that assist underserved and economically disadvantaged populations. Our trainings reached those that distribute BAG IT in rural areas, remote small communities, and inner-city clinics. As a result, we are reaching more newly-diagnosed patients and families in need than ever before.

In the spring of 2016, staff began work on our latest revised and updated edition of BAG IT. We are excited about the new format and expect it will be warmly received by medical providers and patients alike. Many thanks to the volunteer review committee that assisted us in the changes.

A special thanks to the medical providers and donors that generously donate annually to BAG IT to offset costs for BAG IT resources. Due to our increased volume and patients served, it is essential to our sustainability that we receive their support.

With gratitude to a giving community, Board, and Staff,

Sherri Romanoski

Sherri Romanoski
Founder
Encouraging and Sustaining Cancer Advocacy Programs and Efforts

Launched in 2011, the ESCAPE (Encouraging and Sustaining Cancer Advocacy Programs and Efforts) Leadership Conference, has been recognized as the premier program designed by community cancer advocates for community advocates.

Advocates representing more than 110 cancer organizations serving a wide range of cancers, geographic regions, and demographic groups have participated to date.

In August, 2015, 29 advocates from across the country gathered for the 5th Annual ESCAPE Conference. This year’s conference centered on impact through research and public policy advocacy, powerful collaborations as a strategic tool to advance missions, and promoting balance in advocates’ personal and professional lives to enable them to better serve others. Pre- and post-conference self-assessments showed that participants had indeed increased their knowledge and skills in key areas of focus.

Since inception, the ESCAPE conference has been generously underwritten by our Founding Presenting Sponsor, Eisai. Genentech, Takeda Oncology and Ventana Medical Systems were additional solid sponsors, while Miraval Arizona supported the conference through its sponsorship of the conference accommodations and meals.

Participant Perspective:

“There are no words to describe how amazing ESCAPE has been. It has been a life changing experience – not just as an advocate, but also as a person who is still learning to live. The ESCAPE conference has given me so many ideas and strategies that I can take back to both my national and local group. I feel more able and competent to lead my organization in a new and more efficient direction now.”

- Brandi Forbes
FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered, Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky
MISSION STATEMENT

BAG IT reaches out to cancer patients, of any gender, age, or cancer type, at a critical time – right after their diagnosis. The information is designed to help them cope with their diagnosis, move more competently through the treatment process, empower them to become an active member of the treatment team, and transition to follow-up care.

OUR VISION

BAG IT will empower patients to be more involved in their care, advocate for themselves, and learn to cope with the challenges associated with diagnosis and treatment. Further, BAG IT empowers cancer advocates to promote this same vision in their communities.

WHAT’S IN THE BAG?

This year we launched a new digital version of the BAG IT resource on a USB wristband.

PC or Mac compatible, the handy USB wristband holds all the publications found in the resource bag in a PDF format in English and Spanish.

With plenty of available storage, the USB wristband also allows patients to store their important medical records and reports.

National Cancer Institute Publications
• Eating Hints
• When Someone You Love Is Being Treated for Cancer
• Taking Time
• Chemotherapy and You
• Facing Forward: Life After Cancer Treatment
• Taking Part in Cancer Treatment Research Studies
• Thinking About Complementary and Alternative Medicine

National Coalition For Cancer Survivorship Publication
• Teamwork - The Cancer Patient’s Guide to Talking With Your Doctor

Personal Medical Binder
• An organizational tool with helpful tips to keep track of information, test results and medical history

BAG IT is also available in Spanish.
PATIENT FEEDBACK SURVEYS CONFIRM THE FOLLOWING ABOUT THE BAG IT RESOURCE:

99% found the information to be helpful.
99% found the medical binder to be helpful.
93% reported the BAG IT resource helped them cope.
92% felt the BAG IT resource help them worry LESS.
92% reported BAG IT facilitated better communication with their medical team.
94% reported feeling better able to deal with their cancer because of BAG IT.
84% reported that family/friends/caregivers used the BAG IT resource too.

*In FY15-16, 65 of 160 distribution locations served predominantly underserved and economically disadvantaged communities.

MEASURING THE IMPACT
**BAG IT Distribution**
- 2015-2016 – 7,396 cancer patients reached
- Total to date – 65,288 cancer patients reached
- NO CHARGE to patients
- English and Spanish versions

**Achievements**
- Launched BAG IT USB wristband (digital format)
- Organized Tucson coalition of cancer organizations

**Awards**
- ASCO Patient Advocacy Award
- Primary beneficiary of EPIC Rides 24 Hours in the Old Pueblo Race

**Our Reach**
- 2015-2016 – 15 new distribution offices
- Total to date – 160+ hospitals, clinics, community outreach centers, and rural & tribal centers
- 65 locations predominantly serving the underserved and economically disadvantaged

**Patient/Provider Feedback**
- 99% of patients found BAG IT useful
- Medical Providers report BAG IT improved patient coping skills, knowledge, and organization

**Events**
- Annual Take A Hike Event (Tucson)
- 5th Annual ESCAPE National Leadership Conference for Cancer Advocates
- Be There for BAG IT Wine & Dine (Phoenix)

“As I went through the materials I was so impressed with the scope of what was covered along with how well done and easy to read everything was. This gift will truly be my guide as I go through the process of beating this thing! Thank you for taking the time.”
BAG IT REACHES OUT TO CANCER PATIENTS, OF ANY GENDER, AGE, CANCER TYPE, OR ECONOMIC STATUS THROUGH:

HOSPITALS

CLINICS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

RURAL & TRIBAL HEALTH CENTERS

PHYSICIANS

EDUCATE. SUPPORT. EMPOWER.

“For more than 10 years I have provided BAG IT to my patients and their families. BAG IT provides incredibly valuable and completely reliable information on such things as nutrition, exercise, communication, and coping strategies that offer hope when it’s needed the most - at their initial diagnosis. I honestly could not treat cancer without BAG IT. I am so glad they are on my team!”

- Dr. Elizabeth McConnell, MD, FACS, FASCRS
  McConnell Colorectal Center

WHY TO GIVE
Online donation
Go to our website and make a one-time or monthly donation at bagit4u.org
(Every $30 helps to provide a bag to a newly diagnosed cancer patient.)

Workplace giving and matching gifts
Your employer may have a program in place or you could start one.
Double the impact!

Leave a legacy gift
Have a chat with your accountant, tax adviser or attorney and see how easy it is to remember BAG IT in your estate plans.

Write a check

Plan your own event to benefit BAG IT
Golf, bowling, tennis, mah jongg tournaments—we welcome your ideas.

Gifts of volunteer or professional services
Share your valuable time and talents.

In-kind gifts
Donate goods, services and expertise. Let’s talk!

WHERE YOUR DONATIONS GO

Every $100 donation provides BAG IT resources to 3 cancer patients.
Your donation helps patients FIGHT THE FEAR OF CANCER and so much more!

DONATE TODAY

BAG IT is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Donations are tax-deductible.
Have another idea you want to discuss? Please call us: 520-575-9602
Countless partners have helped us to deliver the BAG IT resource to over 65,000 newly-diagnosed cancer patients and their families since 2003 and we are grateful to each of them:

• Physicians, nurses, navigators, social workers, promotores and others who sit with each newly diagnosed cancer patient and family to introduce the BAG IT resource and guide them through the contents of the bag.

• Countless volunteers around the country knitting chemo caps, manning our fundraising events, serving as BAG IT ambassadors and lending their personal area of expertise to the organization. Their dedication and heart extends the reach of our small staff.

• Three stellar organizations that serve BAG IT every step of the way by offering reduced pricing or an in-kind donation for their services, never sacrificing the excellence which has earned each company their fine reputation in the community:

ARIZONA LITHOGRAPHERS

The high quality printed publications found in the BAG IT bag reflect the values and eminence of this business communications leader.

Beacon Group

This non-profit employs people with disabilities who capably assemble, warehouse and ship thousands of BAG IT resources.

Xcel Delivery Services

A family-owned business that literally goes the extra mile to quickly deliver the BAG IT resources to medical providers in Southern Arizona to ensure cancer patients receive the support when they need it.
BAG IT EVENTS

12th Annual Take A Hike for BAG IT
November 15, 2015
Loews Ventana Canyon Resort, Tucson, AZ

Be There for BAG IT Wine & Dine
June 26, 2016
The Camby, Phoenix, AZ

BENEFICIARY OF FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

Epic Rides 24 Hours In the Old Pueblo, Catalina
February 12 – 14, 2016

VOLUNTEERS

“Thanks” is a small word with a powerful meaning. Our heartfelt thanks go out to all the BAG IT volunteers for their tireless support and countless hours of work to support BAG IT’s mission. They come to BAG IT with talents and interests that allow us to meet our challenges and take advantage of our opportunities. They work at virtually every level to sustain our services and expand our outreach in the community.

BAG IT is very proud of our robust Volunteer Program that provides our supporters the satisfaction of incorporating service into their lives while making a profound and enduring contribution to their community. Since our founding in 2003, hundreds of BAG IT volunteers have contributed thousands of service hours through shared professional skills, community events, speaking engagements, awareness programs, and even knitting ‘chemo caps’ for cancer patients undergoing radiation and chemotherapy.

VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT

“I was first introduced to BAG IT many years ago by a nursing colleague and friend when we were both working in the acute care oncology unit of a local community hospital. As an oncology nurse I was heavily involved in patient education, and I was always looking for educational material that would help me better communicate with my patients and their families. When my friend showed me BAG IT, I was immediately impressed. Here was an educational resource that was both reliable and easy to understand.

I am now a nursing professor at Grand Canyon University. Everyday I share my love of oncology with my students, and I hope that one day many will choose to become oncology nurses themselves. I continue to promote BAG IT to my students and colleagues.

Over the years, I have met many wonderful people and made lasting friendships through BAG IT, and I hope to be a part of this wonderful organization for many more years to come.”

- Debbie Green RN MSN

COMMUNITIES RAISING FUNDS
REVENUES

- Business Community: 58% ($165,830)
- Individuals: 20% ($56,746)
- Foundations: 21% ($59,942)
- Other: 1% ($2,517)

Total Revenue: $285,035

EXPENSES

- Program Services: 83% ($286,221)
- Fundraiser: 15% ($51,062)
- General/Administration: 2% ($6,994)

Total Expenses: $344,277
Many Thanks to the Following Major Supporters

## Donations of $20,000 and more

![Arizona Oncology](image1.png)  
![The US Oncology Network](image2.png)  
![Eisai](image3.png)  
![eegee's](image4.png)

## Donations of $10,000 and more

- Zuckerman Community Outreach Foundation

## Donations of $5,000 and more

- Country Fair White Elephant: Dorothy Harmsen & Bill Harmsen Sr.
- Dr. Grace Hou
- Incyte Precision Toyota
- Takeda Pharmaceuticals International Co.

## Donations of $2,500 and more

- Toyota Matching Funds
- Tucson Medical Center
- University of Arizona Cancer Center
- Ventana Medical Systems
- Schmidt & Barton Family Fund
- Sonora Quest Laboratories

## Donations of $1,000 and more

- Arizona Center for Cancer Care
- Asian Foundation
- Dr. Don and Anne Brooks

- Arizona Women's Imaging
- Nancy & Corey Arizzi
- Cancer Treatment Services Arizona
- Cochise Surgical Care PLLC
- Colon & Rectal Center of AZ
- Desert Diamond Casino & Entertainment

- Glaz-Tech Industries
- Glendale Fire Fighters
- Susan Keettel
- Amy Knorr
- One Woman Day Spa
- Orangetree Fitness

## Donations of $500 and more

- Liz Almi
- Biodeax
- Michelle Bonito
- Breast Center of Southern Arizona
- Anne Camerato
- Cars Life Sciences
- Casino del Sol
- Cochise Oncology

- Dr. & Mrs. Martin Cohen
- Commerce Bank
- DPR Really
- Genesis OB/GYN
- Jim Guendelsberger
- Susie Heinze
- Patsy Hinson
- William Konkle

## Donations of $250 and more

- Artico
- Architectural Openings
- Rob Astermark
- Jim Click Automotive

- Warren Bodow
- Darlene Brady
- Susan Hass
- Ed Kawamura

## Donations of $250 and more

- Sonoran Desert Corvettes Tucson
- The Divo Shop
- Sandra Valenzuela

Thank you to all our donors who enable us to provide BAG IT to individuals with cancer and their families around the state. Due to limited space, we are unable to list all who have generously made donations.