Thank You to our Partners
Bag It is truly grateful for all of the organizations, foundations, and individuals who support us on a regular basis. Some of our major partners are listed below, but note that each and every partner is valued. We could not provide the bags without your support.

ASLAN FOUNDATION
BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB COMPANY
DAIICHI-SANKYO
EISAI
FOUNDATION MEDICINE
GENENTECH
GSK
DOROTHY HARMSEN
A BILL HARMSEN JR.
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
HEINFELD, MEECH & CO.
MERCK
PFIZER
ROCHE
SCHMIDT-BARTON
FAMILY FUND
SERVIER
TUCSON MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION
XCEL DELIVERY SERVICES
ZUCKERMAN COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT FUND

A YEAR IN NUMBERS
FYE June 30, 2021

303 AMBASSADORS EDUCATED & TRAINED
3,916 BAGS DISTRIBUTED
592 HOURS VOLUNTEERED BY 22 INDIVIDUALS

“We received a bag when my husband was diagnosed with Pancreatic Cancer. The bag with all the information and the binder were a Godsend. We especially loved the binder as it was already divided into categories so I didn’t have to think of what went where, or what was essential to keep. A person is already overwhelmed and the binder made everything so much easier. Under the ‘notes’ I would write down every question we had and wouldn’t leave the appointment until all were answered. His oncologist got to know that binder and would ask ‘So what questions do you have for me today?’ The doctor actually loved it as it made the appointment more efficient. Thank you again for being there. I recommend you to everyone.”

DONNA, AZ

IMPACT REPORT
2020–2021

INFO@BAGITCANCER.ORG
(520) 575-9602

BAGITCANCER.ORG
Guiding one through cancer
Dear Friends,

Like so many of you, Bag It faced many unusual challenges this past year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. I am proud to share that Bag It remained resilient and worked harder and more creatively to ensure that patients and their families received the bags and resources. This was especially important due to the hardships imposed on the medical community as a result of the pandemic.

COVID-19 required us to postpone the 10th annual leadership conference for cancer advocates, Escape to THRIVE. The delay allowed us the opportunity to engage past attendees with informative webinars and virtual drop-in chats to offer support and discuss how COVID-19 impacted all of our advocacy efforts.

When COVID-19 put a pause on regular cancer screenings, Bag It reinforced our messaging to remind individuals of the importance of being an advocate for your own health. This includes speaking up for yourself and scheduling regular check-ups with your doctor and cancer screenings as appropriate.

As an advocate for your own care or the care of a loved one, it is vital that you have the resources needed to support the wealth of information that comes at you with a cancer diagnosis. However, each person’s experience is unique, and each cancer comes with its own set of challenges and treatments. Bag It was proud to collaborate with a variety of cancer organizations to continue to create specialty bags this year, adding bags specifically for those diagnosed with lung or uterine cancer. The additional content provides value in guiding individuals through their cancer and introduces them to more resources available for their cancer type.

Bag It wants to ensure our organization can continue to grow and help provide long-term education and support for the cancer community. Through the development and implementation of a new strategic plan, we will increase the distribution of Bag It bags to all those diagnosed, ensure we can continue to meet the needs for requested bags, and engage and collaborate with fellow cancer advocates. We thank you for your partnership and remain committed to being a valued resource that is relevant and purposeful to those impacted by cancer.

Sincerely,

Mindy Griffin, Executive Director

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**WHAT’S IN**

**The Bag It bag?**

*My Companion Guidebook* is an accessible binder that can be customized to guide one during and after cancer treatment and has four reliable booklets to help:

- Organize important documents
- Track side effects and appointments
- Grasp new terms with the detailed glossary
- Cope with emotions
- Address diet, nutrition, and physical activity
- Manage finances, life after cancer and much more!

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**STRATEGIC PLAN**

Bag It educates, supports, and empowers those impacted by cancer. It is our vision that all cancer patients feel empowered to be more involved in their care, advocate for themselves, and learn to cope with the challenges associated with diagnosis and treatment.

The past year allowed for Bag It to reflect on our history and ask questions of the community about how Bag It can best be a beneficial resource to those impacted by cancer. The findings gave us a good starting point for updating our strategic plan with focused goals that will guide the future of the organization as a valued resource to cancer patients and caregivers.

**GOALS**

- Increase bag distribution to ensure all those that need resources and support have it, regardless of their ability to pay.
- Expand collaborations to ensure support for a diverse population.
- Empower individuals with self-advocacy tools and resources for their best quality of life from the day of diagnosis.
- Diversify fund development to solidify sustainable growth and opportunities.
- Educate and engage the community through improved communications.

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**REVENUE** FYE June 30, 2021

- Corporate Partnerships: $178,243
- Contributions & Programming: $35,075
- Foundations & Grants: $33,620
- Medical Partnerships: $22,162
- Other: $12,318
- In-Kind: $11,694
- Total: $292,112

**EXPENSES** FYE June 30, 2021

- Program Services: $264,176
- Fundraising: $19,345
- Administrative: $11,831
- Total: $295,352

Financials

This important work takes a partnership and because of you, Bag It is able to offer resources and support to allow cancer patients to be advocates in their own care. Bag It remains dedicated to being responsible stewards of the gifts we receive.

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Michelle Bonito, Chair
Katy Clarke
Jenna Finnock
Mickey Gomez
Melinda Mauntel
Matt Nelson
Angelica Sanchez, Treasurer

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Roberta Albany
Donald Brooks, MD
Mark D. Gilbert, MD
Deborah Green, RN, MSN
Rodgers Wilson, MD

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*The Bag It bag was a wonderful resource for both my father and me the moment it arrived. We both thank you for providing this gift to help conquer fear through information. We have only just begun this battle, and we have found information is power. The initial diagnosis stage is gut-wrenching, but then through organizations like Bag It, comes hope. The bag is helping to give us a place to organize ourselves and provides us with access to even more support.”*