

2025

Annual Impact Report



About Us

The Never Alone Cancer Foundation believes that no one should face cancer without support, community and care. We provide emotional, financial, and informational help to individuals, families, and caregivers impacted by cancer across Manitoba. From care packages and transportation assistance, to financial aid and food delivery, we show up on some of their hardest days of their lives.



Our Founder & Story

Never Alone Cancer Foundation began with one person's experience of cancer and a desire to ensure others felt supported. After being diagnosed with cancer in 2004, founder Lyle Bauer shared openly: *"When I was first diagnosed, I had never felt so alone and unsure of what the future would bring."* His experience inspired a community built on compassion and real help. On April 26, 2024, Lyle passed away. His legacy will forever live on through every act of care.

Our Mission

To ensure people impacted by cancer feel informed, connected, and never alone through compassionate and practical help.

Our Vision

A future where every person facing cancer experiences connection, dignity, and real support when it matters most.

A Message from our Board Co-Chairs

Behind every number is a person. A life changed in an instant by a cancer diagnosis, and a journey no one should face alone. That is why we are here, and why your support matters more than you know.

Over the past five years, the number of newly diagnosed Manitobans turning to Never Alone for support has grown by 45%. More people than ever are reaching out in moments of real uncertainty, looking for guidance, practical help, and someone who genuinely cares.

Because of you, Never Alone has answered that call every time. Not with red tape or endless referrals, but with direct, compassionate support that meets people where they are. What continues to set Never Alone apart is how personal that support remains, even as the need continues to grow. It is real help, provided with genuine care. No waitlists, no bureaucracy. Just a team of people who have decided that cancer is hard enough without having to fight for help on top of it.

None of that happens without you and an extraordinary team behind this work. We are deeply grateful to Michael Schiefer, whose leadership and heart continue to shape this organization every day.

To our staff and volunteers, who bring kindness, compassion, and purpose into every interaction: thank you for the care you give so freely. And to you, our donors, partners, and community, your generosity allows us to continue saying yes when people need help most. As long as Manitobans continue to face cancer, we will be here beside them.

Therese Labossiere
Board Co-Chair

Nancy Nowakowski
Board Co-Chair

A Message from our Executive Director

Every day, someone reaches out to Never Alone Cancer Foundation unsure of where to turn. They have just been diagnosed. They are partway through treatment and the bills are piling up. They are a caregiver running on very little sleep, trying to hold everything together. When that call comes in, we figure it out together.

That is the work of Never Alone. Not in boardrooms or reports, but in real conversations with people facing some of the hardest moments of their lives. This past year, more than 600 Manitobans turned to us for support. No two situations were alike, and no two families needed the same kind of help. What remained constant was our commitment to respond with compassion, urgency, and care.

I have learned that meaningful support rarely fits neatly into a category. Sometimes it is help covering a utility bill so someone can stay in their home during treatment. Sometimes it is a warm blanket during chemotherapy, or an $11 SIM card so a client can reach their doctor. Sometimes it is simply staying on the phone long enough for someone to feel heard.

Because of your support, families across Manitoba are able to breathe a little easier during incredibly difficult times. You are the reason people can continue treatment without losing everything. You are the reason someone can focus on healing instead of surviving day to day. You are the reason people facing cancer are met with compassion and dignity when they need it most.

Thank you for believing in this work. I never take that trust for granted.

Michael Schiefer
Executive Director

The People Behind the Mission

The Never Alone Cancer Foundation is guided by individuals who believe in this work. Our Board of Directors serves on a volunteer basis, giving their time, experience, and perspective to ensure the organization stays grounded in the needs of our community.

Together with a dedicated team of staff and volunteers, they help carry forward a shared commitment to supporting Manitobans impacted by cancer. Every call we receive represents someone navigating a difficult moment, and our team responds with compassion, care, and a willingness to meet people where they are.

Grounded in the vision that started with Lyle, Never Alone continues to provide emotional, financial, and informational support to individuals, families, and caregivers. This work is made possible by people who care deeply about ensuring no one faces cancer on their own.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Therese Labossiere

Co-Chair

Nancy Nowakowski

Co-Chair

Stephen Green

Treasurer

Linda Stewart

Secretary

Cameron Krisko

Board Member

Heather Buchanan

Board Member

STAFF

Michael Schiefer

Executive Director

Kathy McLeod

Office Manager

Maureen Arnuco

Events, Communication & Volunteer Coordinator

Donna Korade

Director of Development

Tobiasz Osicki

Client & Office Support Specialist

HONORARY BOARD

Lyle Bauer

Dave Black

Shirlee Preteau



Every call we answer is a promise kept — to Lyle, and to the people who need us.

The Heart of Never Alone

60 VOLUNTEERS

1,400+ HOURS CONTRIBUTED

Never Alone Cancer Foundation runs on compassion, and compassion at Never Alone has a face. Sixty volunteers contributed over 1400 hours in 2025. They delivered hampers. They volunteered at events. They sat beside people on the hardest days of their lives. They did not do it for recognition. They did it because Lyle showed them what it looked like to show up, and they never forgot.

"There was Lyle, sitting at a table with his arms around an elderly, white-haired lady and they were both in tears. That image is etched in my mind as being the true spirit of Never Alone."

— Edith Mulhall, Volunteer since 2013



You are the reason
no one faces cancer alone

"To every volunteer who gave their time, their heart, and their presence this year, thank you."
Maureen Arnuco | Events, Communication & Volunteer Coordinator

When everything fell apart, you made sure we could show up.

GETTING PEOPLE TO TREATMENT

296,000 kms

Supported so no one had to miss an appointment.

EASING THE FINANCIAL WEIGHT

$167,050

In direct financial assistance for essential cancer-related costs.

WALKING ALONGSIDE FAMILIES

642

Clients received emotional, informational and practical support.



"There are many organizations out there, but I truly feel the Never Alone Cancer Foundation is next to heaven. They are absolutely wonderful."

— GAIL, NEVER ALONE CLIENT

When Gail was diagnosed with cancer, she was also unhoused and alone. Every day was a fight for stability and hope.

That's where Never Alone stepped in. Our team provided her bus passes to get to her medical appointments and made sure a caring team was beside her through every hard day. Community partners like the Winnipeg Soup Fairies delivered homemade soups, and volunteers delivered care packages, small gestures that carried one powerful message: you are not forgotten.

Today, Gail has a home, a support network, and renewed strength. Because of you, she never had to face cancer alone.

HOW NEVER ALONE HELPED GAIL

- Transportation assistance to medical appointments
- Connections to housing and stability support services
- Dedicated care team support throughout treatment
- Meals and care packages delivered by community partners
- Ongoing connection and emotional support

"You are the reason Gail had a caring team.You are the reason families across Manitoba hear you are not alone."

— MICHAEL SCHIEFER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Our Programs

From the moment of diagnosis to the hardest days of treatment, Never Alone shows up with practical help, warm comfort, and genuine care.



NEWLY DIAGNOSED SUPPORT

A Card and the Knowledge That Someone Cares

For some newly diagnosed clients, support arrives as a hamper. A warm blanket, essential comfort items, and a handwritten card from a Dufresne Group staff member who took time to write to a complete stranger on one of their hardest days of their lives.

"You are not alone. Everyone here at Dufresne have you in our thoughts. You've got this!!"
— Callie, Dufresne Group staff member

140 Hampers delivered to newly diagnosed clients in 2025

ORAL HEALTH & EARLY DETECTION

Creating Smiles

Cancer treatment devastates oral health, causing dry mouth, rapid decay, and tooth loss. Never Alone funds dental care and dentures that restore dignity and comfort. We also host free oral cancer screenings in the community, because early detection saves lives.



"I had an apple for the first time in a while. I had almost forgotten how they taste. Thank you for giving me a better quality of life."
— Joseph H., Never Alone client

100+ Free screenings performed
9 referred for follow-up

Hope for the Holidays

Bringing joy, comfort and normalcy to families impacted by cancer during the holiday season



A SUPPORTER'S STORY

Jordan Sobey: Giving Back

When Jordan's family was struggling, Never Alone showed up with a three-month cleaning service. That single act of kindness changed everything. Completing his second year fundraising for
Hope for the Holidays, Jordan channels his own journey into meaningful action for other families.

"I hope they feel a sense of normalcy around Christmas time. The kids should be happy. It's about giving peace of mind for something that should be routine, but isn't because their world has been turned upside down."

— JORDAN SOBEY, HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS FUNDRAISER

60	188	25	230 km
FAMILIES SERVED	INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED	VOLUNTEERS DELIVERED HAMPERS	TRAVELLED ACROSS THE CITY





Hope for the Holidays Social

This community fundraiser raised an additional **$7,084** to support families during the holiday season. Thank you to everyone who made it possible.
— Organized by Friends of Never Alone

"I thought I was alone, but you showed me I am never alone. My eyes still tear up thinking of how wonderful you made my first holiday here."

— Ali, Hope for the Holidays recipient · Her first Christmas in Canada

More Ways We Show Up

Because cancer touches every part of life, and so does Never Alone

OUT OF TOWN PATIENT SUPPORT

Home is far. Support is not.

For many Manitobans, cancer treatment means leaving home for weeks or months at a time. They travel to Winnipeg for chemotherapy, radiation, and cancer-related appointments and they need somewhere safe and comfortable to stay. Never Alone covers lodging costs so that distance is never a barrier to treatment.

$32,280

In lodging support for out-of-town clients in 2025

CAREGIVER SUPPORT

Caring for the people who care.

Caregivers give everything and often forget to take care of themselves. Never Alone recognizes the exhaustion, stress, and quiet burnout that comes with supporting a loved one through cancer. Support begins with a conversation. Then we look for ways to ease the pressure.

$2,500

In caregiver support provided in 2025



DAY AWAY

Sometimes, what people need most is a day away.

Through experiences and unforgettable moments, Never Alone gives clients and families permission to simply enjoy life. A Jets Whiteout watch party. A Goldeyes Skysuite. An escape room. A night out. Joy is not a luxury. It's a part of healing.

480+

Tickets and experiences provided in 2025

Cancer is hard enough. No one should have to fight for help on top of it.

Events That Power Our Mission

YOU RAISED

$254,237

Combined across three events in 2025



5TH ANNUAL

Never Alone Golf Classic

Your generosity teed up hope for families across Manitoba.

Teams	38
Volunteers	23
Fund the Need donors	36
Status	Sold Out

$109,000

Presenting sponsor: Pratts Wholesale Food Service

Platinum: Harbourfront Wealth Management, Trans Canada Wealth Management



SELKIRK & WINNIPEG

Never Alone Cancer Walk

Two locations. One community. Walking together for those who can't.

Participants	250+
Volunteers	59
Dogs	71
Kinsmen match	$25,000

$101,800

Presenting sponsor: Access Credit Union

Matching partner: Winnipeg Kinsmen



WINNIPEG

Dragon Boat Festivals

You paddled hard, laughed loud, and lifted lives.

Teams	50
Schools	30
Participants	1,000
Attendees	600

$43,437

In partnership with the Manitoba Paddling Association

"Every step, every swing, every stroke — you made it possible for someone to hear: you are not alone."

To book your sponsorship for 2026, contact donna@nacf.ca · 204-799-5891

Community in Action

YOU RAISED

$97,835

Through community & third party events





NEW IN 2025

GEDFest – More than Music

Gord Downie believed that community could change everything. In 2025, GEDFest brought that spirit to Winnipeg for the first time, uniting music lovers and cancer supporters for a night that reminded us all why this work matters.

"My dad was unresponsive to my communication attempts in the months leading up to his final days. While I'm at peace with reality, I wish he hadn't chosen to be alone. That's why I support NACF's mission."

— Paul, GEDFest Winnipeg Ambassador

$21,582

GUNS N' HOSES 2025

When the City Showed Up

On February 15, 2025, Winnipeg police officers and firefighters traded their uniforms for hockey jerseys at Canada Life Centre. Guns N' Hoses Charity Hockey Challenge raised funds for Never Alone Cancer Foundation, Special Olympics Manitoba, and Project 11. When the final buzzer sounded, the firefighters had won.

$24,000



FIRST EVER — GIVING TUESDAY 2025

You Made Something Special Happen

Your generosity on Giving Tuesday raised $18,500.
You didn't just help us meet our goal of 200 blankets, you pushed past it, all the way to 271. Thank you to Pratts Wholesale, whose matching gift helped your impact go even further.

271

Blankets funded in one day

When community shows up for community, everyone wins.

More Ways Our Community Gave

From coffee shops to golf courses, Halloween socials to weekly meat draws, this community never stopped showing up.



NEW IN 2025

One Cup. Real Impact.

Empty Cup Collective's Celebrating Our Differences Day proved that small acts of community add up to something extraordinary. Once cup. One day. One community that cares.

$3,613



SOUTHEAST MANITOBA

Lake of the Sandhills Ladies Golf

For years, the women of the Lake of the Sandhills Ladies Golf League have teed up for cancer, raising funds that stay in Southeast Manitoba and go directly to families in the region.

$20,152



HALLOWEEN SOCIAL

Gopher the Cure

Year after year, this community delivers.

$8,410



THE NOB BAR

Weekly Meat Draw

This season pushed the program past $100,000 raised since it began.

$17,500

ALSO IN 2025

To every person, business, and community group who hosted a fundraiser, organized an event, or rallied their community, your generosity made a real difference.

North Winnipeg Nomads · Manitoba Poker Championship · Winnipeg Beach Wildwood Trailer Resort · and many more.

Every fundraiser, every ticket, every cup of coffee — it all matters.

Looking Ahead

The need keeps growing. So does our commitment to meeting it. Here is what is coming in 2026.

45%
GROWTH IN DEMAND OVER 5 YEARS

642
MANITOBANS SUPPORTED IN 2025



NEW IN 2026 — PILOT PROGRAM

Food Support. Year Round.

We have seen firsthand that food insecurity does not end when the holidays do. Inspired by the success of Hope for the Holidays, Never Alone is piloting a quarterly food support program for clients struggling to cover basic expenses or access healthy food.

In February 2026, volunteers delivered 12 hampers — grocery gift cards, nutritious food, and supplements to support recovery. Each delivery was also a check-in and a reminder to clients living alone that someone is thinking of them.

ALWAYS TOGETHER ROSE

A symbol of hope. Growing across Canada.

The Always Together Rose™, a sport of the Never Alone Rose, blooms as a living symbol that no one faces cancer alone. Available at participating garden centres across Canada, every purchase supports cancer programs and communities nationwide.



150,000 plants sold across Canada

Find a retailer: cnla.ca/always-together-rose

The need will not wait. Neither will we. Join us in 2026.

DONATE · VOLUNTEER · REFER SOMEONE · HOST A FUNDRAISER

Thank you to Our Partners

Your generosity makes everything possible. These organizations believed in our mission and invested in the people we serve. We are deeply grateful.

GRANTS

- Co-op Red River
- Winnipeg Foundation
- Manitoba Dental Foundation
- Kin Canada winnipegkinsmen
- A Port in the Storm Legacy Fund

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Harbourfront Wealth Management
- Trans Canada Wealth Management
- Pratts Wholesale Food Service

GOLF CLASSIC 2025 — MAJOR SPONSORS

PRESENTING SPONSOR

- Pratts Wholesale Food Service

PLATINUM SPONSOR

- Harbourfront Wealth Management

PLATINUM SPONSOR

- Trans Canada Wealth Management

CANCER WALK — MAJOR SPONSORS

MATCHING PARTNER

- Kin Canada winnipegkinsmen

PRESENTING SPONSOR

- Access Credit Union

FINISH LINE SPONSOR

- Gatewest Coin LTD.

"Because of your generosity, 642 Manitobans heard the words they needed most: you are not alone."
— Never Alone Cancer Foundation, 2025

Thank You to Our Sponsors

Every sponsorship dollar goes directly to supporting Manitobans impacted by cancer.

GOLF CLASSIC 2025

CART SPONSOR
Payworks

RECEPTION SPONSORS
Fountain Tire Inksbrook

Jeff Ryall — Cardinal Capital Management

GOLD SPONSORS
Absolute Petroleum

Fort Group Chartered Professional Accountants

Manitoba Dental Association

South Beach Casino & Resort

Terracon Development Ltd.

SILVER SPONSORS
Assiniboia Downs

Birchwood Automotive Group

Manitoba Blue Cross

Brazen Hall

The Krisko Family

The Ensuite

NOTT Autocorp

People Corporation

PlayNow

Terraco

GREEN SIGNAGE, PRINT & WATER
DI Plumbing

Horrocks Insurance

Bargain Bureau

Esdale Printing

Jackson Springs

CANCER WALK 2025

DINO DASH RELAY SPONSOR
Pratts Wholesale Food Service

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
Diamond Athletic Medical Supplies

Old Dutch

ONE Insurance

HOMETOWN HERO – SELKIRK
South Beach Casino & Resort

Meridian Chiropractic & Health Centre

WALK SPONSORS
Manitoba Hydro

Pet Valu

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS
Trail Dog · Gopher the Music · KiSS 102.3 · Tim Hortons

RE/MAX · Energize Fitness · Sidewalk Sizzler

Jason Abraham

GIFT OF FLIGHT SPONSOR
WestJet

HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

GIFT OF HOPE
Winnipeg Kinsmen

HOLIDAY HAMPER SPONSOR
Red River Co-op

Gatewest Coin Ltd.

Shurwood Forest Tree Service

SEASON OF GIVING & FAMILY SPONSORS
Bee-Clean Building Maintenance

Gendis Inc. · Weed Man · Bayview Construction

Payworks · TD · The Car Store · Quintex

Interested in sponsoring a 2026 event? Contact donna@nacf.ca · 204-799-5891

FORT GROUP
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS
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INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Board of Directors of Never Alone Cancer Foundation Inc.:

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Never Alone Cancer Foundation Inc. (the "Foundation") that comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2025, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flow for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Practitioner's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Never Alone Cancer Foundation Inc. as at December 31, 2025, and the results of its operations and its cash flow for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Winnipeg, Manitoba
May 11, 2026

Fort Group

CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS INC.

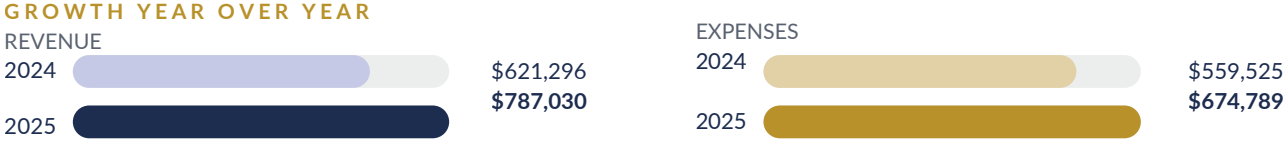
Financial Summary

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025 · NEVER ALONE CANCER FOUNDATION INC.

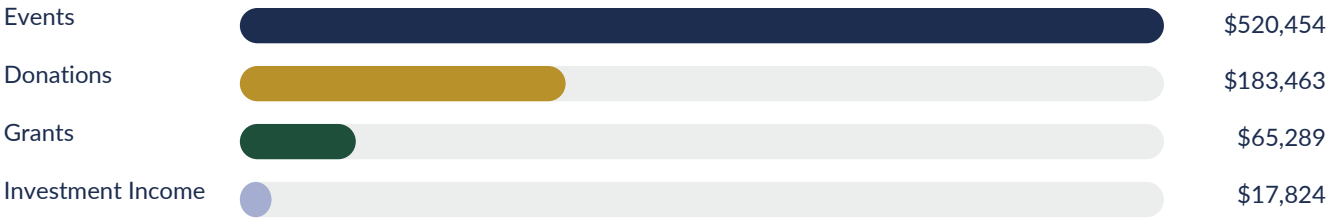
TOTAL REVENUE
$787,030

TOTAL EXPENSES
$674,789

GROWTH YEAR OVER YEAR



WHERE OUR REVENUE COMES FROM

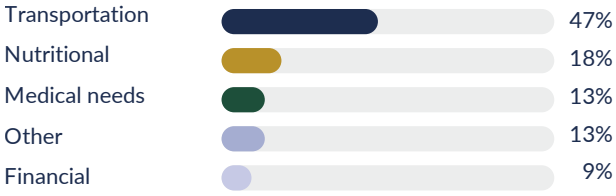


CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES
$412,816

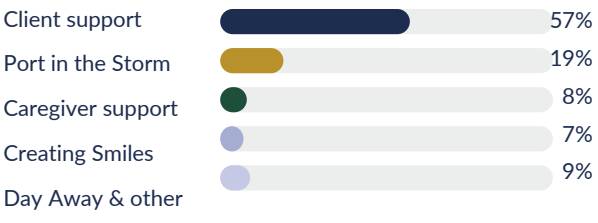
FUNDRAISING
$188,524

MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION
$73,449

CLIENT SUPPORT BY TYPE



SUPPORT BY PROGRAM



Full financial statements available on request.

WITH GRATITUDE

Because of You, No One Faces Cancer Alone.

To every donor, volunteer, sponsor, community partner, and friend of Never Alone Cancer Foundation — your generosity is not just a gift. It is a phone call answered. A warm blanket delivered. A family that made it through the holidays. A person who heard, for the first time: you are not alone.

In 2025, 642 Manitobans reached out to us. Every single one was met with care, because of you. Thank you. From all of us, and all of them.

— The Never Alone Cancer Foundation Team







highlights 2025



















NEVER ALONE
CANCER FOUNDATION

No one faces cancer alone.

☎ (204) 779-2441 · nacf.ca

✉ info@nacf.ca

PO Box 51064 RPO Tyndall · Winnipeg, Manitoba · R2X 3C6

Charitable Registration No. 81050 8473 RR0001

CONNECT WITH US

SCAN TO DONATE

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