






2024

Shining a Light on Caregivers

2024



The Cocktails & Caregivers Foundation Annual Report

Prepared By:
The Cocktails & Caregivers Team

OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

A Year of Impact and Growth

If you had told me in 2015 that this mission would grow into what it is today, I'd never have believed you. What began as a way to honor my late husband, Joe, has become a community dedicated to lifting up caregivers and taking better care of each other.
Thank you for helping me honor Joe's legacy while loving on my new little family.
In Joe's words, "Live loud, love deep, cry hard, and take more pictures."

Here's to all we've accomplished together in 2024 and the love we'll keep pouring into 2025.
💙 120+ care packages mailed to caregivers nationwide, offering comfort and encouragement.
💙 70+ caregivers hosted at in-person events, providing connection and respite.
💙 $6,000 for childcare, $40,000 for medical travel, easing financial burdens for caregivers who are juggling it all.
💙 100+ caregivers joined our online support groups for community and strength.
💙 $230,000 raised at Blue Tie Gala, funding vital caregiver programs.

New Partnerships, Bigger Impact
✨ *Care Kits at Community Hospital* – We provide essential care kits to support caregivers facing unexpected hospital stays on inpatient floors. Stocked with necessities like phone chargers, toothbrushes, and makeup wipes, these kits also connect caregivers with our grant programs for additional financial and emotional support.
✨ *PCI – Performance Contracting, Inc.* – This year, we welcomed PCI as a new corporate partner, and their incredible volunteers have stepped up in a big way! Each month, they pack and purchase all the items for our care packages, ensuring caregivers receive thoughtful, high-quality support throughout the year.
✨ *Imerman Angels* – We're proud to partner with Imerman Angels to provide personalized mentorship for caregivers and patients, connecting them with someone who has walked a similar path and can offer guidance and encouragement.
✨ *Round Room Gives* – Our continued partnership with Round Room Gives helped us provide over $40,000 in medical travel grants through our Keeping Caregivers Close program. These funds help families stay together during critical treatments, easing the financial and emotional toll of long-distance care.



Thank you to our incredible community for making this possible! Your generosity, time, and dedication ensure that no caregiver has to navigate their journey alone.

With gratitude,

Amanda Clark-Wahl

Plus, Mira, Remi and Chris too!

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Keeping Caregivers Close

In 2024, the Keeping Caregivers Close program, a partnership between Cocktails & Caregivers and Round Room Gives, has provided $40,000 in grants to support families traveling for medical care. This initiative offers vital financial assistance to caregivers accompanying loved ones for essential treatments, clinical trials, surgeries, and second opinions. By covering expenses such as lodging, transportation, and meals, the program helps ease the financial and emotional burdens of medical travel, ensuring caregivers can focus on what matters most—being there for their loved ones.



Hope on the Move: The Shaw Family's Journey

Josh Shaw was diagnosed with ALS in 2022, just as his family prepared to welcome their third child. Determined to fight, the Shaws uncovered additional health challenges, requiring costly treatments and frequent travel across Illinois and Wisconsin. With mounting expenses and three young children, the Keeping Caregivers Close grant helped cover vital travel costs, easing the family's burden. This support allows the Shaws to focus on Josh's care and their time together.

Our Tribe

In 2024, the Our Tribe program provided $6,000 in grants to support families with childcare expenses during their medical journeys. Our Tribe helps alleviate this burden by covering childcare costs, giving caregivers the extra support they need to focus on their loved ones while knowing their children are in good hands.

Support through challenging times: The Johnson Family

The Johnson family received this grant after Chuck Johnson was diagnosed with ALS while his wife, Nicole, was six months pregnant with their third child. As Chuck's condition rapidly progressed, Nicole found herself balancing his care, their growing family, and daily responsibilities. Through the grant, she was able to offset childcare costs, easing the burden and allowing her to focus on her husband's care. Introduced to the grant by fellow ALS caregiver Chelsea Ezell, Nicole's story is a testament to the power of community and support.



2024 EVENTS





Grace Within

May 2024 / Fishers, Indiana

We hosted over 20 caregivers for our Grace Within Retreat. Our amazing caregivers indulged in rejuvenating yoga, a yummy lunch, and a heartfelt journal writing workshop, discovering new ways to connect and cope when life is tough.

The Blue Tie Gala

September 2024 / Carmel, Indiana

A Night of Impact

Together, we raised an incredible $230,000 for caregivers at this year's Blue Tie Gala! The biggest auction hit? Taylor Swift tickets! But beyond the excitement, our favorite part was pampering and shining a light on the true guests of honor—our caregivers.







A special THANKS to all our sponsors





Caregiver Oasis

A huge thank you to Kiss Kiss Bang Bang Salon for making our caregivers feel glamorous and to our amazing volunteer team for creating a beautiful Caregiver Oasis. Your support made this night unforgettable!

PARTNERSHIPS

CARE PACKAGES WITH PCI

This year, we're thrilled to partner with PCI-Performance Contracting, Inc. in Indianapolis! Their amazing volunteers pack and purchase all the items for our monthly care packages, ensuring caregivers feel supported and appreciated year-round.







CARE KITS AT COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

We're excited to partner with Community Health hospitals to provide our care kits on inpatient floors for caregivers facing unexpected hospital stays with a loved one. These kits include essentials like phone chargers, toothbrushes, makeup wipes and, most importantly, links to our grant programs to offer additional support.

ANGEL FAMILY GIVING

Thanks to our incredible C&C village, we were able to bless three families this holiday season—partnering with TCC to provide over $3,000 in gifts! Our team came together for wrapping parties in Indiana and Illinois, ensuring local caregivers felt the love and support they deserved.

Heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make the holidays brighter for these families!





CARE PACKAGES

Knowing how to support someone stepping into the role of a caregiver can be challenging. Through our online caregiver nomination program, our team sends care packages and heartfelt notes to every eligible nominee reminding them they are never alone.

120 Total Care Packages Sent in 2024!

Arizona
California
Colorado
Florida
Georgia
Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Maryland
Massachusetts
Michigan



Minnesota
Missouri
New Jersey
Ohio
Oregon
Pennsylvania
Tennessee
Texas
Virginia
Washington D.C.
West Virginia
Wisconsin

GIVING CAMPAIGNS

TheBar.com Featured Charity / $14,499

Focused Results Personal Training / Lake Bluff, Illinois / $7,275



Allies Commercial Realty / Indianapolis, Indiana / $5,400

THE MARTINI CLUB

Since its inception in 2021, our monthly giving program, The Martini Club, has helped lighten the load for caregivers nationwide. This exclusive "club" comes with special perks for its VIPs and, most importantly, provides funding to support caregivers year-round.

In 2024 the Martini Club had a annualized donation total of $28,000.



Special treats for some of our VIP's

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MEET OUR HELPERS

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