

Your Annual Support Sustains Excellence in Cancer Nursing Care

From the desk of Anizia Karmazyn, Oncology Nursing Foundation executive director

The Oncology Nursing Foundation is on a mission to support oncology nurses, and you are an integral part of sustaining that important work.

Last year, the Oncology Nursing Foundation celebrated 40 years of supporting cancer nursing excellence. Thank you for making our anniversary fundraising year a strong one on behalf of oncology nurses. So many of you increased your giving, and many of you became members of the Foundation's monthly and recurring giving program, the Compassionate Champions Club. [Please contact our team to learn more about membership.](#)

Your ongoing and generous contributions to the Foundation's annual fundraising program sustain our mission and activities year after year. We hope you will help us sustain the momentum of the anniversary by continuing your strong support for our nurses again in 2022.

As a pillar for oncology nurses, the Foundation has provided more than \$30 million in funding for more than

“Your annual giving is a vital part of sustaining excellence in cancer nursing care.”

40 years. By funding academic scholarships, cancer nursing research grants, and career and leadership development awards, your ongoing support of the Foundation translates to important advancements and innovation in patient care. Help us sustain our work for oncology nurses by renewing your annual giving today. **Together, we can make a meaningful impact for oncology nurses and all whose lives they touch.**



Emma Dann, DNP, RN, OCN®, NEA-BC
Associate Chief Nurse
Dana-Farber Nursing and
Patient Care Services
Leadership Team

“As a human being, I feel that it is important to contribute to organizations and causes that I believe in and support to ensure they can continue to work to meet their mission and strategic goals. As an oncology nurse, I believe that it is my professional responsibility to contribute to the Oncology Nursing Foundation so that the Foundation can support my colleagues. The Foundation's mission and goals are so important to all of us as we support the needs of people with cancer. I have a role in ensuring this can happen by contributing to the annual fund each year. It's an honor to be able to support such important work!”

Emma Dann, DNP, RN, OCN®, NEA-BC, associate chief nurse at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, MA, is a member of the Foundation's Compassionate Champions Club monthly giving program and member of the ONS Southern Maine Chapter. Emma has also served as a Foundation trustee and is a long-time annual fund supporter.

2022 Mara Mogensen Flaherty Lectureship Awarded to Peggy Burhenn, MS, CNS, RN-BC, AOCNS®



Peggy Burhenn, MS, CNS,
RN-BC, AOCNS®

As individuals grow older, their risk for certain types of cancer increases. Currently, the majority of patients with cancer are aged 65 years or older and often require specialized care. However, this vulnerable population's unique needs are generally underrecognized and underresearched. Peggy Burhenn, MS, CNS, RN-BC,

AOCNS®, has worked to change that, both in direct patient care for older adults with cancer and teaching others how to do so.

Burhenn will share her story with colleagues on Friday, April 29, at 8:15 am during the Oncology Nursing Foundation's 2022 Mara Mogensen Flaherty Memorial Lecture at the 47th Annual ONS Congress® in Anaheim, CA. Her message focuses on the importance of geroncology care, the gold standards of older adult patient care, and teaching oncology nurses to incorporate the principles into practice.

A clinical nurse specialist specializing in geriatric oncology at the Center for Cancer and Aging at City of Hope in Duarte, CA. Burhenn has served on the board for multiple ONS chapters and was one of the first instructors for the former ONS educational program, Caring for the Older Adult With Cancer. She has coordinated Nurses Improving Care for Healthsystem Elders programs at City of Hope and developed the center's first program for geriatric resource nurses. She has served as a peer reviewer for professional journals, including the *Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing*, *Cancer Nursing*, *Journal of Geriatric Oncology*, and *Journal of Supportive Care in Cancer*. Her published work focuses on a variety of gero-oncology issues, such as assessment, delirium, sleep promotion, fall prevention, cognition, and pain.

The Mara Mogensen Flaherty Memorial Lectureship Award supports an annual lecture on a topic related to the psychosocial aspects of cancer diagnosis, treatment, and care presented by an individual who is an inspiration in the field. The first lecture was delivered in 1982 and was the first program initiative of the newly established Foundation. Its namesake was a young woman, Mara, who was diagnosed with Ewing's sarcoma at the age of 19. She was told she did not have long to live, but her passion for education and survivorship advocacy sustained her for another 14 years. She managed the National Cancer Institute's Coping with Cancer program, where her work on the project and her own remarkable ability to cope with cancer inspired her friends and colleagues to establish a lectureship in her memory.



Building Resiliency With Foundation Resources

A **collection of resources**, developed for the Oncology Nursing Foundation's 40 Ways to Wellness Celebration in August 2021, promotes resilience and help healthcare professionals develop healthy routines, learn stress management techniques, and practice well-being. Access them today and start building your resiliency and well-being with the Foundation's support.



Oncology Nursing Foundation
125 Enterprise Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15275-1223
+1-866-257-4667
info@onfgivesback.org

**ONCOLOGY NURSING
FOUNDATION**

Celebrating Our Chapters' Generosity

Throughout 2021, the Oncology Nursing Foundation Board of Trustees and staff continued to hold virtual meetings with ONS chapters across the country to learn more about chapter goals, challenges, and ambitions and provide updates on the Foundation's own initiatives. The meetings are an opportunity for the Foundation and ONS chapters to foster a deeper relationship and for chapters to learn how their members have been supported by the Foundation's awards, grants, and scholarships.

Considering the events of the past year that have impacted the healthcare community, the Foundation is grateful for ONS chapters' ongoing enthusiasm and generosity. Each ONS chapter is vital in sustaining our mission of supporting cancer nursing excellence year after year.

The Dallas ONS Chapter celebrated not only the Foundation's 40th anniversary but their own upcoming 40th anniversary, as well. The Dallas ONS Chapter's gift—a generous contribution of \$91,000—was the Foundation's largest ONS chapter gift of 2021. The gift is comprised of a new academic scholarship and unrestricted mission support for the Foundation.

The following ONS Chapters made contributions of \$10,000 or more in 2020 and 2021:

- Boston: \$25,000
- Chicago: \$10,000
- Dallas: \$91,000
- Houston: \$10,000
- North Carolina Triangle: \$25,000
- Puget Sound: \$15,000
- Upstate New Jersey: \$10,000

Returning to ONS Congress®: Oncology Nursing Foundation/Pfizer Oncology Fun Run/Walk and Wheelchair Event



FUN ANAHEIM, CA
2022 RUN
WALK & WHEELCHAIR



The Oncology Nursing Foundation's annual Fun Run/Walk and Wheelchair event is back at ONS Congress® for 2022! You spend your time taking care of others, and at ONS Congress, you spend your time learning how to take better care of others. Take some time to focus on your own health by participating in the Foundation's physical wellness event.

The Fun Run/Walk and Wheelchair event is an opportunity for you, your friends, and colleagues to kick off your weekend with an activity for a good cause. All proceeds

benefit the Foundation and its Ann Olson Memorial Doctoral Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships to registered nurses to continue their education by pursuing a research doctoral degree or clinical doctoral degree. The Fun Run/Walk and Wheelchair event is made possible each year due, in part, to partner and sponsor Pfizer Oncology.

The Fun Run/Walk and Wheelchair event is Saturday, April 30, in the Anaheim Convention Center Grand Plaza. Warmups begin at 6 am, and the race begins at 6:15 am, rain or shine.

Sign-ups are available when registering for ONS Congress (\$40) or on-site (\$45) at the Pfizer Oncology Booth #501 (Thursday and Friday) in the ONS Learning Hall. Your fee includes an event t-shirt (while supplies last), participation in the event, and refreshments immediately following the event. We look forward to seeing you in Anaheim!

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Giving Back to the Foundation by Volunteering



John Merriman, PhD, RN,
AOCNS®
Assistant Professor at NYU
Rory Meyers College of
Nursing

The Oncology Nursing Foundation gratefully acknowledges the contributions of John Merriman, PhD, RN, AOCNS®, to the Foundation's award activities on behalf of oncology nurses. Merriman is a nurse scientist and lends his expertise to the scientific

review process for the Foundation's cancer nursing research grants program.

Merriman said that giving back to his profession and helping others achieve their aspirations in the field of oncology nursing research is important to him. He recalled his earliest experiences with the Foundation supporting his own educational training as he prepared for a career in cancer nursing research.

"Initially, the Foundation invested in me with a doctoral degree scholarship while at the University of California, San Francisco, School of Nursing. That funding was essential in completing my dissertation and being competitive for postdoctoral work.

Funding from the Foundation for a pilot study while a postdoc at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing was essential in developing a competitive National Institutes of Health application that led to a K99/R00 award from the National Institute of Nursing Research. That application simply would not have been competitive without the Foundation's investment in my preliminary work.

The Foundation also supported the innovative work of my postdoctoral mentors, Catherine Bender PHD, RN, FAAN and Yvette Conley PhD, FAAN, at the University of Pittsburgh. Their funding from the Foundation generated data that provided an important training opportunity for me to publish a manuscript on genetic risk factors for cancer-associated cognitive problems."

“ Reviewing for the Foundation provides invaluable experience to me as an assistant professor with an emerging program of research. Reviewing others' grant applications and working through the process of discussion of competitive applications during the grant review process with colleagues across the United States provides an opportunity for me to stay current in trends in oncology nursing research and in the most effective ways to structure grant applications. Reviewers learn from the process what is most effective and what could use improvement to be competitive. ”

Volunteer Opportunities

The Oncology Nursing Foundation is looking for volunteers to join our grants and scholarship review teams!

Are you interested in a volunteer opportunity you can complete on your own time from home? Volunteering with the Foundation's review team is a great way to bolster your resume or CV and provides flexibility for your schedule. Reviewer qualifications and time commitment vary by program. Contact grants@onfgivesback.org for more information on these opportunities.

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Creating a Legacy for Oncology Nursing



Legacy of Care Society member Mona Stage, BSN, RN, OCN®-Emeritus, has made plans in her will to ensure that the Oncology Nursing Foundation has resources to support the oncology nurses of tomorrow.

The Legacy of Care Society recognizes those who have included the Foundation in their estate plans and have made their generous gift intentions known through a legacy commitment. Mona shared her heart-warming inspirations for creating a legacy for oncology nursing.



Mona Stage, BSN, RN
OCN®-Emeritus

Q: What led you to the field of oncology nursing?

In my junior year of college, I was inspired and challenged to explore opportunities in oncology when an uncle died from lung cancer at an early age. He did not have known risk factors and lived a healthy lifestyle in rural America. I was intrigued by the science of oncology as well as the art, the human response, and holistic approach used in working with individuals who had cancer. My first job in oncology as an RN was in rural Ohio with an internist who was involved in carrying out treatment plans (chemotherapy administration) provided by an oncologist from the “big city” of Toledo.

Q: How did you hear about the Oncology Nursing Society and when did you first come to be involved?

I heard about ONS through the local Seattle oncology group—Regional Oncology Nursing Society—in the late 70s. I attended local educational meetings and my first ONS Congress® in 1981. I rarely missed an ONS Congress until I retired in 2014 after more than 40 years working in oncology. As the result of a roundtable discussion, one of my first involvements with ONS included advocating for more information and education on the role of the radiation oncology nurse, management of side effects, and patient teaching strategies. At that time, I was charged with developing the nursing role in an established radiation oncology department.

“ I want to assist in supporting the future of oncology nursing as it evolves throughout the generations. I have so much gratitude for the support that was given to me and would like to return it in a small way. ”

Q: What is your favorite memory as a member of the Oncology Nursing Society?

My favorite memory is the energy that happens when you are surrounded by colleagues who are working together to improve and provide cancer care—the times when you are balancing the science, technology, and art in improving patient outcomes. I was energized and supported in developing my leadership and management skills through the courses and programs offered by ONS. Throughout my career, I supported ongoing education at my workplace, as well as through my local ONS chapter—the Puget Sound ONS Chapter.

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Q: Describe the ways you have volunteered for the Oncology Nursing Foundation.

I have volunteered for the Foundation by participating in scholarship reviews for ONS Congress and academic scholarships for more than 10 years. I, too, received a Foundation ONS Congress Scholarship.

Q: What did you enjoy about this experience and why?

I found satisfaction in helping select the best recipients for the appropriate scholarship. The skill of articulating a response to the questions asked was seen in a variety of ways, yet I was able to feel from the answers the strength in the applicants and opportunity to support their goals. I found this experience strengthened my mentoring skills in working with nurses in my workplace, as well as ones in my local ONS chapter. It provided the framework to standardize our chapter scholarship format and process.

Q: Would you suggest this experience for others and why?

Yes. Many nurses are worthy of a scholarship, but they may not have the financial resources to attend ONS Congress or advance to a higher education. Being a scholarship reviewer provides an opportunity to give back to the organization. As I pass the baton to the next generations, I found that by being a scholarship reviewer, I continued to make a difference in the lives of oncology nurses.

Q: What inspired your generous legacy gift to support scholarships to national educational conferences for oncology nurses?

I value the importance of keeping up on the latest standards, technology, and treatment plans by developing networks among both local and national colleagues. I want to help provide that opportunity to nurses who may not be able to advance their education or attend an educational program otherwise. Lastly, I want to assist in supporting the future of oncology nursing as it evolves throughout the generations. I have so much gratitude for the support that was given to me and would like to return it in a small way. I truly value the work ONS provides to our communities both near and far.

Q: Is there anything you'd like to add about what inspires your giving?

Throughout most of my career, I was in a leadership position as an education coordinator, and a manager of an inpatient unit and an outpatient cancer center. I found that I continually was rewarded by the stories patients shared along their cancer journey. I also received the OCN® of the Year Award in 2000 on the work I did in developing patient teaching information sheets, along with the work I did with the Puget Sound ONS Chapter.

Generous Corporate Contributions Support Oncology Nursing Research

The Oncology Nursing Foundation is grateful for generous support from the following organizations to advance oncology nursing research initiatives. Thanks to their contributions, the Foundation provided \$1.4 million in funding toward cancer nursing research during the 2020 and 2021 program cycles and is poised for another strong 2022 awards program.

- AstraZeneca
- Bristol Myers Squibb
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Genentech, A Member of the Roche Group
- Gilead Sciences
- Incyte Corporation
- Merck & Co., Inc.
- Novartis

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Making the Difference for Oncology Nurses

Supporting a family member or loved one undergoing hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) can be challenging. The high-risk treatment can have uncertain outcomes and require extensive caregiving responsibilities.



The stress often leads to caregiver anxiety, depression, and other forms of emotional distress. To address those issues, Natalie McAndrew, PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, CCRN-K, is studying new options in family-focused palliative interventions to ease the burden on HSCT caregivers.

After receiving funding from a Foundation research grant in 2021, McAndrew began studying meaning-centered psychotherapy for family caregivers of HSCT recipients.

“ The Oncology Nursing Foundation has provided great support in conducting the study and research. Having the financial support to be able to do this is fantastic. Being a part of this organization and working with people on my team who are part of this organization is fantastic. There’s a lot of paying it forward in terms of mentorship and learning. I think that becoming a part of this community is a great benefit of this grant, and I’m greatly appreciative of this opportunity to be able to see if this will be helpful to this population of caregivers. ”

—Natalie McAndrew, PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, CCRN-K

Research grants and fellowship opportunities are supported by funds from the Oncology Nursing Foundation, as well as generous contributions from individuals, corporations, and foundations. Thank you for your support!



Her own experiences with cancer led Laura Holford, RN, MSN, OCN®, to explore new approaches to health, wellness, and resiliency. After a melanoma diagnosis at age 25, Holford began navigating the medical system from the side of a patient, rather than of a nurse. The onset of a chronic health

condition further led her to pursue psychological research into spiritual techniques, mindfulness tools, and the mind-body connection. Her findings gave her the inspiration to take what she learned to help her own colleagues. After receiving a leadership scholarship from the Foundation in 2020, Holford co-founded a program that focused on mental and spiritual health for women in health care. [Introspective Spaces](#) offers a wealth of resources to help empower nurses and other healthcare professionals to navigate moral distress, combat burnout, and foster connections.

Holford used her scholarship to attend a training program that helped her garner ways to support women in health care who felt isolated, pushed to the limit, and like they were not good enough. Holford said that during her training, she started having ideas of what it would look like to help provide spiritual and mental care to her colleagues.

“ I’m most thankful that the scholarship gave me the opportunity to step away and take time and space from my normal flow to explore a new concept that changed the way I thought about my own work and the culture of my work. It felt like such a gift in that way to have space to breathe, to think, to create, to think of the world in a different way. ”

—Laura Holford, RN, MSN, OCN®

Leadership Scholarship opportunities are generously supported by funds from ONS Past Presidents and the Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation.

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125 Enterprise Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15275-1223
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Introducing the Foundation's Newest Trustees

In its recent recruiting cycles, the Oncology Nursing Foundation welcomed several new members to its Board of Trustees. Please join us in welcoming Ashley, Cynthia, and Ryan.



Ashley Leak Bryant, PhD, RN,
OCN®, FAAN



Cynthia Edlow, MBA, RN



Ryan Iwamoto, MN, RN,
AOCN®-Emeritus

APPLY NOW! Apply for funding from the Oncology Nursing Foundation. The following opportunities are currently accepting applicants:

DUE MARCH 31, 2022

2022 Oncology Nurse Scientist
Research Intensive letter of intent

DUE MAY 8, 2022

- 2022 Oncology Nurse Scientist Research Grants: Letter of intent
- For topic(s) aligned with the ONS Research Agenda (2019–2022)
- Two opportunities: \$50,000 and \$100,000

DUE JUNE 15, 2022

2022 Josh Gottheil Memorial Fund
Bone Marrow Transplant Career
Development Award application

DUE SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

2022 Leadership Scholarship
application

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125 Enterprise Drive
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info@onfgivesback.org



In 2021, the Oncology Nursing Foundation allocated more than \$1,000,000 in funding

- **\$457,000** for academic scholarships
- **\$594,725** for research grants
- **\$20,554** for conference scholarships
- **\$19,975** for career development awards

Consider these Options for Supporting Oncology Nurses

Gift Planning Tips and Tax Savings Incentives

Make a Gift Tax-Free With an IRA

If you are 70.5 or older, you can give any amount (up to a maximum of \$100,000 per person) per year from your IRA directly to a qualified charity, such as the Oncology Nursing Foundation, without having to pay income taxes on the money. Gifts of any value \$100,000 or less are eligible for the benefit, and you can feel good knowing that you are making a difference at the Oncology Nursing Foundation. The funds must be transferred directly to the Foundation. Contact the Foundation to request [an easy-to-use form for your transfer](#), or if you have check-writing privileges on your IRA, please mail your check to the Foundation.



Request a Grant Through Your Donor-Advised Fund-Giving Account.

A donor-advised fund (DAF) is another way to support the Oncology Nursing Foundation. You can use your DAF to make a one-time or a recurring grant. Ask your DAF representative to include your name and address on the distribution, and direct the DAF distribution to:

Oncology Nursing Foundation
PO Box 3258
Pittsburgh, PA 15230-3258



Celebrating Oncology Nursing Month in May

As an oncology nurse, you are a source of strength for your patients and their loved ones. Your expertise and compassion provide hope and comfort for those facing the unimaginable. That's why we celebrate you—the oncology nurse—this May, and every month after.

This year's theme is "Oncology Nursing: The Hands and Hearts of Hope," and we invite you to join the Oncology Nursing Foundation once again in the celebration.



Here are some ideas to get started:

- Order [Oncology Nursing Month gifts](#).
- Become an active member of the ONS community by [volunteering](#) to improve oncology nursing and patient care.
- Nominate a deserving oncology nurse who displays a special commitment to the field for an ONS award.
- Recognize a nurse by [donating to the Oncology Nursing Foundation](#) in their name.



Meet Our Team

HAVE A QUESTION?
WE CAN HELP.



Anizia Karmazyn
Executive Director
+1-412-859-6411
akarmazyn@onfgivesback.org



Laura Rosenthal
Executive Assistant
+1-412-859-6314
lrosenthal@onfgivesback.org



Barbara A. Cinpinski, JD
Director, Philanthropy and
Institutional Partnerships
+1-412-859-6409
bcinpinski@onfgivesback.org



Michelle Leta
Development Operations
Coordinator
+1-412-859-6231
mleta@onfgivesback.org



Aly Kocon, PMP
Foundation Programs Coordinator
+1-412-859-6407
akocon@onfgivesback.org

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THANK YOU

TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS FOR HELPING THE ONCOLOGY NURSING FOUNDATION FURTHER OUR MISSION TO SUPPORT CANCER NURSING EXCELLENCE!

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125 Enterprise Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15275-1223
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