



Carolyn's Compassionate Children (CCC)

Care. Commit. Change. We believe that these three simple words have the power to create a community focused on education, opportunity, positivity and hope for young adult cancer survivors.

Vision

CCC is the premier source of financial information for college-bound cancer survivors. Dedicated to improving the quality of life for young adult cancer survivors, we strive for an evolved community in which people and resources are united to meet the educational and financial needs of young adult cancer survivors.

Mission

Every cancer survivor deserves the chance to receive a college education. Yet the burden of mounting medical debt, side effects of treatment, and limited access to financial resources leaves many young adult cancer survivors with little hope of attending college. CCC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life for young adult cancer survivors through two initiatives:

- An annual college scholarship program that recognizes survivors who demonstrate leadership, commitment to education, and betterment of their community.
- An online support network that connects survivors and provides a comprehensive database of financial resources for higher education.

Programs

Scholarship Program

CCC's Scholarship Program aims to reduce the financial burden that often prevents young adult cancer survivors from pursuing a college education. Started just five years ago, the scholarship program has already awarded over \$70,000 in college scholarships. CCC looks for candidates that exemplify leadership, a commitment to education and community, and the desire to inspire hope in others.

Currently CCC offers three types of scholarships annually:

- 20 Carolyn's Compassionate Children Scholarships in the amount of \$1000
- 1 Kadeejah Moore Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1500
- 1 Matt Ortiz Leadership Scholarship in the amount of \$2000

CCC's goal is to increase the number of scholarships allocated to young adult cancer survivors annually via increased revenue from private and foundation dollars. Currently, 100% of donations goes directly to the CCC Scholarship Program.

CCCpedia

In September 2008 CCC launched a new website and a first-of-its kind database called CCCpedia, which features information on over 100 scholarship programs that provide financial assistance for college to young adult cancer survivors. CCC recognizes that many survivors are caught between paying medical debt and pursuing their desire for higher education. Furthermore, the resources available to survivors are highly fragmented and often difficult to find. The solution is CCCpedia, a one-stop-shop for scholarship information specific to young adult cancer survivors.

The database includes:

- Over 3,000 scholarships
- Over \$5.8 million in scholarship money available to the young adult cancer survivor community

CCCpedia is consistently reviewed and edited for accuracy by the CCC Staff. Our goal is to become the premier resource for scholarship information for young adult cancer survivors.

Online Community and College Connection

Peer support is a key component to a young adult's battle with cancer. Support of friends, family, medical personnel, and even fellow patients all become an integral part of the fight. We are continually developing and improving this community.

We strive to build the community by:

- Relaying accurate and comprehensive information and resources to college students
- Our blog, which includes webinars and tips on college success
- Connecting CCC Scholarship Alumni

Our Partners



Our History

1999

Carolyn Rubenstein founds Carolyn's Compassionate Children (CCC) to help alleviate the social isolation felt by many children with cancer. It begins as a pen-pal program that links childhood cancer patients to their healthy peers.

2000

CCC becomes a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

2003

CCC creates a college scholarship program, CCC Scholarships, for young adult cancer survivors and awards a total of \$5,000 to 10 young adult cancer survivors.

2004

CCC awards a total of \$5,000 to 10 young adult cancer survivors.

2005

CCC awards a total of \$6,500 to 12 young adult cancer survivors.

2006

Although tremendously successful CCC discontinues pen-pal program to focus solely on its college scholarship program, CCC Scholarships.

CCC establishes its first scholarship committee comprised of world-renowned oncologists, doctors, researchers and psychologists. CCC more than doubles its award pool giving a total of \$15,000 to 15 young adult cancer survivors.

2007

CCC increases its award pool for its third consecutive year, giving a total of \$19,000 to 18 young adult cancer survivors.

CCC becomes a member of the National Scholarship Provider Association (NSPA); the network has provided over \$1 billion in scholarships nationwide.

2008

CCC expands upon its services to include a new online community specifically focused on education, social-networking and peer-support for young adult cancer survivors. CCC Scholarships continues to grow, awarding \$20,000 in scholarships to 19 young adult cancer survivors.

CCC launches a new website for this online community, which also features a comprehensive database of financial resources for young adult cancer survivors called CCCpedia.

Let's try running the numbers...

- 20,000** Scholarship dollars awarded to CCC Scholars in 2008.
- 3,101** The number of scholarships in CCC's database, CCCpedia.
- 250** Applicants for a CCC Scholarship in 2008.
- 3,037** Supporters of CCC on MySpace and Facebook... and growing daily.
- 5,877,600** Scholarship dollars available to young adult cancer survivors in CCCpedia.
- 65,000** Young adults living in the US that will be diagnosed with cancer this year.
- 30** % mortality rate for young adults diagnosed with cancer.
- 11** Average age of diagnosis among scholarship applicants in 2008.
- 1.54** Average length of treatment, in years, among scholarship applicants in 2008.
- 86** Alumni of the CCC Scholarship Program.
- 5,686,978** Total dollars needed for tuition among scholarship applicants in 2008 alone.
- 27** % of applicants surveyed said they had over \$100,000 in medical debt.
- One** Person needed to make a difference.

And sometimes the story is best told by others...

"I feel so lucky to have been able to receive a scholarship from CCC. But more than that, I feel like a survivor. I've really, truly, beat this thing."

- Caleb Scoville

"It is important for students to extend their education and attend college. Despite battling cancer twice, Carolyn has helped push me in my battle and has given me hope for tomorrow."

- Dana Smith

"The most tremendous aspect to this scholarship program is the hope that it inspires in its recipients. Nothing is more powerful than thoughts of tomorrow and the action that can inspire today. Receiving a scholarship was one thing, but after meeting Carolyn I had to join CCC in a greater capacity."

- Alex Oden

"My brother saw his involvement with CCC as a way to help give other cancer survivors the chance to finish their education and move on with their lives, something he sought for himself. These scholarships ease the burden, and Matt made it his fight and his passion to give education and opportunity to other survivors."

- Mary Ortiz, sister of Matt Ortiz