

Beating the Odds



What We Do

Provide comprehensive, high-quality cancer care enhanced by medical education and research

“The Cancer Institute gave me a second chance. I’m grateful for that every day.”

Brian Dickson,
former patient of
The Cancer Institute at
Saint Luke’s Hospital
with his family

Still in his 20s, Brian Dickson fought two rounds of leukemia. Saint Luke’s gave him a bone marrow transplant and a new lease on life

While still in his 20s, Brian Dickson battled leukemia—twice.

In 2000 an abdominal mass and shooting leg pain that radiated to his back led to the diagnosis. Three years later a routine checkup for his diabetes showed that he’d relapsed.

“It was strange to think that it had just come back like that without me knowing,” he said.

Since chemotherapy hadn’t obliterated his leukemia the first time, Dickson’s physician referred him to The Cancer Institute at Saint Luke’s. There oncologists prepared him for a stem cell

transplant. Luckily, Dickson’s brother, Brad, was a perfect match.

But during the pre-transplant screening, doctors learned that Brad’s spleen was enlarged. They decided a bone marrow transplant would be less invasive for Brad but would still battle Brian’s leukemia effectively. Today both brothers are healthy.

“Everything was up and down, but my doctors were able to handle it all,” Dickson said. “I felt so lucky.”

Critical Care

Dickson isn’t the only lucky one. Patients from throughout the region count on The Cancer Institute to battle the disease. It provides comprehensive cancer services, including prevention, early detection, diagnosis, treatment, research, education, and supportive care.

The Cancer Institute was founded in 2002 with the goal of partnering with Greater Kansas City area universities and researchers to enhance cancer care in the city and surrounding states. It’s the only hospital licensed by Missouri and Kansas that’s specifically designated to provide cancer services.

Today Dickson is healthy, enrolled in graduate school, and enjoying time with his wife, Antonette, and their daughter, Arwen.

“The Cancer Institute gave me a second chance,” he said. “I’m grateful for that every day.”



How You Can Help

Contributions sustain critical health care services and other important needs:

- \$75** Community education program in the Family Resource Center
- \$100** Counseling session for a newly diagnosed patient
- \$150** Continuing education course for an oncology nurse
- \$200** Hereditary cancer risk assessment for an uninsured patient
- \$500** Assistance for a bone marrow transplant patient to buy medicine not covered by insurance

ACT NOW

Fill out the provided Giving form and send in your gift today!