



BPCAF

THE BOB PERKS CANCER ASSISTANCE FUND

How the Bob Perks Cancer Assistance Fund Helps Local Families

Last July, Barbara Youngblood was shocked to learn she had cancer on her right lung.

"When you're diagnosed, you can't stop thinking about it. There's so much going on, it's hard to register everything," the 53-year-old Port Matilda resident says. The news also was difficult for her husband and 28-year-old son, both named Kenneth.

In September, Youngblood began chemotherapy and radiation treatments. "I didn't know what to expect. I just wanted to wrap myself up into a cocoon and stay there," she says.

Kenneth and Barbara Youngblood

To make matters more difficult, Youngblood, who is a stay-at-home wife, and her husband, who does maintenance and custodial work for the State College Area School District, were struggling financially once the expensive cancer treatments began.

Soon after starting treatment though, comfort came to Barbara and Ken in an unexpected way. Jan Reasinger, adult services manager at Housing Transitions in Bellefonte, told the Youngbloods about the Bob Perks Cancer Assistance Fund.

"When I was going for radiation, B.J. Rhodes, who works for a local church, was there encouraging people who were waiting to go into radiation," Barbara says. "She said a prayer with us and was very supportive and helpful. She also told me about BPCAF."

Barbara promptly applied to BPCAF and received financial support right away. She describes Reasinger and Rhodes as her "angels of mercy" for providing the information on BPCAF.

Currently on reprieve, Youngblood says her doctors think everything is going well. In June, however, she's having kidney stones removed. She also has arthritis in both legs and has trouble walking.

In her spare time, she enjoys oil painting, sitting outside in her flower garden, reading, and listening to the rain fall on her tin roof. "It's nice to have hobbies to take my mind off things," she says.

She is grateful to BPCAF for all the financial support.

"It's been wonderful working with them," she says. "I don't know what I would have done without their help!"

To donate or for more information on BPCAF,

visit www.bpcaf.org
or call 231-2692.

Donations can be mailed to:
BPCAF
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