For more information or to make a gift contact:
Gilda’s Club Northern New Jersey
575 Main Street, Hackensack, NJ 07601
(201) 457-1670 (201) 457-1697 (fax)
email: info@gildasclubnnj.com
website: www.gildasclubnnj.org
The mission of Gilda’s Club is to provide a place where men, women, and children living with cancer and their families and friends can join with others to build social and emotional support as an essential complement to medical care. Free of charge, Gilda’s Club – named for Gilda Radner – offers support and networking groups, lectures, workshops, and social events in a non-residential, home-like setting.

Each year, approximately 40,000 people in New Jersey are diagnosed with cancer. Even as they focus on the physical components of their disease, many yearn for social and emotional support to help them and their loved ones live with cancer. For them, there is Gilda’s Club Northern New Jersey – a place where men, women, and children, along with their families and friends, can connect with others who are in a similar situation.

As you read this report to the community, you’ll learn about Gilda’s Club and how its blend of structured and unstructured activities has become an essential complement to medical care for nearly 1,000 people, who come to Gilda’s Club from throughout New Jersey and nearby New York. Support and networking groups, informative lectures, empowering workshops, and fun-filled social gatherings are the program components that make Gilda’s Club work. In 2002, we held 92 New Member Meetings, 26 social events, and 45 lectures and offered 28 different support and networking groups, which met throughout the year. These were all made possible because of you.

Because of you – our volunteers; individual, corporate, and foundation contributors; and community partners – there is a Gilda’s Club Northern New Jersey. Your gifts of time, energy, and donations make this special community available to all – and at no cost. Because of you, so many men, women, and children are moving through their cancer experience to a place of understanding. You are integral to this experience.

You are also an indispensable part of our future that is valued by this board and staff. Thank you for entrusting us with your support. We are committed to protecting the integrity of Gilda’s Club’s mission and its commitment to members. We are also charged with ensuring the program’s fiscal stability and strength. In these economic times, which have resulted in a sharp decline in philanthropic support, this has not been an easy task. Our leadership’s tremendous energy and experience in community relations and fundraising are assets that will guide us in the future. We are deeply committed to Gilda’s Club, where people can join in a community that is uniquely theirs. We are dedicated to this caring community, whose red door welcomes all people, of all ages, races, and genders, in good times and in bad. Thank you for being an important part of this wonderful community. Gilda’s Club works because of you.

Ernestine Bradley
Honorary Chairperson
Jeffrey Warren
President
Lisa Bromberg
Vice President
Lee Langbaum
Secretary
Gwen Zaffe
Treasurer
Elaine Adler
Deborah Aronson
Angelica Berrie
Ray Bramucci
Sonja Duncan
Wendy Federman
Fernando Garip
Richard Gentiman
Rox Grinsberg
Michael Harris, M.D.
Bernie Koster
Mia Macri
Howard Shapiro
Ronni Janoff Weinstein
Penny Silver Zola
Executive Director
Betsy J. Davison

Executive Director
Betsy J. Davison

BETSY J. DAVISON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JEFFREY WARREN, PRESIDENT

GILDA’S CLUB
NORTHERN NEW JERSEY

OUR COMMITMENT to YOU
A spectacular performance by Olivia Newton-John raises $12,000.

The Parents of Children Living with Cancer networking group meets for the first time. It is one of eight running at the clubhouse.

Tiffany & Co. of Riverside Square Mall hosts a reception to honor our founding donors. The event, which features the South Sea Pearl Collection, raises $21,100.

Fifteen comics perform at our Third Annual LAUGH OFF, a four-week event that is most definitely a laughing matter to the more than 250 people who attend. Congratulations to winner Maureen Langan of New York City.

We could not have done it without our volunteers – who are 140 strong and are feted at a brunch held on April 30.
GILDA’S CLUB WORKS...

LECTURES and WORKSHOPS

LECTURES AND WORKSHOPS OFFER GILDA’S CLUB MEMBERS ACTIVITIES THAT PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACQUIRING NEW SKILLS, TOOLS, INFORMATION, AND TECHNIQUES TO LEARN HOW TO LIVE WITH CANCER.

SPECIALISTS SHARE THEIR CURRENT FINDINGS ON CANCER, DISCUSS METHODS TO HELP NEGOTIATE THE INSURANCE MAZE, AND OFFER WAYS TO ENHANCE SELF-UNDERSTANDING THROUGH CLASSES ON RELAXATION TECHNIQUES, T’AI CHI, MEDITATION, GENTLE YOGA, VISUALIZATION, PAINTING, COOKING, JOURNAL WRITING, AND MORE.

... because of you

It's official. The clubhouse marks its second anniversary. The club welcomes 39 new members.

Founding Board President Deborah Aronson is honored by Gilda's Club founder, JoAnna Bull, at the Sports Legends Dinner and Auction, which raises an incredible $155,000.

Noogieland is visited 72 times by children of all ages who are touched by cancer.

More than 100 guests come to celebrate at the Third Annual Gilda’s Birthday Party. The evening was supported by the National Association of Social Workers, Bergen Chapter.

Our Living with Cancer in Your 20s and 30s networking group starts, supported by funds from the Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults.

The clubhouse comes alive at the first Noogieland Carnival, bringing laughter and fun to the more than 100 people in attendance. The event is made possible in part by a gift from The Kaplen Foundation.

“As a volunteer you make a difference in someone else’s life—and in your own. The feeling is priceless.” —VICTOR SANSONE
GILDA’S CLUB WORKS…

SOCIALIZATION and MORE

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES LET GILDA’S CLUB MEMBERS AND FRIENDS GATHER IN WAYS THAT CELEBRATE LIFE, SUCH AS POTLUCK DINNERS, JOKEFESTS, AND KARAOKE NIGHTS.

THERE IS ALSO NOOGIELAND FOR CHILDREN TOUCHED BY CANCER; TEEN SCENE; FAMILY FOCUS MEETINGS INITIATED BY MEMBERS; TEAM CONVENE STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETINGS WITH MEMBERS’ SUPPORT SYSTEMS; AND PERSPECTIVES, HELPING HANDS, AND DISCOVERY (ph&d’s) FOR THOSE LIVING LONG TERM WITH THE CANCER EXPERIENCE.

...because of you
GILDA'S CLUB WORKS . . .

... because of you all

Right from the beginning, when Gilda's Club Northern New Jersey was just a vision, it was clear from the outpouring of support that people within our area were searching for a place like Gilda's Club. In this first report to the community since our grand opening in 2000, we are pleased to acknowledge all those who have been part of our journey. We are grateful to the many individuals, foundations, corporations, and organizations listed below for their generous gifts. Because of you, nearly 1,000 men, women, and children have joined Gilda's Club, coming from all parts of New Jersey and nearby New York. Because they have found a place where they can learn to live with cancer. Because of you, Gilda's Club is here for anyone who needs it — and at no cost.
VOLUNTEERS

At Gilda’s Club Northern New Jersey there are numerous ways to volunteer—and we are grateful to have experienced the gifts of so many. From facilitating networking groups to teaching a meal to the board on teaching journal writing to playing in Noogieland to chairing a fundraiser—we’ve been abundantly blessed with an outpouring of time and talent. All of you volunteers make what we do better, by sharing yourselves and your unique perspectives on life and love. Many of you are cancer survivors; others have come to the clubhouse in memory of a loved one; and some have made us a part of their own personal journey in life. However you got here, we are thankful that you have joined us in making every day in the lives of our members a joyful one worth remembering.
**Includes expenses associated with successfully securing public capital expansion and improvement grants for the year 2003.

Christina Parmelee
Joseph Paci
Ruth Oppler
Janice Onorato
Sarah Onello
Geri O’Sullivan
Jane O’Grady
Carol Numark
Diane Nathans
Rhonda Mustardo
Rose Lee Morrell
Cathy Moran
Grace Morales
Jacquelyn Moots
Eloise Monzillo
Elana Mitchel
Kathryn Miranda
Page Miliotis
Karen Meyers

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This report to the community details donations received through December 31, 2002. These lists have been prepared with great care. However, despite our sincere efforts to avoid omissions or inaccuracies, we know we can occur. If any are noted, we hope you will accept our apology and advice us of the error.

Although we are thankful for all the donations we have received, only donations of more than $1,000 have been included due to space constraints. Honorsarium and memorial gifts are listed only if the donor indicated both the individual's first and last name.