



Surviving And Moving Forward:
the **SAMFund**
for Young Adult Survivors of Cancer

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For Immediate Release

The SAMFund, Leading Young Adult Cancer Support Organization, Kicks Off 2015 Grant Cycle

More Than \$1.35 Million Awarded to Young Adult Survivors Since 2005

Boston, MA (May 27, 2015) – Surviving And Moving Forward: The SAMFund for Young Adult Survivors of Cancer, a leading support organization providing financial assistance and tools, today announced the opening of its annual [grant](#) cycle. This also marks the first time that The SAMFund’s grants program will include two application periods: one now and one in early 2016, in order to meet the needs of even more young adult (YA) survivors. Since 2005, The SAMFund has helped YAs empower themselves to achieve their educational, professional and personal goals.

“While our ultimate goal is to see the need for our services and resources decrease with time – meaning fewer people are being affected financially by cancer treatment – the reality is that the need continues to grow,” said Samantha Watson, CEO of The SAMFund. “The money we raise goes directly to programs to help this population overcome their financial challenges and move forward with their lives.”

The impact of receiving a SAMFund grant includes relief from financial pressures as well as renewed hope and confidence in one’s ability to move forward. As Katie W., a recent grant recipient from Austin, TX, explained, “During treatment I lost my home, my job and my savings were depleted, and I will never forget the day The SAMFund called to say they would fulfill my grant request to pay two months of rent so I could finally start reestablishing my savings. There are many great organizations that help cancer patients, but once you are considered ‘in remission,’ much of the help stops. That’s why The SAMFund fills a critical void in life after cancer.”

The SAMFund’s two-part application process will begin on May 27 and end on June 19, 2015. After the first review period, selected applicants will be invited to submit applications for Part Two. Applicants will be notified in October 2015 as to whether they have received a grant. The link to the grant application can be found here: bit.ly/SAMFundGrants.

Grant applicants must meet the following criteria:

- demonstrate financial need related to their cancer diagnosis/treatment
- between the ages of 21 and 39
- residents of the United States, and
- *either*: free of cancer, one year following the completion of planned therapy, OR in remission on maintenance therapy

In addition to providing grants, The SAMFund hosts a [Webinar series](#) and recently launched a [Finances 101 Toolkit](#) (in partnership with Triage Cancer), both designed to help YAs make sound financial decisions during and after treatment. These free online programs give YAs information and guidance to overcome the financial challenges most common within this population – finding affordable health insurance, dealing with medical bills, managing student loans and finding prescription assistance, among others.

ABOUT THE SAMFUND

The SAMFund supports young adult cancer survivors in the United States as they recover from the financial impact of cancer treatment. Through direct financial assistance and free online support and education, The SAMFund helps young adults move forward towards their personal, professional, and academic goals. The SAMFund is a charter member of [Critical Mass](#). For more information, visit <http://www.thesamfund.org>.

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