



For Immediate Release

**The Samfund Kicks Off 2016 Grant Cycle I:  
First time the organization will include two application periods**

Boston, MA (January 7, 2016) – The Samfund, the leading organization that provides financial assistance and resources, today announced the opening of its annual grant cycle. Since 2003, The Samfund has supported 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, education and advocacy. For the first time since the inception of its grants program, The Samfund will include two application periods: one now and one in June 2016, in order to meet the needs of even more young adult (YA) survivors.

“From my work with The Samfund, and my own experience as a two-time young adult survivor, I’ve heard from thousands of people struggling with the double whammy of being diagnosed at a stage in life that is financially tenuous to begin with, and facing bankruptcy and other impairments as a result of medical bills piling up,” said Samantha Watson, CEO of The Samfund. “The money we raise goes directly to programs that help this population overcome financial challenges and move forward with their lives.”

The Samfund provides financial assistance to young adults as they regain momentum in their lives after cancer. As shared by Elizabeth, a recent grant recipient, “Before I received my grant, I spent all of my limited time and energy trying to cover the basic needs - food, water, and shelter. There was no time for anything else like searching for a job, cooking healthy meals, regaining strength through exercise, enjoying my time with friends, or hobbies.” She continued, “When I got my Samfund grant, I suddenly felt freed from the heavy weight of ‘survival mode’ that I had been stuck living in. I took the first step towards moving forward.”

The Samfund’s two-part application process will begin on January 7 and end on February 5, 2016. After the first review period, selected applicants will be invited to submit applications for Part II. Applicants will be notified in early-mid April 2016 if they have been funded. Eligibility requirements and the link to the grant application can be found here: [bit.ly/SamfundGrants2016](http://bit.ly/SamfundGrants2016).



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 young adults make sound financial decisions during and after treatment. These free online programs provide 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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