

State of Maryland

2007 Bond Bill Fact Sheet

1. Senate		House		2. Name of Project
LR #	Bill #	LR #	Bill #	
991	SB85	673	HB29	HopeWell Cancer Support Facility
3. Senate Bill Sponsors			House Bill Sponsors	
Zirkin			Morhaim	
4. Jurisdiction (County or Baltimore City)			5. Requested Amount	
Baltimore County			\$1,000,000	
6. Purpose of Bill				
Grant to the Board of Trustees of HopeWell Cancer Support, Inc. for the construction and reconstruction of a cancer support facility.				
7. Matching Fund Requirements				
Grantee shall provide and expend a matching fund. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided, either directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property or in kind contributions. The fund may consist of funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act.				
8. Special Provisions				
None				
9. Contact Name and Title			Contact Phone	Email Address
Suzanne Brace, Executive Director			410-832-2719	sbrace@hopewellcancersupport.org

10. Description and Purpose of Grantee Organization (3000 characters maximum)

One in 3 families in Maryland are affected by cancer. HopeWell Cancer Support exists because people with cancer need so much more than medical care. Founded as The Wellness Community - Baltimore in 1993, in 14 years we have had some 65,000 visits from 6,000 people whose lives have been forever changed by a diagnosis of cancer. In January of 2003, we became an independent organization, serving the greater Baltimore region with our mission to create a community for all people with cancer, their family and friends, that encourages an exchange of information, the development of a support system and the presence of hope.

We believe in providing, at no cost, a broad spectrum of support groups, educational opportunities, classes and social activities that focus on each individual's total health needs. Each person - patient, caregiver or child who has a loved one with cancer - can find something to help them along their "journey" through the cancer experience. Some 75 free program offerings each month bring people together to share their knowledge and experience, while building camaraderie and community and restoring hope.

Thanks, in great part, to a Bond Bill passed in the 2001 Legislative Session, HopeWell Cancer Support acquired a permanent site in an old farmhouse on eight acres of land on Falls Road near the intersection of the Beltway and I-83 in Baltimore County.

This natural setting, so peaceful and apart from the medical institutions where oncology patients spend much of their time, is, in itself, a welcome respite for people who are dealing with the normal emotional side effects of a cancer diagnosis.

HopeWell's continuing growth is gratifying evidence of our success and value to the community, but it is, also, a new challenge for the future. To enhance our ability to serve the thousands of people in the region who are diagnosed with cancer each year, we must continue to extend our reach, raise awareness, expand programs and, therefore, the facilities to house them.

We pride ourselves in being able to respond to the needs of our participants and the professional community. We are constantly looking at ways to reach out and invite families dealing with cancer to HopeWell. But first, we need to create the space to grow. Outreach is currently constrained by the size of our facility. Soon newcomers will be told that there is no more room for additional yoga class members or new Kids Circle sessions. They may be turned away from the help they need.

The commitment of HopeWell Cancer Support is to create a community of support, learning and hope - without charge to participants - that offers all people with cancer the chance to live life fully despite their cancer diagnosis. With the help of the legislature, this unique resource in Central Maryland has the potential to enable even more participants to gain information, understanding, strength, and hope.

11. Description and Purpose of Project (3000 characters maximum)

HopeWell Cancer Support has been providing its programs (more than 75 per month, all offered at no charge) in this, our permanent site, for three years. In 2006 we had some 5200 visits from over 700 individuals – people with cancer, their families including children, and friends. In the past two years, the number of programs offered and the number of participants utilizing these programs have grown by 15% each year, straining our capacity. Programs that are in high demand require a space that can accommodate a group of more than 10 people. HopeWell currently has just one such room.

These well-attended day and evening groups include: Kids and Teen Circle (programs for children who have a loved one with cancer); Kids and Teen Bereavement (programs for children who have lost a loved one to cancer); all yoga, meditation, gentle exercise and t'ai chi classes; large support groups like our Brain Tumor Networking group and our weekly Family Support Group; talks by leading healthcare professionals; expressive arts workshops; and social events for all of our participants.

We have done a very thorough study of space and program usage and needs, and determined that in order to grow we need to enlarge our space. We are requesting funding toward the design, construction and equipping of an additional 11,700 square feet of program space, to be housed in an addition to the present house and in a newly constructed barn.

This capital project would create two structures with dedicated space for two special areas of programming: a Kids Circle family center and a yoga / meditation studio. The Kids Circle family center will be a barn-like structure dedicated to the Kids Circle / Teen Circle programs with age-appropriate furnishings, space and equipment for expressive arts for children and adults, an outside play area, rooms for parents to meet and offices for staff. Currently all of the materials for the children are stored in plastic bins in the upstairs. We want there to be a visibly welcoming space for children who are going through the trauma of having a parent with cancer.

The second structure – an addition to the current house - would provide several large group areas including the meditation studio, a large kitchen-centered gathering area for community participants, two large meeting rooms to allow for concurrent program offerings to groups of 12 -50 and space designed for storage and volunteer projects. A covered main entrance linking the structures would also be incorporated into the design.

The purpose of this project is to provide adequate space to enable HopeWell Cancer Support to continue to reach out to cancer patients and their families in the greater Baltimore region, knowing that we can accommodate their program needs. This proposed capital project would meet our space needs for as far into the future as we can predict - certainly the next 5-10 years of growth.

Round all amounts to the nearest \$1,000. The totals in Items 11 (Estimated Capital Costs) and 12 (Proposed Funding Sources) must match. The proposed funding sources must not include the value of real property unless an equivalent value is shown under Estimated Capital Costs.

12. Estimated Capital Costs

Acquisition	
Design	\$193,000
Construction	\$2,687,000
Equipment	\$234,000
Total	\$3,114,000

13. Proposed Funding Sources – (List all funding sources and amounts.)

Source	Amount
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15	20 (2009)	\$788,000	\$1,134,000 (2009)
25. Ownership of Property (Info Requested by Treasurer's Office for bond issuance purposes)			
A. Will the grantee <u>own</u> or <u>lease</u> (pick one) the property to be improved?			Own
B. If owned, does the grantee plan to sell within 15 years?			No
C. Does the grantee intend to lease any portion of the property to others?			No
D. If property is owned by grantee and any space is to be leased, provide the following:			
Lessee	Terms of Lease	Cost Covered by Lease	Square Footage Leased
E. If property is leased by grantee – Provide the following:			
Name of Leaser	Length of Lease	Options to Renew	
26. Building Square Footage:			
Current Space GSF	5,000		
Space to Be Renovated GSF	5,000		
New GSF	11,700		
27. Year of Construction of Any Structures Proposed for Renovation, Restoration or Conversion			1908
28. Comments: (3000 characters maximum)			

Thanks to the generosity of the State of Maryland in granting \$500,000 to our organization in 2001, we were able to take the enormous step of purchasing our own site. This has provided not only a perfect setting to house the programs so important to the hundreds of families and individuals each year who come through our doors, it has also helped us gain awareness from the community that sustains the work of HopeWell.

All of the programs offered by HopeWell are provided at no charge! Our annual fund income has kept pace with our program growth and needs. Our site has assured funders of our permanence and our prominence in the oncology support field and has produced a higher level of giving. We plan that this capital project will also help us attract funders for program expansion and the beginnings of an endowment.

The 2001 Bond Bill enabled HopeWell to reach our current level of growth and need. The momentum is growing. We have a capital pledge to match the requested funds – a gift made, in part, because of the opportunity to hopefully receive matching funds from the state - and to set the ball in motion for a successful campaign.

Thank you for this chance to better serve the increasing number of families in Maryland that are affected by a diagnosis of cancer.