



15 years of walking together

*Who in the journey of life has lit even a single
torch in someone's dark hour has not lived in
vain.*

Mother Teresa of Calcutta

The Association has completed 15 years of activity on 1st September 2019. How long has passed since then and what a fantastic journey it has been! We had 50€, a handful of books and a lot of dreams and projects we believed were unachievable. But we had the desire to provide the newborn Oncology in Borgomanero (which was inaugurated in May 2004) the chance to offer a quality care to cancer patients and their families, which went beyond health aspects. Because we think and see the person before the patient who is not only the disease he is suffering from, in which to treat the disease and all the psycho-social aspects that come with it.

We also wanted to be a discreet presence alongside health workers, capable of supporting them, always smiling in their daily difficult work. We wanted to be promoters of health-prevention culture, since it is a precious and inestimable asset. We wanted to do all this free of charge for our patients but also for all cancer patients in our area, even if followed in other centers, because in voluntary work there must not be boundaries or barriers, but only listening, welcoming, supporting and availability.

We started with small things: the opening of the library inside the DH, the editing and printing of informative leaflets, the organization of creative moments, the humanization of care rooms. As time passed, we managed to grow proposing and carrying out small and large projects.

ACTIVITIES FOR THE ONCOLOGY COMPLEX STRUCTURE (SC)

Opening and management of the refreshment area on the 2nd floor of Building G where every day a volunteer offers breakfast to patients and waits with them before their therapy

- Activation of the "Drug Project": we give patients non-loanable drugs, which help control some side effects of chemotherapy or are necessary during the preparation of some instrumental tests, thus supporting them from an economic, logistic and psychological point of view.
- Editing and printing of informative material dedicated to patients: "What should I eat?", "Hair and chemotherapy", "The rights of patients and workers", "Pamphlet on Reception and Services Center and Oncology Complex Structure", "How to manage oral chemotherapy", "Informative pamphlet of Oncology Complex Structure".
- Management of the Association secretariat: preparation of drug kits then given to patients, organization of the library within the Oncology Complex Structure, observation of the environments and care of the areas dedicated to patients.
- Humanization of the environments with the insertion of paintings, murals and the Carpet of Dreams located at the entrance of Building G.

- Renovation and furniture of the Reception and Services Center, of the Meeting Room for Interdisciplinary and Care Groups of the SSL NO, of the Refreshment Point and of the new Oncology waiting room.
- Donation of TV-sets for therapy rooms, waiting rooms, refrigerators, computers, operating systems and printers to expand the computer equipment of the ward, armchairs for chemotherapy infusion and infusion stands. WIFI was also installed to allow the detection of patients' Customer Satisfaction on CAS (Reception and Services Center) activities through dedicated tablets.
- Management of the information bulletin board of the Association, drafting and printing of an information sheet (Mimosa News) for the promotion of our activities, but it also has useful information about prevention, patients' and workers' rights, news in oncology field. Mimosa News is sent home for free to oncological DH patients.
- Opening of the Association's website to better promote our activities, even beyond our territorial borders.
- Financing training courses for Oncology staff, not only for continuous updating in the health sector but also to promote the culture of listening, welcoming, accompanying the patient in his/hers care journey.
- Free medical-legal and legal advice for patients who have difficulties in civil invalidity requests, inability to work, etc.
- Agreement for the purchase of wigs and drugs and activation of oncological aesthetic consultancy.
- Creation of customized PICC covers that are given to patients.
- Preparation and printing of informative posters in the ward and hospital to allow easier access to the structure.
- Activation of courses dedicated to patients and their families to try to overcome the isolation often due to the disease, to support them in their difficult moments, to heal the psychological and soul wounds caused by the disease.
- Preparation of little gifts to be offered on the occasions of Christmas and Easter to patients who perform chemotherapy in the festive period, made by the Hobby Group of the Association.
- Organization of lunch for patients and their families on the 3rd Sunday of May, which is National Cancer Patient Day.
- Organization of an end-of-year show dedicated to patients and their families at the Don Bosco Theater in Borgomanero.



Dream Carpet - Entrance to Building G



Entrance to Oncology Complex Structure



Refreshment Point - Christmas Breakfast



Preparation of drug kits



Meeting room for GIC (Interdisciplinary Groups and



End-of-year show on the Association's tenth anniversary



Market of Hobby Group on the Open Hospital Day for Prevention

Lunch on the occasion of the National Cancer Patient Day – 2018

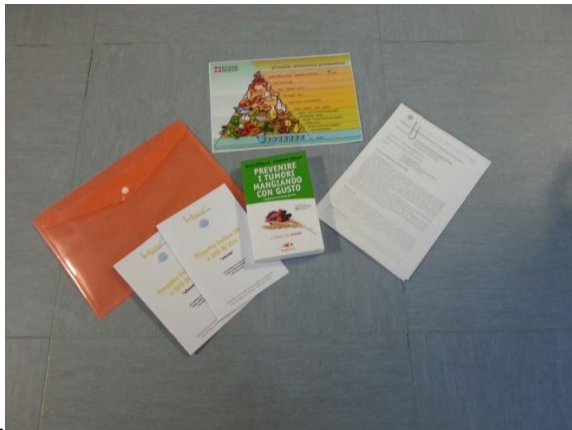


HOSPITAL ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

- Donation of equipment to improve oncological diagnostics (macro-slice microtome to improve the evaluation of the margins in prostate cancers, Henvix to improve the visualization of bladder cancers, computerized microscope to simplify anatomo-pathological diagnostics, the refrigerator for the Screening Single Center).
- Donation of the first PICC (venous accesses needed for chemotherapy infusion) necessary for the activation of the PICC team service.
- Donation of the first breast implants for the activation of plastic surgery at our site.
- Setting up of a library within DEA.
- Financing of scholarships for laboratory technicians for pathological anatomy.
- Organization and sponsorship of training courses for health personnel of the Hospital of Borgomanero and the General Practitioners within ASL NO.
- Financing of high specialization courses and masters off-site for health personnel of ASL NO.

HEALTH PROMOTION AND SPREADING OF PREVENTION CULTURE

- Participation and support of the Piedmont and Valle d'Aosta's oncological Network project to promote healthy lifestyles after cancer (Study Fucsam): printing of information material, activation of the Fitwalking course and numerous Preventive Cooking Courses.
- Organization of meetings and conferences for the promotion of cancer prevention to the population.
- Support and coordination of the Proteus Woman Project, for the evaluation of the efficacy in the field of oncological screening of tomosynthesis (three-dimensional mammography) that allowed to enroll, quickly and effectively, a large number of women. Through this we will be able to have interesting data to modify or confirm the screening activities currently in use.
- Organization and creation of the "Health Saturdays Circuit" that in 2016 and 2017 led to the publication and printing of more than 8000 volumes distributed to the population to promote prevention.
- Promotion of the European Code against Cancer, in collaboration with the Prevention Network through dedicated evenings, also involving local restaurateurs. Printing of an information booklet ("Help us too to prevent cancer") that has been widely distributed throughout the territory.
- Promotion of the Oncological Screenings through the awareness raising and training of volunteers, the publication of 15000 information booklets ("Screening calls you: you answer") which have been distributed throughout the territory of ASL NO by volunteers, general practitioners and the pharmacies participating in our initiatives.
- Collaboration with the Municipality of Borgomanero and schools to promote health of children/young people on the conscious use of electronic devices related to electromog and furthermore on the importance of adopting correct eating habits through cooking classes for children and training meetings with parents and teachers.
- Organization of events for "March in Pink" and "October in Pink" aimed at promoting oncological prevention.
- Participation and support in events organized by ASL NO for the Compass of values.



Pamphlets for project FUCSAM



Presentation of the book "Saturdays of health"



Fitwalking Course Group



Cooking courses with children from San Maurizio D'Opaglio



October in Pink 2018: the Walk of Health



Project Electrosmog with Borgomanero's Schools and Municipality

In September 2019, 15 years after the foundation of our Association, we made our dream come true, i.e. a site outside the hospital to be able to continue to carry out our activities.

Immense gratitude goes to Giovanni Siniscalco who in recent years not only helped us realizing Theater Course for patients and some shows for our parties, but also welcomed us in his Theater School offering us rooms for our activities.



Photo of the new site of the Association on the day of its inauguration

In this long journey **two important moments for our Association:** the Plaque of the Borgomanero Presidency of the Year in 2013 and the Meritorious Award of Solidarity in 2017 by the Community of Novarese Foundation.

All this was possible thanks to a serious and constant work, but also to the ability of leading positive relationships with other volunteer realities in the area, with whom we have been able to collaborate, allowing the realization of many of our projects. Therefore we particularly thank those who have understood our passion for volunteering, have enthusiastically welcomed our ideas and managed to support us in many moments of our path. Among these it is right to remember: the Associazione Terre della Croatina in Santa Cristina, AVO in Arona, AVO in Borgomanero, the Forti e Serene in Arona, the Auser in Castelletto and the Scuola d'arte in Glisente.

A special thanks also goes to the staff of Ciesseti in Novara, to the Fondazione Comunità del Novarese, to Fondo Frattini and to all the people who have helped and supported us in different ways: Luciano Chiesa, Dr. Augusto Cavagnino, Dr.ssa Arabella Fontana, Maria Luisa Broggio, Giampiero e Mauro Allegrini, Luigi Bellaria, Anna Maria Canton, Stefano Mercandino, Franco Dragotta, Monica Fagnoni and Carlo Panizza, Erica Ferrario, Milena Simonotti, Andrea Lentullo, Fabrizio Filiberti, Daniela Lucchi and Patrizia Lusardi and Gruppo Fitwalking, Daniela Pavarotti, Carla Mora, Simona Vesco, Mariella Vecchi and Gruppo Hobbistica, Avvocato Sabrina Segato, Psicologa Debora Stramba, Rosa Vercelli, Maria Luisa Briolotti, Maria Manuela Cattin, Enzo Rasulo and Stefania Pravato, Massimo and Lia Venanzini.

Finally, thanks to all those who have supported and support us through the 5 per thousand or direct donations.

In particular a special thanks goes to: Rosapia Colombo, Emanuela Lenzi and Sofia Tosi, Leo Club Borgomanero, Lion Club Borgomanero HOST, Rotaract Borgomanero-Arona, Clementina Soldà.



Evening with Rotaract Borgomanero-



Award ceremony Lion Club Borgomanero
HOST



Award ceremony Leo Club Borgomanero

"As in a show, the spotlight is on the actors, but behind the scenes there is an infinite world of people that allow the show to come to life!"

The President of the Association
Dr.ssa Incoronata Romaniello



Associazione Mimosa Amici del DH Oncologico di Borgomanero-ODV
Registered Office: viale Zoppis 10, 28021 Borgomanero at SC di Oncologia
Operational Center: via De Amicis 21, 28021 Borgomanero

For information:

- Telephone: 340/6565971 from 14.00 to 16.00 only on Monday, Wednesday and Friday
- Website: www.associazionemimosa.it
- Email: [informazioni @associazionemimosa.it](mailto:informazioni@associazionemimosa.it)

If you wish to support our initiatives:

- Donation by bank transfer: IT20 M030 6909 6061 0000 0120 446 (code BIC: BCITITMM) Banca Intesa San Paolo, specifying your name and surname and address in full, so that we can send you the relative receipt. Thank you.
- Donation of five per thousand: CF: 91009580035
- Cash donation: at the secretariat of the Registered Office