



Cancer Services Program

Your partner for cancer screening, support and information

February 2026

NEWSLETTER

Issue 1

Welcome to The Cancer Services Program of Warren, Washington and Hamilton Counties first, quarterly newsletter! In this issue, we'll introduce you to our program and what we do in the community. We will also give you some information and data to share with your colleagues, families and friends.



The Cancer Services Program (CSP) is a NYS cancer screening program. We cover the cost of BREAST, CERVICAL & COLORECTAL cancer screenings and follow-up services to people who:

WHAT IS THE CSP?

- Live in New York State
- Do not have health insurance
- Have health insurance with a cost share that makes the cost of screening too high
- Age 40+ for Breast & Cervical*
- Age 45+ for Colorectal*

*People at high risk may be eligible to enroll in the program earlier.



- The CSP has been around for 32 years!
- There are 21 CSP offices, covering all 62 counties in New York State.
- In 2025, our CSP office covered the cost of 270 services for 131 community members!
- We work with most providers in our community.

QUICK FACTS



IN THIS ISSUE

- Upcoming events
- Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month
- Partner spotlight!
- How to set up an education session.
- How to become a partner or service provider with us.
- Cancer in the News



MARCH IS
COLORECTAL CANCER
AWARENESS MONTH

What is Colorectal Cancer?

Colorectal cancer (also called colon cancer) is cancer that starts in the colon or rectum. The colon and rectum are part of the body's digestive system. Abnormal growths (called polyps) begin in the colon or rectum and, over time, can become cancer.

New research from the American Cancer Society shows that colorectal cancer is now the leading cause of cancer death in people under age 50 in the United States. Getting screened regularly beginning at age 45 is key to changing this trend and saving lives.

The best test is the test that gets done! If you are 45 or older, even if you don't have symptoms or family history, it's time to get screened! If you do have family history or symptoms, talk to your health care provider about getting screened earlier.

What are the Symptoms of Colorectal Cancer?

Colorectal cancer may not cause symptoms. A person could have colorectal cancer and not know it which is why screening is so important!! If there are symptoms, they can include:

- Blood in stool or tar-like stools
 - Pain or cramps in your stomach that do not go away
 - Change in bowel movement habits – either constipation or diarrhea
 - Losing weight and you don't know why
- If you have any of these symptoms, talk to your health care provider about screening options!

How Can You Get Tested for Colorectal Cancer?

There is more than one test for colorectal cancer. You have a choice!

At home stool test

Fecal Immunochemical Test (FIT), FIT-DNA test or Fecal Occult Blood Test (FOBT). There are a few different brands of this type of test that a provider might use. You do these tests at home and send stool samples to a doctor's office or lab.

Colonoscopy

A colonoscopy is done in a doctor's office or other medical setting. The doctor looks for growths or cancer in the rectum and colon.

The best test is the test that gets done!

IN THE NEWS



James Van Der Beek
1977 – 2026



Most known for his role on the show Dawson's Creek, James Van Der Beek's journey with colorectal cancer began with the discovery of changes in his bowel movements, which he initially attributed to coffee consumption. After cutting out coffee, the irregularities persisted, leading him to seek medical attention. At age 44, a colonoscopy revealed Stage 3 colorectal cancer, and Van Der Beek shared his diagnosis publicly to raise awareness and provide support. Despite his health challenges, he maintained an active lifestyle and cardiovascular fitness. His story serves as a reminder of the importance of regular screenings and the potential for colorectal cancer to affect anyone, regardless of age or lifestyle. On February 11, 2026, Van Der Beek lost his battle with colorectal cancer leaving behind his wife and six young children.

NOT CREDENTIALLED WITH US YET? REACH OUT FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO BECOME A CREDENTIALLED PROVIDER WITH THE CSP

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join us Friday 2/27! Hard-hitting action of Adirondack Thunder hockey returns home for night one of Stick it to Cancer Weekend presented by Glens Falls Hospital. Giveaways, paint the ice postgame, raffles, education!



We will be joining The Warren County Public Health team with **THE COLON CAVE!**



Glens Falls YMCA

March 6th - 10am-2pm

Aviation Mall

March 20th
5pm-7pm

March 21st
10am-2pm

Chestertown Town Hall

April 10th - 10am-1:30pm

Stop by and take a stroll through The Colon Cave! Learn about colon health and what screening is right for you! We can even enroll those eligible in the CSP on the spot and give you an at home screening test!

February 23rd

The CSP of Warren, Washington & Hamilton, The CSP of Fulton, Montgomery & Schenectady, The CSP of the Greater Capital Region, The CSP of Central NY, and The American Cancer Society are headed to the LOB in Albany to meet with some of our legislators to educate them on what The CSP is doing for their constituents and the importance of our program!



Do you have an event coming up that we could join?

Do you have a staff or group that could benefit from some education about the importance of cancer screenings?

We are always looking for new partners and new ways to educate our community members and reach those that may qualify to have their cancer screenings done at no cost!

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



**C.R. Wood
Cancer Center**

ALBANY MED Health System

Since our office is located in the CR Wood Cancer Center, we have the privilege to witness an amazing team of nurses, doctors and support staff work tirelessly every day to make sure the people that come through the doors feel seen and supported. We work together to make sure **everyone** has access to cancer screenings. A big shout out to Vickie Yattaw, RN, OCN - Oncology Education and Support Services. Vickie's day to day is the definition of 'above and beyond' and we appreciate her knowledge and guidance.



Warren County
Public Health

The team at Warren County Public Health is always looking for ways to collaborate and educate our community members on everything from cancer screenings to bike safety. They always think to include us in their events. We appreciate how hard they work to make our little piece of New York better! Shout out to Dan, Kate, Jignasha, Olivia and the rest of their team!

CONTACT US!

WE'RE HIRING!! Are you or someone you know looking for a job that means something? We are looking to add a passionate and outgoing person to our team!
Send an email to Nicole for more information!



SCAN FOR
MORE
INFORMATION

Warren, Washington and Hamilton Counties

Cancer Services Program

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SCAN TO
FILL OUT
CONTACT FORM

Nicole Wrenn
Program Coordinator
518-926-6581
nwrenn@glensfallshosp.org

Christin Crandall
Intake & Case Manager
518-926-6570
ccrandall@glensfallshosp.org