

To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation Annual Report 2011

your dollars + our stewardship = proven results









A Message from our Board President

With so many non profits asking for your help you may be wondering, why support To Celebrate Life? The theme of this annual report says it best: your dollars + our stewardship = proven results.

As we look towards our 17th year, having returned to an all-volunteer status, we can ensure that your generosity and support of To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation is the right decision. Your dollars, along with funds raised from our 2011 events, enable carefully screened nonprofit organizations to provide direct services to women and men living with breast cancer.

Each year we receive grant requests for hundreds of thousands of dollars. As you'll see in the + our stewardship section of this report, the Foundation's Grants Committee thoroughly evaluates each applicant. And, grantees are closely monitored, including annual site visits, so you can be certain that your contributions are helping people with real needs (see stories on pages 2-3). A description of our 2011 grantees is featured on pages 4-5, = proven results.

Of course, this is only possible with the support of our loyal sponsors and donors, our dedicated volunteers and the tremendous talent pool that provides thousands of hours of valuable in-kind service.

Thank you, all of you, for partnering with us to make a difference in the lives of those living with breast cancer. No one should face breast cancer alone. With your help, no one will.

With gratitude, Jane G. Pallas *Board President*

2011 Board of Directors

Chris Brettingen Jeanne Capurro Cheryl Ewing, MD Judith Hallman Willa Jefferson-Stokes Jane Pallas Yvonne Robinson Judith Snead Kim Wimer

your dollars

Your generosity has helped hundreds of individuals struggling with breast cancer. Meet Silvia, Elizabeth and Carol.

Silvia

As a young uninsured woman, Silvia qualified to receive a free mammogram and biopsy through Breast Cancer Connections' Early Detection Program (a To Celebrate Life grantee). When her test results came back positive for breast cancer, BCC staff helped Silvia enroll in a treatment program. "They helped me emotionally and explained what my diagnosis meant. I felt much more knowledgeable when speaking to my doctor," Silvia says.

A single mother with two young boys, ages 6 and 9, Silvia was concerned about explaining her diagnosis to her children. When her hair started to fall out her son was very surprised and told her to cover her head at all times. So she checked out a special book at BCC. "The book helped me explain to him that this was part of my treatment but that my hair was going to grow back." Now both kids are much more accepting and she feels comfortable dropping them off or picking them up from school.

Silvia is the first in her family to be



diagnosed with breast cancer and is helping to educate her family. "I've shared a lot of information with my sisters who are back in Mexico. I tell them that they need to check their breasts and to never ignore any lumps." Silvia, a Santa Clara County resident, is grateful to the Gabriella Patser Program. "After leaving BCC, I felt a lot more secure knowing that I wasn't alone."



Elizabeth

In February, 2011, Elizabeth and her mom decided on a mother/daughter outing: they would go for a mammogram. Elizabeth, a clinical psychologist, was 41 and this would be her first test. Much to their surprise, she was the one who got the dreaded phone call. After a biopsy she was told that the cancer was excessive but not invasive, and that a lumpectomy would not be sufficient. Although she was scheduled for a single mastectomy she opted for a double, because "I didn't want to go through this again," she explains.

After surgery, Elizabeth was referred to the Institute for Health and Healing, a To Celebrate Life grantee, for lymph node drainage therapy. "I had all these drains in me and was feeling very vulnerable, but the session was very relaxing with nice lighting and music," she says. Elizabeth believes that the therapy made a significant difference in her recovery. Her lymphatic issues have resolved and she has returned to work. "Thank you for your organization, it really did wonders."

"Without these precious resources, I would surely have gotten to the point of sheer desperation."

Carol

Since beginning treatment for triple negative breast cancer in April, 2011, Carol has received help from a number of "guardian angels." Without these precious resources, she says, "I would surely have gotten to the point of sheer desperation." Diane Brandon of the Marin Breast Cancer Resource and Recovery Center, a Foundation grantee, referred her to a Guided Imagery practitioner. Carol finds these sessions the most healing. "In them, I visualize my future, free from cancer," she says. The To Celebrate Life grant also allowed her to benefit from massage therapy, and seminars that taught "how we can work to heal the cells in our bodies, making me believe that I could spiritually help cure my cancer."

A fine artist and graphic designer, Carol credits the chemotherapy for stimulating her creativity. She has

continued taking computer courses throughout her treatment, and created a book about the people in her memoir writing class. Her current project is an animation about cancer, chemotherapy and radiation.

Carol looks forward to the next adventure in helping her through treatment – Jin Shin Jyutsu.



Silvia, Elizabeth, Carol and hundreds more, thank everyone who generously donated their time, talent, and financial assistance. Your dedication and support of To Celebrate Life truly made a difference in their lives, more than you will ever know.

+ our stewardship

Making sure your donation makes a big difference.

To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation raises money then grants funds to carefully screened nonprofit organizations that provide services to women and men living with the many challenges of breast cancer.

How does the Foundation know which organizations warrant help?

Based on needs assessments developed by various government and breast cancer advocacy groups, we evaluate the most urgent needs within the nine Bay Area counties that we serve.

How do you know your donations are being used responsibly?

Applicants are required to provide financials, documentation of nonprofit status, specific impact of grant money, etc., for our use in determining whether they qualify for a grant.

Our Grants Committee, consisting of community leaders, breast cancer survivors, a breast surgeon and radiation oncologist as well as board members, reviews all applications. Grants are only awarded to programs that provide support services directly to people in need. The funds are restricted to the areas that have been identified in the needs assessment.

Continuous monitoring and reporting ensure that the funds are being used appropriately. With our careful selection process and meticulous follow up, you can be certain that your contributions are helping people with real needs, throughout the communities we serve.

Our 2011 grantees and the counties they served

In April 2011, To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation granted \$190,000 to 17 Bay Area non-profit organizations. These funds assisted women and men with breast health issues by providing financial support for the underserved, early detection screening and diagnostics, and emotional support programs.

Alta Bates Summit

Foundation Access to Breast Health Services for the Uninsured Alameda

Breast Cancer Connections

Gabriella Patser Program To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation – Harbor Point Fund *Marin*

Breast Cancer

Emergency Fund Emergency Financial Assistance San Francisco & San Mateo

The Ceres Community Project

Healing Meals for Healthy Communities – Breast Cancer Support Sonoma

Charlotte Maxwell

Complementary Clinic Funding for Unmet Needs of Low Income Women with Advanced Breast Cancer Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano Circulo De Vida Cancer Support and Resource Center Women's Support Program San Francisco, referrals from

East Bay & San Mateo Hospice By The Bay

Breast Cancer Care Fund Marin

Institute For Health & Healing Holistic Support for Breast Cancer Patients Marin

Latina Breast Cancer Agency Mujeres Cuidando Mujeres/Women Caring For Women San Francisco & San Mateo

Lyon-Martin Health Services Breast Health Program San Francisco

Marin General Hospital/ Marin Cancer Institute Breast Health Program Marin, Napa & Sonoma

Marin Center for Independent Living Breast Cancer Benefits and Advocacy Project Marin

Meals Of Marin

Food Project for Patients Battling Breast Cancer *Marin*

Santa Rosa Community Health Centers

Early Detection of Breast Cancer in Uninsured Women To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation – Harbor Point Fund *Sonoma*

Shanti

LifeLines Breast Cancer Program San Francisco

Sutter Pacific Women's Health Center Integrative Health and

Healing Services Sonoma

Women's Cancer Resource Center

East Bay Breast Cancer Emergency Fund Alameda & Contra Costa

= proven results

Your dollars + our stewardship are an important part of the success equation. Here, we highlight two of our 2011 grantees who have demonstrated that the work they do is so important to our community.

Ceres Community Project

Nutrition is vitally important to everyone, but especially those with cancer. Ceres provides a moment of normalcy to families battling cancer by providing nutritious and artfully prepared meals, and delivering them to individuals and families in Sonoma and Marin counties. These nourishing meals can be lifesavers, especially to those in the midst of treatment when the thought of preparing food for themselves and their families is overwhelming.

Ceres not only provides meals delivered by their loving volunteer Delivery Angels, but they also share knowledge about healthy eating, and give clients the tools to stay well nourished during and after treatment. For those who live alone, the companionship of these angels is most welcome.



Teen Chefs prepare the meals

What really sets Ceres apart is their team of teen volunteer chefs who prepare the meals. The Ceres Teen Leadership program educates nearly 200 young people, who donate thousands of hours of their time each year. Through the program, teens' skill levels grow and their responsibilities increase. They not only learn to prepare meals for those dealing with illness, they learn the importance of giving, and this will guide them as adults to continue philanthropic goals.

We salute Ceres and their teen volunteers.

"Every day I do something that To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation has made possible. Every day, you help me make a difference."

> Diane Brandon Cancer Resource Specialist Marin Cancer Institute

Cancer Resource and Recovery Center

Marin General Hospital/Marin Cancer Institute provides patients with a wide variety of treatment and care. One small corner of their complex provides one huge impact in helping cancer patients and their families — the Cancer Resource and Recovery Center. This unique space in the atrium of the Institute serves as a hub of information and support. It is a library, a gathering spot, a research center, a navigation service, and so much more.



Our grant enables them to provide personalized nurse navigation services, recovery programs, scholarships for special needs and support groups. No matter what the question or need, the Cancer Resource and Recovery Center is ready to help. Each care team consists of a multidisciplinary group of physicians, nurses, technicians and volunteers, all dedicated to the prevention, education and treatment of breast cancer.

Headed by Diane Brandon (pictured above), Cancer Resource and Recovery Center has eased the way for countless breast cancer survivors.

our vision... no one should face breast cancer alone.

Your financial support helps make that happen.

Our main source of income continues to be sponsorships and Foundation events. However, in 2011, income from community events, including retail openings and October breast cancer awareness events, increased by 43% — due in large part to a generous donation from The Dailey Method, a national chain of ballet barre exercise studios.

Overall, individual donations increased by 13%. And the Harbor Point Charitable Foundation, a long-time sponsor, generously increased its contribution by 20%.

Planned Gifts

A growing source of income for the Foundation is our Celebration Circle, an estate gifting program. A major donation from the Blanche Thebom Trust to be spread over 5 years added to the 2011 income sources. Plus, we added to our Memorial Fund Program with the establishment of *A Legacy for Linda*. This fund, started by Patti Pedroli in honor of her sister, Linda Swensen Burdusis, provides for navigational services which help patients find their way through the complex medical service areas.

Fund A Need Donations

Fund A Need, a popular fundraising feature at Stepping Out and Tee It Up, provides funds for direct services and support, diagnostic testing, emergency financial aid and navigational services. Although our Fund A Need income decreased in 2011, we hope to reverse that trend in 2012.



Sources of 2011 Income



* Unaudited financial statements

The primary sources of Foundation income continue to be generated by our generous sponsors and signature events. To maintain its long-term sustainability the Foundation development activities include community events, our planned giving campaign (Celebration Circle), grants from foundations, memorial/legacy funds, giving circles and gifts from major donors.

Here's what your dollars provided in 2011

To Celebrate Life grants totaling \$190,033 benefited over 1,025 clients served by the 17 organizations funded. Here's what your dollars provided:

Over 160 screening and diagnostic tests

primarily for symptomatic women and men. This testing identified at least five breast cancers, saving lives and improving quality of life after treatment because of early diagnosis.

Emergency funds for 53 breast cancer patients

covered short-term rent or utilities payments, helping stabilize them financially during treatment.

More than 8,500 meals

nourished 56 breast cancer patients and their families while they were in treatment.

Over 600 home and hospital visits

helped patients through surgery, and especially aided and comforted those with advanced cancer.

Over 1,500 complementary therapy sessions

enabled patients in treatment to feel better and tolerate chemotherapy and radiation more comfortably.

Navigational assistance to 325 breast cancer patients, with a focus on help to:

- Maintain or acquire health insurance
- Access government services and assistance
- Identify counseling and group support programs during and after treatment

With your help, no one will face breast cancer alone!

Celebrating our 2011 major sponsors and donors

\$50,000 +

Harbor Point Charitable Foundation

\$25,000 +

Blanche Thebom Trust Brayton Purcell, LLP

\$10,000 +

The Dailey Method, LLC Kaiser Permanente Marin Specialty Care Marin Luxury Cars, Jaguar/LandRover/Aston Martin Marin/ Fisker Marin, a Price Family Dealership Frank and Lois Noonan Sutter Pacific Medical Foundation and Novato Community Hospital Wareham Development Corp. Wells Fargo

\$5,000 +

Autodesk Sue and George Bull Jeanne and Adolph Capurro Fenwick Foundation Gruber Family Foundation Kazan, McClain, Lyons, Greenwood & Harley Dr. Barry and Mary Ann Landfield Marin General Hospital Meadow Club Women's Golf Association Yvonne and Charles Robinson Janice and Ed Still, J&E Property Management, Inc.

\$2,500 +

Jon Adams Genentech, Inc. Harbor Point Tennis and Swim Club Dan Merrill Gail W. Stern, The David R. Stern Fund, in memory of Justine A. Weintraub UCSF Medical Center Brian Yeatman

\$1,000 +

Acorn Winery Acqua Hotel Bank of Marin Michelle Camargo Barbara Connolly Arthur and Lois Feld Nicole and Patrick Hardy Robert Kaliski and Linda Nelson Kate Spade, LLC Teke Kelley Michele Kennedy lan and Mark Laret KC and Steve Lauck Patti and Craig Litman Marin Acura Elaine McCarthy Nancy and Keith Mietz, Mietz Winery The Morrison & Foerster Foundation Virginia Mylenki and James Pidgeon Kathryn Niggeman David and Arbella Parrot Marian Rowe Mary Schuh Simon Snellgrove Terry and Zoe Sternberg lanice and Allen Sunderland Miranda Wagner and Chuck Louderback Stephen Young

\$500 +

Kent and Patti Anderson Jody Arens Carol and Marte Bassi Ellen Bradley Susan and Andrew Brown Brenda Buckerfield Frank and Diane Doodha leffrey Johnson and Terry Freni-Johnson Paul and Cassie Gaenger Gemma Gallovich and Ted Cutler Dr. Roger and Mary Greenberg Judith Hallman Eileen Hansen and Jay Graham Drs. Bobbie Head and Brian Lewis Ioan Howley Lily Hu lames Stokes and Willa Jefferson-Stokes Susan Lowe lim Lowry Thomas Lumsden Ionathan Marks, At Home In Marin Sharon and Mike Marron Deborah McLeran Barbara J. Meislin, The Purple Lady Diane Mina Shaila and Madhav Misra Peter and Carol Murphy Anthony and Laura Nethercutt Maio Nishkian North Bay FC Wave lane G. Pallas John and Sydney Randazzo Misti Rigby Susan Ross Montecito Market Place Associates Les and Martha Sogol Polly and Shaugh Stanley 2011 Stepping Out Models Zooski Ventures, Inc.

\$250 +

Arts Desire LLC lennifer and Simon Barker Bayside Café, Inc. Lisa Bernardi Linda Blum Dorothy Burk Anne and Gerry Butler Sue and loe Carlomagno lennifer Chou Michael and Deborah Dean Teri Dowling and Mal Litwiller Fairfax Lumber & Hardware Company Mary Foust Margot and David Geitheim Linda and Andy Gordon Nini Lion Panoramus Pizza Corp. Maroevich, O'Shea & Coghlan Insurance. Inc Randal Howell Barbara and Richard McAuliffe The McGraw-Hill Companies leanne Moe Deborah P. Niedermeyer Mike and Martha North Lynn and Richard Payne Raub Brock Capital Management, LP Silvia L. Reynolds Kathryn and Glenn Sager Christina and Duane Sand Christina and Bob Skubic led and Caitlin Weil Smith Union Bank Foundation Mary and David Ware Larry and Carol Weissenberg Nancy and Scott William

Media Sponsor

Marin Independent Journal

"Our long-time sponsorship of To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation reaffirms the vital work of this outstanding Bay Area organization. We are proud to support its commitment to enriching the lives of women and men affected by the disease"

> Julie Wilder Community Relations Autodesk

We are guided by our survivor spirit and our passion to touch the hearts of those who need our help.

Our Mission:

Raise funds and grant financial assistance to nonprofit organizations that provide services and support to people living with breast cancer.

To accomplish this we:

- Seek sponsorships, donations, and hold fundraising events
- Assess needs and evaluate programs that best address the challenges faced by people undergoing breast cancer diagnosis, treatment, and recovery
- Provide grants to Bay Area nonprofits that have demonstrated the ability to achieve their program goal, and evaluate results of funded programs



Editor: Lanny Udell *Design:* Kim Wimer, Sue Carlomagno *Photography:* Phyllis Evans, Yvonne Robinson, Patty Spinks, Ceres Community Project, Breast Cancer Resource and Recovery Center

PO Box 367 • Kentfield CA 94914 • 415.455.5882 • www.tocelebratelife.org

