EMBRACE PEER IS A FOUNDATIONAL SURVIVOR PROGRAM WHICH FOSTERED A COMMUNITY WITHIN OUR BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS

BACKGROUND

A FREE HIPAA COMPLIANT, VOLUNTEER RUN PROGRAM, CONNECTING BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS.

In August of 2013, a group of breast cancer survivors participated in a patient focus group exploring what services that would most benefit from. Overwhelming request was for a program that would connect them with someone to speak with who had experienced breast cancer.

RESULTS

$30K

Funds raised by mentors in support of Embrace program and other programs including yearly survivor retreat

95%

Of mentors feel having a mentee creates a sense of well-being in their survivorship

1,000

Contacts have been made between mentor to mentee, via phone, text, email, or in person

52

Mentors have gone through mentor training and served over 100 patients

CHANGES OVER TIME

2014: Start of Program

- Documentation conducted via Google forms
- Training conducted during bi-annual gatherings
- New mentors referred from HCP; no interview
- No support for mentors during biannual gatherings
- Partial funding through Komen Grant

2019: Current

- Documentation conducted via Microsoft forms
- Training takes place individually between Nurse Navigator and mentor
- New mentors interviewed by nurse navigator
- Education and support focus of biannual gatherings
- Fundraising by subgroups of mentors

QUOTES

“Anytime I focus on another person I forget about my issues. It is a pleasure to help someone else.”

“Being a peer mentor has helped me to solidify my place as a survivor. It has helped to give my experience a purpose.”

“I got far more out of helping them than they probably did! I felt such personal satisfaction being able to pay it forward. Seeing what they were going through reminded me how far I have come.”

Scan the QR code to listen to our mentors share the reasons they fundraise and participate in the Peer Mentor program.