



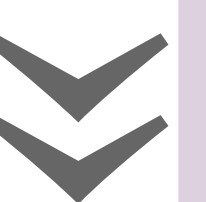
CAN DO CANCER

It can be hard to realize how much cancer works itself into everyday life until someone realizes they still need to cook after receiving chemotherapy. Molly Suarez, a survivor of breast cancer, felt lost after her diagnosis, not knowing what to expect. One thing she hadn't expected was how tired she would be for everyday household errands and tasks. She had the blessing of a friend that brought her and her family dinner after every single chemotherapy treatment.

"Friends and family rally initially after the diagnosis but then go back into their busy lives. But, cancer is a long experience."

Molly found it difficult to find a single resource that tackled all of the real challenges that those with cancer face. While one website would list medical concerns, it wouldn't list how to go about getting a wig or breast reconstruction. Spending time searching all over was stressful and after Molly finished her treatment, she "reflected back on [her] experience and knew [she] wanted to do something."

{ TAP below to hear
from Molly herself }



CAN DO CANCER

Molly created Can Do Cancer, an organization that provides four specific services for cancer patients. First, she gave back the gift of delivering dinner to patients and their families after every chemotherapy session. Secondly, the organization coordinates housecleaning services throughout treatment since most patients are too fatigued to do those chores. The third service is a website that combines all the information Molly felt she had to search for in one place. Lastly, the organization provides motivational support for patients. Molly described cancer as “an overwhelming time.” What we do allows people to just worry about getting through their day of treatment.

The “patient partners” that are matched to each Can Do Cancer patient are breast cancer survivors that know what it is like to go through the diagnosis and treatment. Molly stressed that patient partners stick with patients through the whole process. “Friends and family often rally initially after the diagnosis but then go back to their busy lives. But, cancer is a long experience.”

Chemotherapy alone can span over 4-5 months but many women don’t feel that the process ends then. While Molly was diagnosed back in May of 2011, it was just a few short weeks ago that she finally had her last reconstructive procedure. It is the shared experience that allows the partners to understand from start to finish that makes Can Do Cancer so unique.

The organization raised some money through an accessory swap last year and is going to have its second big fundraiser on November 16th when it hosts a Trivia Night. The fundraiser will be \$200 a table and will include a silent auction. The organization was founded last year and Molly said there has been great response to the organization and that all patients have been matched with partners. She hopes that in the future, patients will want to become partners too.

TAP to get details
of the Trivia Night
Fundraiser

