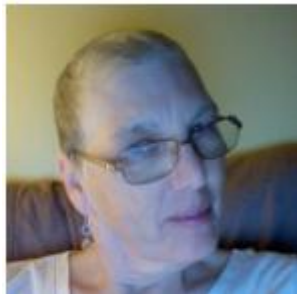


Hello

It's amazing to realize that a year ago at this time, I was recovering from surgery and finishing up my treatments for breast cancer. I feel so good now! The 18



months that I went through the treatment ordeal were bearable because of the wonderful support I received from all of you. I cannot begin to explain how important the part my MSJC family played in my recovery and I am so grateful. It may surprise you, but I know of at least seven other women in our MSJC family that have had cancer in the last two years, or are currently dealing with it. Additionally, I owe a debt of gratitude to the researchers who developed Herceptin, the drug that treated my particular form of aggressive cancer, and that very likely saved my life.

When I was told that I would have to have Chemotherapy, not just surgery, I was alone at Kaiser in Riverside. I didn't know what to do and felt paralyzed and shocked. After some time to process, sitting in my car in the Kaiser parking lot, I remembered hearing about Michelle's Place in Temecula. I drove straight there and the staff there helped me gain control over my care and my life. So, because there are many of us at MSJC dealing with this disease, for Michelle's Place, and for the researchers who can help us, I am asking you for just a little more support.

One of the most impressive experiences I had during my illness was participating in the **Race for the Cure**. I had no idea how overwhelming, emotional and awe inspiring that event would be for me and cannot describe how encouraged I felt just being there. I have a dream that there are dozens of us walking or running in the race this year with MSJC being the biggest team there! Our **MSJC Race for the Cure** team is just now forming and I would love it if we all



participated together in making sure that all of us receive the support and treatment we need when critical illness hits.

The race is Oct. 16 in Temecula.

I kept a blog of my journey and just re-read some entries. This one was written just after a particularly difficult time in the infusion seeing many people who were fighting cancer: *I returned to work to a lunch conversation about new developments in cancer research—more fuel for the “Don’t give up” effort. If I had had this tumor appear in 1999, there would have been much less hope for me because in 2000, Herceptin was approved. There could be new treatments just around the corner, we don’t know. I think we all have to give it our best shot about hanging around on the planet long enough to make that turn onto the new street.*

You can read my blog entry about last year’s race and its impression on me at <http://phanz.wordpress.com/2010/10/17/race-day-this-year-vs-last-year/>

To register for the team (by the way, you can “sleep in”) please go to our team page at: http://inlandempire.info-komen.org/site/TR/RacefortheCure/MUR_InlandEmpireAffiliate/2091065333?pg=team&fr_id=2223&team_id=174605

I look forward to seeing you there!

Just to let you know, 75% of the net proceeds from the **Komen Inland Empire Race for the Cure®** remain in the Inland Empire for grants to nonprofit organizations that offer breast health education, diagnostic services and treatment support programs for uninsured women and families. The remaining 25 percent supports breast cancer research.

Thanks,Pat