

GAWDA GIVES BACK TO WINGS:

Women Involved in Nurturing, Giving, Sharing Inc.

Chances are good that you know a woman who has been diagnosed with breast cancer. Maybe it is your mother, your spouse, a daughter or a friend. Hopefully, they had insurance and were able to get the medical treatment they needed to either beat this dreaded disease or perhaps live a little longer so they could share in the wedding of a child, the birth of a grandchild or another life-affirming occasion.

In San Antonio, one in four women diagnosed with breast cancer does not have insurance or does not have adequate insurance coverage. In addition to the tremendous worry that comes with breast cancer, they have the added worry about how they will pay for the treatment they desperately need. The typical under-insured woman with breast cancer is 48 years old, married, with four children and a gross family income of \$10,500. The average treatment cost is \$98,285. Imagine if you or a loved one were facing medical cost 10 times your annual income and you had no insurance. What would you do? Where would you turn? That is where WINGS comes in.

WINGS provides the treatment that these women need to live another day. Services include surgery, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, reconstructive surgery and all hospital and lab charges. WINGS also supplies services not usually offered such as outpatient medication, wigs, prostheses, home health care and counseling.

For the past 10 years, WINGS has been able to save women's lives through effective action, leadership of trained volunteers and a network of 240+ physicians and facilities that provide the complete range of breast cancer care at greatly reduced cost. To date, more than 472 women have been enrolled in the program.

Through its partnership with hospitals, physicians, pharmaceutical companies and patient assistance programs, WINGS has negotiated the total payment for the average treatment of breast cancer to just \$15,000. Only \$15,000 to save the life of someone's mother, daughter or friend. How many lives can GAWDA GIVES BACK save?

Donations may be made in honor, in celebration or in memory of a friend or loved one who has fought or is fighting breast cancer.

<http://www.texaswings.org/>