

2016 Inspiration Awardee - Cecilia Pope



Since her breast cancer diagnosis in 1995, Cecilia has made a significant impact as a leader in community-based breast cancer prevention and control in the metro Detroit area.

She is a member of WAVE (Women Achieving Victory and Esteem), a local breast cancer support group and has formed strong bonds with survivors. She is a founding member of the Sisters Network - Greater Metropolitan Detroit Chapter and has served as Treasurer and Vice-President providing an impact of breast cancer awareness in the Detroit area. She is also a frequent walker and fundraiser for the American Cancer Society-Making Strides against Breast Cancer and Komen Detroit, Race for the Cure.

Cecilia continues to make a significant difference in the community through the Witness Project of Detroit, a breast and cervical cancer outreach and education program based in Karmanos Cancer Institute. She was part of the first group of "Witness Role Models" who were trained and asked to witness or share their personal stories of diagnosis, treatment and survival. In turn, encouraging women to be screened regularly. She has reached over 1200 women as of August 2016.

"Cecilia has been a leader in metro Detroit in terms of mobilizing groups to address cancer disparities, raising cancer awareness and supporting women in overcoming cancer-related fears, especial in the African American community. She is extremely knowledgeable about breast cancer and women in the community view her as a trustworthy source of information. Interpersonally, she is kind and generous."