



Spotlight on HERS Volunteer Cathy Barry

August 2021

Cathy Barry has been a HERS volunteer for over 20 years – nearly as long as HERS has been in existence! Cathy learned about HERS when our organization was known by its former name: Bras for Body & Soul. She met our founder, Tricia McMahon, at a special memorial quilt presentation for breast cancer patients at Washington Hospital in Fremont. In Cathy's words, "that was the start of my adventure with HERS."

As with many of our beloved volunteers, breast cancer is personal; Cathy was just 18 years of age when she lost her mother to the disease. Her mother was just 43 years of age. By giving back to HERS, Cathy feels she is doing something positive in memory of her mom.

Her love of the people at HERS and its mission means that Cathy is willing to do just about "anything" to help the cause and support breast cancer patients. And she is true to her word! Cathy really does take on just about any task, including folding t-shirts, organizing giveaways, and providing outreach at community events such as Fremont's Street Eats. She is a calm presence at HERS and doesn't hesitate to offer encouragement.

Cathy has dedicated a tremendous amount of time and energy to ensure that HERS events such as our annual Walk/Run and People with Purpose fundraisers are successful. In fact, Cathy has supported our Walk/Run event for 20 years and find that our Walk/Run continues to inspire her and give her hope that a breast cancer cure will be found.

She recently shared that she has volunteered for many different causes since she was a teen in high school. When not helping HERS, Cathy loves spending time with her family and grandchildren, and is also an impassioned member of a local choir, the Mission Peak Chamber Singers/East Bay Peoples Choir. She serves on the choir's Board of Directors and is also an avid reader.