



Spotlight on HERS Volunteer Janice Gebhardt

August 2021

Janice Gebhardt is a longtime Fremont resident who worked at Stanford IVF for nearly 30 years where she assisted many patients, including many with a history of breast cancer who yearned to become mothers.

Janice feels as though she has known about HERS her entire life since our Programs have touched her, her family, and friends in so many ways. Janice recently shared that her mother underwent mastectomy surgery and much later in life, while an assisted living resident, lost her prosthesis while shopping.

Janice contacted HERS immediately, in a panic. The loss occurred on a Friday and by the time Janice reached out to HERS, it was late, and she worried that we would not be available to help. But HERS was there for her mother and, as we like to say, her *“soft place to fall.”*

We provided her mother with a loaned prosthesis and ordered a replacement immediately. Janice well remembers the sensitivity and professionalism of our team members who supported her mother. In her words, “Caring and generosity are a big part of the HERS mission and it shows in every staff member.”

As a resident who cares deeply for her community and volunteers for many local organizations, including HERS, SAVE (Safe Alternatives to Violent Environments), and local food banks, Janice often and seemingly unhesitatingly agrees to pick up donations and donate her time. She recently picked up a donation of 50 beautiful new wigs from the Alameda American Society location and this spring she spent many hours helping to pack and deliver People with Purpose 2021 event party boxes!

When asked, “Why HERS?” Janice replied, “HERS makes me feel valued and comfortable. It offers a small way that I can help people in crisis and touch lives. It makes me a stronger, more compassionate person.”

Thank you, Janice, for all you do!