There is so much more for us to do...

Melodie Wilson Oldenburg (1950-2009)

In 1999, anchorwoman, television reporter and Emmy award-winning journalist Melodie Wilson Oldenburg founded ABCD: After Breast Cancer Diagnosis. She did it in a manner similar to how she went public in 1992 with her own breast cancer diagnosis — determined, fearless, with a little stubbornness, a pinch of bravado and lots of love and compassion.

Melodie was driven by her strong commitment to helping all those dealing with breast cancer. She worked tirelessly to ensure everyone dealing with breast cancer had access to FREE, personalized support. She believed with all her heart that no one should go through breast cancer alone.

Melodie was 49 when she launched ABCD and only 59 when she lost her battle with breast cancer. Her dedication to ABCD and her belief in the power of one-to-one were second only to her grace and her everlasting spirit.

Today as we continue down the path she set for ABCD, we know she is smiling!
**ABCD’s signature service is One-to-One Mentoring**

- Breast cancer patients, their families and friends are custom matched with professionally trained and supported breast cancer survivors and co-survivors.
- Mentor matches are personalized based on similar diagnoses, treatment plans and life circumstances.
- All matches begin with a phone call.
- Match Mentors are available any time during the journey from diagnosis through treatment and beyond.
- All services are free.

**Our Breast Cancer Network of Strength**

“My Mentors felt the raw emotion of the journey only someone who has been diagnosed with breast cancer can connect with. ABCD and my Mentor were instrumental in my treatment and my recovery.”

Kathy Shaw (Participant/Mentor)

“When friends recommended survivors, it was not helpful because experiences were so different. I had a great support community but I wanted validation. I wanted the nuts and bolts. I was ok not knowing my ABCD Mentor; I just wanted to talk with someone who had walked the same road I was walking.”

Carrie Lucke (Participant)

“As caregivers, we need to know what we can do to help our loved ones, make sure they are comfortable and help them enjoy their time with us. Those that I have mentored were happy that there was someone there for them, someone who truly understood.”

Shirley Horton (Friends & Family Mentor)

“I strongly believe in ABCD’s vision. As a Match Specialist for ABCD I am able to connect with other survivors and offer support. Being a breast cancer survivor myself, I truly believe that ABCD is having a positive impact in many lives and I am truly honored to represent such a great organization.”

Minerva Cornejo (Mentor/ABCD Match Specialist)

**The Power of One-to-One**

ABCD’s unique program supports patients as well as Mentors, who are navigating life after cancer or survivorship. Decades of research indicates that breast cancer patients and survivors who take advantage of non-clinical support like ours receive more holistic care, are more likely to finish treatment, have improved survival rates, show a reduced risk of recurrence, and report feeling less distress, healthier social relationships and improved quality of life.*

**Contact ABCD today – our services make a difference.**

Call 800-977-4121 for support

*National Breast Cancer Institute, Office of Cancer Survivorship, and National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship*