

SUSAN Weldon

Founder and CEO of
Unite for HER



As a high-level gymnastics coach and a mother of three, Susan Weldon embodied the meaning of health. It wasn't until her mother fell ill and she took over care responsibilities that she first encountered what it meant to be sick. But a few months after her mother passed, that encounter would turn personal, when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. "I swore they had the wrong girl," says Weldon. "I didn't think it could happen to me."

After a bilateral mastectomy and six months of chemo, Weldon was struggling yet determined to get healthy for her family. During her years as a caretaker, and throughout her own journey, Weldon encountered complementary therapies—acupuncture, oncology massage, yoga—that transformed her recovery. After speaking with a young woman going through treatment for breast cancer about her inability to afford the therapies that helped Weldon recover, she realized the gap in access to these therapies and was inspired to create Unite for HER (uniteforher.org).

WHAT IS UNITE FOR HER?

We partner with local hospitals to empower women in their treatment and recovery by offering access to complementary therapies at no cost to the participant. We serve women in the Philadelphia region and have recently expanded nationally with HER care box (hercarebox.org), a care package filled with educational and healing resources for

women affected by breast cancer.

HOW DID YOU FIND THE STRENGTH TO CREATE UNITE FOR HER AFTER YOUR OWN BATTLE?

I had so much faith. I was fortunate to have access to complementary therapies, but there is a gap in accessibility, and I wanted to find a way to fill it. We have treated over 5,000 women and continue to grow in ways I never could have imagined.