

Glimmer of Hope

support for the most difficult diagnosis

Diana Napper radiates joy wherever she goes. She loves being with her family, and her husband, children, and grandchildren love being with her. And they all support her mission to take on breast cancer. In 1994, she started the Pittsburgh based non-profit, A Glimmer of Hope Foundation in honor of her best friend who died from breast cancer four years earlier. Here is more of Diana's story about a Glimmer of Hope Foundation in her own words:

My best friend, Carol Jo Weiss Freidman was my mentor when I first moved to Pittsburgh from New York City. She made me the person I am today; I have dedicated my life to honoring her. Originally, I had planned on opening a jewelry business to fund a hospice in her name. I designed a pin with a hanging Swarovski teardrop crystal to symbolize the pain and emotion that is endured with a breast cancer diagnosis. I also added a pearl at the top to represent hope for a cure. I sold the pins, donating the proceeds to breast cancer research. As the foundation grew, I realized my mission and purpose was far greater. My new desire was to create a venue to support young (under age 40) cancer patients and their loved ones. Today, the foundation is leading the way to

a cure through funding cutting-edge cancer treatment programs, technology, and integrative services.

We want to unlock a future that is cancer free. A Glimmer of Hope Foundation has funded more than \$3 million in breast cancer projects for multiple Pittsburgh area hospitals, including Allegheny Health Network, West Penn Hospital, Wexford Health + Wellness Pavillion, Hillman Cancer Center, and Magee Women's Research Institute.

Our newest initiative is The Glimmer of Hope Metastatic Cancer Center at AHN, a lifelong goal. It is dedicated to treating metastatic breast cancer, the most difficult type of breast cancer. We are hopeful that these services, programs, and technology are only the start of what we can do for the women of Pittsburgh.

I am motivated by the memory of my parents. They treated every single person with such love and respect. This led me to want to help as many people as I could. I also had the honor of meeting Coretta Scott King, Martin Luther King Jr's wife. Meeting such an incredible advocate was truly inspiring.

The best way to help A Glimmer of Hope Foundation is to support our young women who need our love and encouragement, particularly the women who are diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer. Such a simple task can affect someone's treatment in a positive light. We also accept donations, offer speakers to come to events, and have specially designed jewelry on sale on our website.

As for what I do to maintain a healthy lifestyle? I listen to Sam Smith, Ed Sheeran, John Legend, and Alicia Keyes. Their beautiful voices are calming after a long day. I also take long walks outside, mediate, and pray. And my grandchildren keep me active—they are a joy to be around!

