

HISTORY OF METASTATIC BREAST CANCER AWARENESS DAY - October 13

Until 2009, metastatic breast cancer was rarely mentioned during October, Breast Cancer Awareness Month. What is acknowledged can be changed. What is kept hidden and not discussed will not be changed.

Nine determined metastatic breast cancer patients, all members of the Metastatic Breast Cancer Network, traveled to Washington, D.C. in the summer of 2009 to change that reality. The 9 patients with friends and family lobbied Senators and House members to designate one day in October--October 13-- as National Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day. Back home, many, many metastatic patients called their Senators and Representatives to get them to support the requested resolutions.

On October 13, 2009, the Metastatic Breast Cancer Network received word that our efforts had been successful. Both houses of Congress, the Senate and the House of Representatives, each passed a unanimous resolution declaring October 13 as OUR DAY to put metastatic breast cancer patients and their needs in front of the public and stakeholders within the breast cancer community.

Now it is up to every metastatic breast cancer patient and those who love and support them to find ways to make use of this day (and throughout the year) to further our cause to support those living with the disease and demand research to find treatments to extend our lives.

You can make a difference! Use your story to reach out to others.