

Care to Share Thanksgiving

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Thanksgiving, that time of year when we express our gratitude for all the blessings we have received. For 51 breast cancer survivors who participated our new program, Care to Share Thanksgiving, that day of gratitude came early. Whether fighting the battle physically, financially, or as many breast cancer survivors do, emotionally, getting through the season of thanksgiving can be a real challenge.

Upon arriving, the guests received a warm welcome and were served a delicious meal by volunteers of Project Pink’d. The food was catered by Whole Foods and prepared by the hospital staff at the Nebraska Medicine Bellevue facility. The two-hour luncheon was interspersed with fun games and inspiring stories from fellow breast cancer survivors who shared a clear message-no matter where they are on their journey, there is always something to be grateful for. What began with the look of uncertainty on many faces soon evolved into the realization that we are all in this together and do not have to travel the journey alone.

The program concluded with our very own Oprah, Project Pink’d Founder and President, Cynthia Sturgeon presenting each guest with a copy of her favorite thing, “The Next Chapter”-a book filled with encouraging stories and beautiful photos of our newly crowned ambassadors. Other Pink’d items were also handed out as a heartwarming reminder to survivors that Project Pink’d is always there for them. And finally, thanks to our wonderful donors, each attendee received a box filled with a complete Thanksgiving meal to take home and share with their families, which will require minimal preparation on their part.

The smiles and hugs shared as the boxes were loaded into their vehicles was testament that a unity of sisterhood was formed and each guest left with tools to ensure their Thanksgiving will be filled with reasons to be thankful.

Survivor and Care to Share Thanksgiving recipient, Michelle K. expressed her gratitude, “Just wanted to say thank you for the wonderful Thanksgiving dinner that you honored us with yesterday. The food was delicious, but more importantly the aura of hope that filled the room was amazing. It is so helpful and inspirational to hear other women' s stories of courage and strength. Thank you also for the Whole Foods box. It will help me out a great deal as I am hosting Thanksgiving. I am at 15 of 33 radiation treatments and hope to be a contributing survivor to your organization very soon.”