



2023 WALKATHON

No Cancer Sisters

In April of 2022, four women walked through the doors of Mary's Place by the Sea as complete strangers; less than 72 hours later, they left as an empowered group of

friends. Individually, they are **Alicia, Ewlin, Linda, and Sheila**. Collectively, they call themselves the **No Cancer Sisters**.

Mary's Place by the Sea seeks to eliminate the isolation barrier that women with cancer are facing. Our home serves as a soft place for our guests to land, to heal and to find solace among others on a similar path. Over the course of a two-night wellness retreat, we watch friendships flourish as our guests find connection with one another by sharing their stories.

Ewlin described her interaction with the three other women.

"I didn't have to explain anything. They knew...I found support and a group of women who just get it. It's different with the girls because they already know what I'm going through."

Similarly, **Linda**, reflected on her first day at Mary's Place.

"We didn't know each other, but I turned to Sheila and said: 'we're going to be friends'. When I met these girls, they were just like me. I knew at that moment that I found my people. I could feel it."

When asked what she might say to a future guest of Mary's Place, **Sheila** said:

"There's so much to talk about and help one another with. The opportunities are here to connect, to identify, to find resources with others who know what you are facing. Don't miss that opportunity."

That connection goes beyond providing emotional support for one another, as **Alicia** spoke about offering tangible advice to one of her Sisters.

"I was able to give her information and resources, because I had to go through it myself. I was able to say, 'this is what I did and you can do it too'. It's stressful to go through cancer alone, but we don't have to because we have each other."

Since their retreat at Mary's Place last year, the **No Cancer Sisters** have remained connected through calls and texts, and by getting together on a regular basis. They share stories, support, laughs and a lot of love.

One particularly special reunion was last October. Dressed in hot pink tutus and tightly tied sneakers, **Alicia, Ewlin, Linda, and Sheila** gathered for their first-ever **Mary's Place by the Sea Walk-A-Thon**. Today, they look forward to reuniting for the [12th](#)

[Annual Mary's Place by the Sea Walk-A-Thon and 5th Annual 5K Run on Saturday, October 14th at Ocean Pathway in Ocean Grove](#), where they will walk with the same community that brought them together.

The **No Cancer Sisters** represent the hope that we have for all of our guests: to find a supportive community to bring with them when they leave.

Each member of the **No Cancer Sisters** shared a similar feeling at last year's **Walk-A-Thon**. As they looked around to find nearly 1,000 Mary's Place by the Sea guests, family and friends ready to walk in support of women with cancer, they felt the opposite of alone, they felt loved and supported by their very own.

We hope that you will join us for the [12th Annual Mary's Place by the Sea Walk-A-Thon and 5th Annual 5K Run on Saturday, October 14th at Ocean Pathway in Ocean Grove](#).

Funds raised from this event allow us to provide women with cancer with a supportive environment to build lasting relationships filled with hope and love.

See you in October!

The Team at Mary's Place by the Sea

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About us:

Providing a place for women with cancer to heal: mind, body, and soul

Mary's Place by the Sea is an IRS-recognized, non profit 501 (c) (3) organization Tax ID# 26-4736451

