

Press Release

International Breast Cancer Consortium Honors Caregivers

“By Your Side” – Breast Cancer Consortium Quarterly Special Issue

October 13, 2015: *“Breast cancer is like an earthquake: it starts in an epicenter, in which the damages are high. Then, inevitably and rapidly, seismic waves hit nearby areas. Cancer not only upsets the lives of those receiving the diagnosis, but also that of parents, daughters and sons, partners, relatives and friends, who suddenly become caregivers. This special issue of the Breast Cancer Consortium Quarterly is about them.”*

-- Grazia de Michele and Cinzia Greco, Special Issue Editors

Breast Cancer Consortium is an independent, international network focused on breast cancer, critical health literacy, and evidence-based medicine.

This special issue of the *Breast Cancer Consortium Quarterly* edited by Grazia de Michele and Cinzia Greco shares the experiences of caregivers, those who live and love in the wake of another person's cancer diagnosis. The difficulty, grief, and suffering that are part of caregiving are, with rare exceptions, absent from dominant cancer narratives. Here, we give them voice.

We release the special issue on October 13th to honor Metastatic (stage 4) Breast Cancer Awareness Day. Stage 4 breast cancer (breast cancer spread elsewhere in the body) is a progressive disease that is currently incurable and for which treatment is lifelong. Anyone can be diagnosed with "mets" regardless of the initial stage of diagnosis or number of years since treatment. Stage 4 breast cancer is responsible for the steady number of breast cancer deaths every year.

The heartfelt contributions in this special issue offer all of us a deeper understanding of what it means to take care of those we love when they are facing what may be one of the most difficult times in their lives: the love, the labor, the uplifts, the grief, the truth.

“By Your Side” is formatted as a PDF. Download at <http://breastcancerconsortium.net/by-your-side-bcc-special-issue/>

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