



Stacy gets a hug from her friend and inspiration, Victoria, breast cancer survivor and fellow Pacesetter.

Portrait of a Pacesetter:

Stacy Matseas

San Diego DJ Sam Bass calls her a “force of nature.” We call her a volunteer, a pacesetter (top fundraiser), a team leader, a donor, and an inspiration. We wanted to find out what makes Stacy so dedicated to helping others. Here’s a snapshot of what we learned...

WHAT MY FRIENDS CALL ME: The Hugger

WHY SO MANY HUGS? People need each other, and a hug is a direct and unmistakable way to say, “I’m here for you—right now!”

FAVORITE QUOTATION: “Take every step with purpose.” Jennifer Berg, director of the San Diego Making Strides Against Breast Cancer.

MY AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY VOLUNTEER RESUME INCLUDES:

- ▶ Making Strides Against Breast Cancer – No. 1 national fundraiser and San Diego team leader
- ▶ Relay For Life – Team leader and top local fundraiser
- ▶ Road to Recovery – Driving patients to treatments weekly
- ▶ Daffodil Days – Flower delivery volunteer
- ▶ Legislative ambassador and Celebration on the Hill participant
- ▶ American Cancer Society California Division, Inc., Board of Directors

WHY I DO WHAT I DO: Several years ago, I received the news from Victoria, one of my childhood friends, that she had breast cancer. Suddenly, I felt totally and completely helpless. I had to act.

FIRST VOLUNTEER ACT WITH THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY: I walked four miles and raised \$5,000 as a participant in Making Strides Against Breast Cancer in 2000.

AMOUNT RAISED TO DATE: \$507,000

HOW PEOPLE RESPOND TO ME:

I am told that my passion is electric and contagious. If reaching out to help people is a disease, then I want to start an epidemic. I believe that by acting together, we can achieve our dreams.

MY ADVICE TO OTHERS WHO WANT TO GET INVOLVED: Do whatever you can, whenever you can, however you can.

No amount of time or support is too small to be valuable. One person truly can make a difference.



Although Stacy is a significant donor, she also gets actively involved in volunteer work, such as her weekly commitment to patients in Road to Recovery and fundraising, to which she brings her own personal brand of relentless positive energy. In fact, when she realized that her fundraising efforts were rivaling large corporate sponsorships, she decided to become a sponsor. She started “Stacy’s Circle of Friends.” The Circle is essentially her own network of donors, and she uses it to raise money and awareness, and to challenge others to strive for higher goals. Want to be challenged? Visit www.stacyscircleoffriends.org.