

# You are not alone. AiRS can help.

Every day, the AiRS Foundation works as a resource and support system for women like you who are undergoing or have undergone a mastectomy.

We help you discover your reconstruction options, understand your health insurance coverage, and assist you with the cost of reconstructive surgery, if qualified. AiRS makes it possible for women to consider all options regardless of their economic situation.

If you or someone you know are in need of our services, please contact us.



## About the cover photo:

Kintsugi is the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery with gold. The technique embraces the concept that an object that has suffered damage is enhanced, in beauty and uniqueness, by the vestiges of its history and traces of its repair. This was the inspiration behind the cover art - a photographic exercise in awareness, hope, reflection, and healing. It represents victory over breast cancer and the reclaiming of identity and femininity after undergoing post-mastectomy reconstructive surgery.

**Cover Photo by:** Erez Sabag



"The AiRS Foundation is a fabulous organization! They have been by my side every step of the way! They never gave up until they found exactly what I needed based on my circumstances."

-Heather, AiRS Foundation grant recipient

\*Donation of services provided by Dr. Denton Watumull (pictured)



For more information and additional resources, visit

[airsfoundation.org](http://airsfoundation.org)



@AiRSFoundation

M147/M146



Helping you understand your rights & providing access to breast reconstruction surgery after a mastectomy.



## Who we are

Founded in 2012 – by Dr. Janet Denlinger and Morgan Hare of eraclea® skin care, and internationally recognized plastic and reconstructive surgeon, Rod J. Rohrich M.D. – AiRS is an advocate for restorative breast surgery, a vital part of helping restore self-esteem and emotional healing for many breast cancer survivors.

## How we serve you

AiRS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to helping you navigate the process of having breast reconstruction surgery after a mastectomy. We do so through:

**Education:** We help you maneuver through the paperwork, determining co-pays and deductibles, and even help to determine which type of reconstruction is best.

**Advocate:** We make connections to medical professionals who can donate surgery or perform reconstructive procedures for insurance payout only.

**Support:** We provide you with one-on-one support. You will have peace of mind knowing you have an advocate by your side every step of the process.

# Apply for a Grant for Breast Reconstruction

Have you or a loved one undergone a mastectomy due to breast cancer? Are you considering a mastectomy because of cancer? If you're worried about how to pay for breast reconstruction afterward, we can help!

The AiRS Foundation provides grants to women who have undergone mastectomies due to cancer but cannot fully afford reconstruction after their surgery. While some insurance companies do cover breast reconstruction, which is often a vital step toward healing and feeling whole again, many insurance plans do not completely cover the cost, and many women simply don't have insurance at all. That's where we step in.

## To apply for a grant follow these three easy steps:

1. Download the Applicant and Client Agreement Forms on the [airsfoundation.org](http://airsfoundation.org) website
2. Make sure you fit the candidate criteria, which is listed on the Applicant and Client Agreement Forms.
3. Email or mail the completed forms to the following address:

[director@airsfoundation.org](mailto:director@airsfoundation.org)

Attn: Director AiRS Foundation  
3401 Lee Parkway Suite 1504  
Dallas, TX 75219

## *Did you know that by law, insurance companies are required to cover breast reconstructive surgery after a mastectomy?*

In 1998, the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act mandated that insurance companies must cover breast reconstruction, symmetry procedures, and nipple reconstruction whenever a mastectomy is a covered benefit.

While it is a law that insurance carriers cover breast restoration following surgery, a majority of women are never given this option.

It is important for all breast cancer patients to consult with a doctor about reconstructive options prior to a mastectomy, so you can make a well-informed treatment decision.



"The AiRS Foundation was the only place that I found actually talked about breast reconstruction. Within a two-week span I was approved for surgery!"  
- Heather Allen, Breast Cancer Survivor and AiRS Foundation Grant Recipient