THE NEED

BREAST CANCER:
In 2021, it is projected that 281,550 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and more than 100,000 will undergo some form of mastectomy.

IMPEDIMENTS TO RECONSTRUCTION SURGERY:
To up to 75% of women are not aware of reconstruction options available to them or can’t afford their co-pay or don’t have insurance.

OUR MISSION
We provide resources and support systems for women who have had mastectomies as a result of breast cancer or genetic mutations. We educate women on reconstruction options and assist them with the cost of reconstructive surgery. We accomplish this for women-in-need through advocacy, community education, and financial support.

CONNECTING WITH WOMEN IN NEED: PATIENT SERVICES 2020
We received 58 applications for financial assistance, of which 55 were approved for assistance and the other 3 are pending. Of the 55, 42 were for reconstructive surgery and 13 for nipple tattooing. We continue to help women throughout the country, from 23 states, 52 cities, who ranged in age from 20 to 80 years old. Our referrals came from several sources, including the American Cancer Society, Susan B. Komen, Physician/Hospital/Nurse Navigator and our professional and ancillary partnerships of surgeons, medical groups, and service providers across the US. The number of our professional partners has increased from 17 to 23 in 2020.

CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITIES: 2020 EDUCATION & OUTREACH
Expanded efforts to reach a wider audience through social media during the COVID-19 pandemic. Inviting experts, advocates, and survivors to discuss relevant topics.

13+ FACEBOOK LIVE “AIRING IT OUT” VIRTUAL EVENTS HOSTED:
This attracted 25,600+ views on medical and lifestyle topics.

$145,540 in funding resulting in access to surgeries that otherwise would have cost $380,000
Service fees reduced or donated by Professional Partner Providers.

250 MILLION READERS ON PLATFORMS & PUBLICATIONS
(features, articles, interviews, podcasts, blogs)

GIFTED CAIRS COMFORT KITS TO BREAST CANCER PATIENTS
Filled with goodies and items to make recovery more comfortable.

Statistics from the American Cancer Society; Brigham & Women’s Hospital; American Society of Plastic Surgeons; National Institute of Health
Now, more than ever the AiRS Foundation must raise funds so we can continue to help women who need reconstructive surgery and nipple tattooing who do not have the funds to meet their copays or who do not have insurance. Please help these women by making a donation today. Any amount is greatly appreciated.

VISIT: AIRS.GIVINGFIRE.COM

HELP OUR CAUSE

PROFESSIONAL PARTNERS
CONNECTING WITH MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL & SPONSORS:

DENIZ BASCI, M.D.
Dallas Premier Plastic Surgery
Dallas, TX

Combining exceptional skill with her passion for aesthetics, Dr. Basci founded Dallas Premier Plastic Surgery to create a first-class practice based on outstanding cosmetic outcomes, discretion, and empathy. As a woman-owned business, the practice is uniquely positioned to understand patient’s goals and help them realize their dreams in a safe and supportive setting. At Dallas Premiere Plastic Surgery, patients are the priority, and Dr. Basci ensures that their safety and satisfaction are paramount.

CHRISTOPHER NEWMAN, DO
Florida Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Clearwater & St. Petersburg, FL

Dr. Christopher Newman completed medical school at Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences, was Board Certified in both General Surgery and Plastic Surgery by the American Osteopathic Board of Surgery before entering private practicing plastic and reconstructive surgery in Columbus and Mansfield, Ohio. Currently, he practices at Florida Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery in Florida.

MARNIE RUSTEMEYER
MediInk
VA, PA, WV and NYC

A board Certified Permanent Cosmetic Professional, Ms. Rustemeyer specialized in providing survivors restorative, realistic looking areola tattoos to match skin tone, breast and body type. Marnie specializes in 3D nipple and areola tattooing, scar camouflage and collagen induction therapy (micro-needling). A survivor herself, Marnie was inspired to help women and men affected by breast cancer feel whole again through areola restorative tattooing.

A special thank you to our generous sponsors and medical professionals for your support.

AIRS IMPACT
STORIES OF WOMEN WE’VE HELPED

Carla J. 49 – NC

“I searched the web and came across the AiRS website. I was given options I hadn’t even considered nor had anyone advised me about. Taking AiRS advice or suggestions led me to be approved for financial assistance through the hospital as well. I am grateful for AiRS’ assistance, guidance, and engagement to make myself feel whole again. I would recommend AiRS to anyone in my situation.”

Ramona P. 47 – CA

“I want to express my gratitude to AiRS for giving me hope when I needed it the most. I am a 47-year-old single mom. I realized that with my income, I would never be able to pay for reconstruction surgery. After contacting several nonprofit organizations and being rejected endless times, I reached out to AiRS. I finally found someone that cared, was willing to listen and offer me help. Thank you for helping people like me in desperate need of your services.”

Allison P. 30 – TX

“Thank you so much. I cannot tell you how much this means to my family, how appreciative I am of you, and how much stress this lifts off of us during this time. I am thrilled and so grateful. I assure you we plan on donating to AiRS whenever we are able to pay it forward.”

Thrisha T. 35 – TX

“I’m really at a loss for words. I don’t know what to say to express the joy and gratitude I feel. I appreciate your help more than you know. I am so happy to be a part of a sisterhood that cares and loves. Thanks for taking me in. I’m grateful to you. I wish I could find the perfect words to express my thanks.”

Carol P. 67 – ME

“AIRS helped financially but more importantly, they treated me with kindness around the financial issues. I was overwhelmed by this. The empathy and respect I was shown was most helpful. It meant so much to have someone show me such caring. Twice in my journey you stepped up during my most stressful moments.”

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CORPORATE & FOUNDATION SPONSORSHIP

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