

Volunteers garden workers helps breast cancer sick women

We plant both health and happiness

Cancer patient Kathleen sat by her window for a long time just watching her garden fades away. But when we are visiting, there is no faded garden that we see. Both the garden and Kathleen live a new life.

From the beginning a regular, not well take care of lawn. Step by step the lawn converts to a lovely made bit of garden. Ten persons dig here today, there are members of "Hope in Boom" and they plants for free by cancer sick persons in Massachusetts in USA. Kathleen Chase has not been able to take care of her garden for a long time. Her husband has tried but he rater play golf and you can tell! This is her "celebration garden". She just got the last treatment and the garden will stand as a symbol to life and shall help her to recover completely. In the beginning it was hard for her to let all this people make all this to her for free, she is a nurse and a mother (and 12 sister and brothers) and has always took care of everybody else. But when she got use to the taught it was wonderful to see the garden become a place full with happy people and a lot of plants she changed her mind.

She got sick in August 2010 and has gone to many tough treatments. I have been very ill and some days not even been able to get out of the bed. The cancer was as a cold shower. We haven't cancer in the family and I had very much difficulty that understand that this could happen to me, says Kathleen. A lot of nice sounds accompany the hard work in the garden. The area of 10 *2 meters fills in front of our eyes whit so many different plants. The work is very well planned by Brenda Cooke, a professional garden designer and today a volunteer. She visited Kathleen for a month ago and they discussed the different wishes. It was especially from one window she would like to have a nice view.

Brenda and many of the others have their own experience of cancer and how a garden and the work with it can make the sick people so much better. The serotonin increase and the energy level also. So far the organization has planted almost 100 gardens. In the present it's just in Massachusetts the Hope in Bloom is working. But the goal is to have it all over USA. The founder keeps on working so hard because she has seen so many people getting well when they got a nice garden.

By Maria Löstedt

Photo Chris Maluszynski

Hope in Bloom:

The founder Roberta Dehman Hershon have around 800 volunteers and its donations what makes it possible. Read more:www.hopeinbloom.org