



# Perceffennessee Cantey

**Perceffennessee “Cep” Cantey has a heart for giving and a spirit of selflessness.**

“I’ve been through breast cancer, but the diagnosis and recovery weren’t for me. I’ve used this experience to help others who have faced this same challenge,” said Cep.

Because breast cancer has a strong presence in Cep’s family, she had her first mammogram in her 30s. In July 2012, her mammogram was clear. Seven months later, at the age of 41, she discovered a discharge from one of her breasts. For several weeks, Cep monitored the discharge, tried to ignore it and hoped it would go away. After confiding in a friend, she was encouraged to see a doctor. The doctor recommended she be checked at Palmetto Health Breast Center. At the Breast Center, Cep had a mammogram, an ultrasound and a biopsy the same day.

“On my way to work, my cell phone rang. I realized the call was from Palmetto Health Breast Center. I quickly answered and said, ‘hit me with it.’ The nurse said, ‘you have breast cancer.’ I don’t remember much after that,” said Cep.

In the weeks and months that followed, Cep had genetic testing, a bilateral mastectomy, reconstruction, a total hysterectomy and has developed Lymphodema. Fortunately, her genetic testing results were negative. From her diagnosis and through surgery and reconstruction, Cep had a nurse navigator by her side.

“My nurse navigator, Dottye Wodogaza, was incredible. She stayed with me through everything. Aside from my family and friends, she was one of the most instrumental people in my life during this journey,” said Cep.

“Cep’s Crusaders For the Cure” Walk for Life team will be back this year! Cep created the team in 2012 in honor of her aunt who had been diagnosed with breast cancer. Cep considers all the love and support she saw that year as “preparation” for what the future held for her diagnosis in 2013.

“Now, my mom has been diagnosed with breast cancer. Because of my journey, I pray I can be a beacon of light for my mom and others.”



a Palmetto Health Foundation  
signature event

**On Oct. 14, 2017, thousands of people will come together to celebrate breast cancer survivors and lift up those who are being treated.**

**Walk for Life and Famously Hot Pink Half Marathon, 5K + 10K**

**Register:**  
**WalkForLifeColumbia.org**

#WalkForLifeColumbia  
#FamouslyHotPinkHalf