

New 2003 Waves of Hope



Sandy Allen

Member: 2003-2006



Jennifer Gallant

Jennifer was born in 1977 in Halifax, NS. She spent her childhood in Nanaimo, British Columbia and Gilbert Plains, Manitoba. After completing high school in 1995, she attended Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, graduating with a Bachelor of Social Work degree in 1999. She moved to The Pas, Manitoba in April of that same year to take a position with Community Mental Health.

Jennifer was diagnosed with breast cancer on June 6, 2001 at the age of 24, after finding a lump in her breast a few months earlier. When diagnostic tests were unable to determine exactly what the lump was, Jennifer's doctor recommended a lumpectomy. Once the diagnosis had been made, she went on to have a re-excision and axillary dissection. Thankfully, the margin of tissue and all the lymph nodes were clear. Jennifer then went on to have five weeks of radiation, followed by hormone therapy with Tamoxifen and Zoladex.

She moved to Brandon in March 2003 after being offered a social work position at the Child and Adolescent Treatment Centre. Jennifer joined Waves of Hope shortly after the move and enjoyed learning the sport of dragon boating. She was diagnosed with a second, separate breast cancer in the opposite breast in May 2004, after a lump was discovered in a routine mammogram. Although the cancer was again detected early, she opted for more aggressive treatment. She underwent six chemotherapy treatments, followed by a bilateral mastectomy with free tram flap reconstruction and is currently being treated with Tamoxifen and Zoladex.

Being diagnosed with breast cancer at such a young age was difficult. Although Jennifer had incredible support from her family and friends, no one in her life had lived through this experience. "How amazing, to walk into a room full of breast cancer survivors during my first practice with Waves of Hope. The support, encouragement and hope offered by members of this team has been such a blessing to me."