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STEP SISTERS PROVIDE VITAL SUPPORT THROUGH PANDEMIC

\$50,000 spent to assist women facing breast cancer and financial hardships

ASHBURN, Virginia (March 30, 2021) - The Step Sisters have announced \$50,000 in spending over the past year to support breast cancer patients experiencing financial emergencies during treatment. The Step Sisters' Crisis Fund was designed to help with housing and utility payments with demand for this assistance rising sharply during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Treatment, medication and co-pays add up quickly for a breast cancer patient, and can be devastating for those already feeling financial strain. After a generous grant from 100WomenStrong, The Crisis Fund was established in 2017 to prevent patients from having to make the agonizing choice between paying for treatment or paying for daily necessities.

"Since the pandemic began, we have seen a near doubling in requests for Crisis Funds," explain Ashley Campolattaro and Angela Fuentes, Co-Founders and Co-Executive Directors for the group. "We attribute this to the loss of income as well as extra costs that patients are currently incurring to keep themselves safe. These women are facing breast cancer, financial difficulties and a pandemic. It is our goal to keep the lights on, keep a roof over their head, but also keep them in treatment."

Like many non-profits, fundraising has declined sharply for The Step Sisters. The group has had to cancel their largest annual spring fundraiser, The Step Sisters' Ribbon Run for the second year in a row.

For more information about The Step Sisters or to donate to the Crisis Fund, please visit www.stepsisters.org .

ABOUT THE STEP SISTERS

The Step Sisters work to improve the quality of life for those impacted by breast cancer. Partnering with local hospitals, the group funds needed support services that directly benefit patients in Northern Virginia.

For more information about the Step Sisters, please visit www.stepsisters.org.