



**Cassandra**

Very Important Patient (VIP)



"Once I connected with Lazarex, I could breathe. They made me feel I mattered. Every person I spoke to at Lazarex was kind-hearted, and it impacted my mental psyche."

- Diagnosed with breast cancer
- Had a lumpectomy then partial radiation treatment
- Lives in Mobile, Alabama, travels to Birmingham for clinical trial
- The cancer was aggressive
- During online search, Cassandra discovered Lazarex Cancer Foundation and found the help she needed.
- Each time Cassandra traveled she spent at least \$1,000 on gas, parking, and lodging.
- "Lazarex Cancer Foundation lifted a big burden and allowed me to participate in the clinical trial"

**Q: How did you make the decision to participate in the trial?**

"I was skeptical at first, but my doctors eased my mind. I didn't want to be a guinea pig. Would I receive a treatment that benefits me, or will they just forget about me? I wanted to do a study that was beneficial to MY body."

**Q. What exactly is a clinical trial?**

"A clinical trial is gathering information that they can use for the future and helping the next person that has a cancer diagnosis. Researchers can learn from it."

**Very Important Patient (VIP) Tips:**



- Be persistent, stand up for yourself!
- Make sure your care team is readily available to you to provide answers to your questions.
- Do your research!
- Most importantly, scrutinize the treatment plan and know that no question is a bad question.