



Karen Martinez's dream and her legacy is one of hope and inspiration. This year we will celebrate the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Healing Hearts Gala, an event and celebration that came to be after Karen was diagnosed with breast cancer. Karen knew getting cancer had a positive purpose; to use her influence as the main anchor at FOX San Antonio to help others fighting against cancer. Her stamina, courage and selflessness guided her to establish the Healing Hearts Gala benefiting Thrive Well Cancer Foundation's Patient Assistance program. Over the past 7 years, because of Karen's vision, the Healing Hearts Gala has raised more than \$500,000 to help cancer patients by providing financial assistance while they were going through treatment. Although she is now gone, her spirit lives on through all of us who loved her and those who are helped by Karen's thoughtfulness and determination.

A few weeks before Karen passed away, I made her a promise to raise at least \$100,000 each year for other cancer patients whose fight is not over; through the kindness of people just like you, we will reach our goal again this year. The 2019 Healing Hearts Gala will be **October 19<sup>th</sup>** at the **Omni Colonnade**. Festivities for the evening include dinner, dancing, a silent and live auction, but more importantly it will offer hope to patients dealing with cancer. We are inviting you to be a part of this occasion to honor Karen's life and to show her 3 children the amazing impact their mother continues to make in the San Antonio community.

You can find more information on the 2019 Healing Hearts Gala and pictures from last year's event on our FaceBook page. Sponsorship deadline is Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>.

This awful disease took Karen much too early. But what is truly inspiring is that her hope and courage lives on through your generosity and the patients who are able to fight because of you.

Sincerely,

Yami Virgin  
Healing Hearts Gala Chair  
Fox San Antonio News Reporter  
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***"The aspect I love most about the gala is that it helps local people. We get to meet and see the actual people the money is helping, and hear their stories."***

- Miranda Herrera  
Karen's daughter, a sophomore at Texas  
A&M



*I love my job and I love what I do. If I can add this part of my life to that part of my life and help bring awareness and let other people know that they do have options and that there is hope, then I'm happy to do that.*