

Zoom On: Kate Sweeney, “Cancer and Careers” Co-Founder



[Kate Sweeney](#)

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Co-Founder - Cancer and Careers
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Kate Sweeney is one of the founders of Cancer and Careers, an organisation dedicated to helping people with cancer continue their lives in the workplace. She is also the Executive Director of the \$2.5M Cosmetic Executive Women (CEW) Foundation, a charitable organisation dedicated to helping women, which launched Cancer and Careers in 2001 after five board members were diagnosed with cancer but continued to work during and after treatment.

For many people faced with a cancer diagnosis, work becomes vitally important. However, they face common questions, such as: *How do I tell my boss? How do I balance work and treatment? What are my legal rights?* and, importantly, *What do other people do?* Cancer and Careers exists to reduce that fear and uncertainty for people with cancer who continue a life in the workplace.

Under Sweeney’s leadership, Cancer and Careers serves more than 300,000 people every year. The program is the go-to organisation for work-related support for cancer patients and survivors. It offers an innovative, interactive career coaching centre with personalised advice from professional career coaches. With many clients accessing the program online, it is able to reach remote and underserved communities.

The program partners with Employee Assistance Programs (EAPs) and collaborates with QVC to present “Beauty with Benefits,” a beauty-product fundraising telecast that has raised more than \$2M to support Cancer and Careers’ free programs and services.

According to its website, cancerandcareers.org, the organisation “empowers and educates people with cancer to thrive in their workplace by providing expert advice, interactive tools and educational events. Through a comprehensive website, free publications, career coaching, and a series of educational seminars for employees with cancer and their healthcare providers and coworkers, Cancer and Careers strives to eliminate fear and uncertainty for working people with cancer. Cancerandcareers.org informs more than 250,000 visitors per year, providing essential tools and information for employees with cancer.

Sweeney also serves as an expert on the topic of cancer in the workplace. She was previously associated with Oxygen Media.

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