EUROPEAN
HEALTH FORUM
GASTEIN

Wilson, Barbara
Working with Cancer



Barbara Wilson is the founder and Director of Working With Cancer. Until she left corporate life in September 2012 she worked as a senior HR Director at a variety of international companies including Catlin Group Ltd, Schroders Investment Management, Barclays Bank and Price Waterhouse.

In 2005, after being diagnosed with breast cancer, Barbara set up a group to help those people affected by cancer to return successfully to work. Working with Cancerbackup the group produced the first guidelines for employers, employees and working carers on how to manage work and cancer and were the first in the UK to draw attention to this issue.

From 2008 to 2010, Barbara chaired the Work and Finance workstream of the UK National Cancer Survivorship Initiative, working with a multidisciplinary team of health professionals and cancer survivors to develop ‘work and cancer’ support tools for employees, employers, carers and health professionals. Barbara went on to work with Macmillan Cancer Support as a volunteer to help set up their Work and Cancer department.

After retiring in 2012, Barbara attended the School for Social Entrepreneurs, and in 2014 launched Working With Cancer as a Social Enterprise providing coaching, training and consultancy services to anyone affected by cancer to manage work, return to work or find work during or after a cancer diagnosis and treatment. Working across the UK and increasingly in Europe, the Company’s associates are all cancer survivors or have been profoundly affected by cancer.

Working With Cancer is currently a contributor to the European Transforming Breast Cancer Together Initiative, a member of the ABC Global Alliance, a supporter of ECCO and collaborates on projects with the ECPC. Barbara regularly speaks at European, national and local cancer conferences and events about the issues connected with and challenges of managing cancer in the workplace. She is married with two sons and lives near Hampton Court, in Surrey.