

Challenging Cancer through candor & compassion



You won't find Vicki Victorious on stage, starring in old black and white movies, or featured in a music video. Vicki's a real doll – literally – but she doesn't adorn the shelves of your local toy store. Instead, she plays a lead role in helping women and their families understand surgical procedures relating to breast cancer.

Vicki is one of many learning tools Kathy Clements, breast care coordinator for MidState Medical Center, utilizes to help increase awareness, educate and alleviate stress for hundreds of breast cancer patients, their husbands, children, other family members and friends.

Clements, an 18-year MidState veteran, nurse and former teacher, sees herself in the people business.

Her job is helping women who are facing breast cancer surgery or treatment to better cope with their disease. She promotes understanding through candid talk, access to educational materials and resources, peer group facilitation and counseling. She also holds hands, takes late-night phone calls and maintains a deep reservoir of compassion and empathy.

Clements offers community education programs, talks and outreach sessions, directs patients or prospective patients to early-detection programs, and teaches self-evaluation classes.

“Breast cancer is a complex disease. My job is to help patients through the system, ensuring they have access to the enormous range of resources