Leigh Pate is the founder and first coordinator of the Lobular Breast Cancer Alliance, a patient-driven organization collaborating with a scientific advisory board of breast cancer researchers and clinicians.

Leigh became a leading advocate for lobular breast cancer research after her diagnosis in 2011, motivated by the difficulties she experienced while searching for current research to guide her treatment decisions and frustrated by the lack of information available to patients with lobular to guide their cancer care. She applied her professional background in political organizing, advocacy and communications to build a network of lobular patient advocates, breast cancer researchers, clinicians and organizations to raise the profile of lobular breast cancer in the breast cancer research and advocacy communities and advance research into this understudied type of breast disease.

Leigh graduated from NBCC’s Project Lead training in 2016, is a member of Komen Advocates in Science and is an advocate with Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. She has authored abstracts and presented posters on lobular breast cancer, worked with researchers on lobular research grant development and presents and moderates lobular breast cancer educational programming. She was awarded the Beth Caldwell Advocacy and Leadership Award for her work in elevating lobular breast cancer nationally.

Leigh is a former public affairs consultant, a veteran of national, state and local political campaigns, a communications specialist and writer and a two-time cancer patient. She lives in Seattle, WA.