

Laurie Hutcheson, MS, ILC Patient Advocate & Executive Director of LBCA has been a leader in health care program development, management and strategic direction in organizations in Massachusetts and nationwide for over 40 years. Laurie received her MS in health policy and management in 1989 from Harvard University, T.H. Chan School of Public Health. Her experience includes executive roles including deputy assistant secretary of health and human services in the Massachusetts executive office of health and human services, and vice president of Riverside Community Care, a large community-based behavioral health organization. She has also consulted in the design, implementation, and evaluation of health care programs around the country, with her own consulting practice and as a Fellow with the National Academy for State Health Policy.

Laurie notes that she has been and always will be, first and foremost, an advocate for patients and people served. In each of her roles, Laurie has been passionate about ensuring that patients'/individuals' experiences and perspectives about their services and programs are routinely solicited, thoughtfully listened to and always factored into development of new services or in service delivery changes.

She joined LBCA as a volunteer following her diagnosis and treatment for invasive lobular carcinoma (ILC) in 2018. In May 2020, Laurie was invited and agreed, in lieu of retirement, to take over as LBCA's executive director. Laurie is committed to working collaboratively with patient advocates, scientists, and clinicians in the U.S. and globally to raise awareness about ILC and to promote and fund vitally needed ILC research. Under her leadership, LBCA has become an independent public charity with the capacity to fund ILC research grants directly.

Laurie is also an active participant in the Dana Farber/Harvard Cancer Center Breast Cancer Advocate group, Komen Advocates in Science and the American Cancer Society National Breast Cancer Round Table. She is a Project Lead graduate, a peer counselor with After Breast Cancer Diagnosis, a member of the European Lobular Breast Cancer Consortium, and a member of the board of the National Breast Cancer Coalition. Laurie promises that LBCA will continue to shine a bright light on lobular breast cancer in effort to eradicate this sneaky disease and help end all breast cancers.