

Jen Andruzzi

Co-Founder, President & CEO

Jennifer Andruzzi, wife of former New England Patriot Joe Andruzzi, is the Co-Founder, President, and CEO of the Joe Andruzzi Foundation (JAF), which is committed to providing help, hope, and a reason to smile, for New England cancer patients and their families by contributing financial support when it is needed most. Stemming from her early involvement with the Boston community through charity work with the Patriots, getting to know and support families fighting cancer has become a life-long passion and mission for Jen.

Joe, Jen's husband, won three Super Bowl's in the NFL before being diagnosed with an aggressive form of non-Hodgkin's Burkitt's lymphoma on May 30, 2007. After becoming cancer-free, Jen and Joe decided to never stop fighting the disease. In 2008, the pair co-founded JAF, which dedicates itself to aid in lifting the financial burden of cancer from patients. As President and CEO, Jen fully commits herself to the life and growth of the Foundation. In 10+ years, JAF has awarded 9,000+ financial assistance grants and has grown from \$200,000 to \$14 million under her leadership.

Jen further invigorates raising funds through procuring corporate sponsorships for the Foundation. In partnership with ALEX AND ANI Charity By Design, Jen oversaw the creation of a "Positive Is How I Live" bangle made specifically for the Joe Andruzzi Foundation. Tens of thousands of the bracelets have been sold to date, of which 20% of the proceeds are donated to support the Foundation's mission.

Jen oversees several of the Foundation's major fundraising events, including the annual gala and Joe Andruzzi & Friends Golf Tournament. However, it is not just about the money for Jen; success in the Foundation lies with her dedication to improving the lives of cancer patients not only on a financial level, but also on a personal level. In 2012, Jen helped launch the Foundation's (Up)Beat Cancer initiative, emphasizing the need for patients to lead a life of joy despite the limitations of their condition. Each year, Jen invites patients and their families to join her and others from the Foundation on a Codzilla Thrill Ride around Boston Harbor – taking their minds off of treatment for an afternoon. Furthermore, in 2015 and 2016, Jen was a member of the Foundation's "Team JAF" Boston Marathon team, spreading JAF's (Up)Beat philosophy while also raising crucial funds for patients and their families.



Joe and Jen have received significant recognition for their commitment to the mission of the Joe Andruzzi Foundation. In 2011, the Hockomock YMCA awarded the duo with its Character Counts Award in celebration of their unmatched dedication to furthering the work of the Foundation. That same year, the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women recognized Jen as one of their 100 Unsung Heroines of 2011, which is awarded to women recognized for hard work and contributions to their organizations and communities. In 2014, they also received the Walpole's Friends of St. Patrick's People of the Year award in recognition of their selfless nature and noble aspirations; and, in 2015, Jen was honored by the Boston Business Journal's *WomenUp: Local Women of Influence* program.

When Jen is not managing an extremely successful foundation, she is spending time with her five children. She envisions a great future raising her family alongside the growth of the Joe Andruzzi Foundation, an initiative she hopes will soon extend to all health systems within New England.