

Alaska Run for Women Honorary Starter History

2026 - Betty Predeger - former AKRFW board member and breast cancer survivor

2025 - Kim Olmsted - 8-time RFW artist; **Mackenzie Carpenter** - breast cancer survivor

2024 - Mary Katzke - Survivor and long-time RFW grantee

2023 - Roland Gower - Founding RFW board member; **Carol Butler** - survivor and participant; **April Powers** - survivor and long-time supporter/announcer

2022 - Carol Seppilu - ultra runner from Nome; 30th annual

2021 - April Powers, Andrea Huyck, Dawn Richard, Megan MacKiernan, Amanda Priest, Sulua Stager, Dr. Jessica Panko, Britney Hert - 8 women from around the state representing 8 days of virtual event (survivors, supporters, frontline workers)

2020 - Lori Ambruz Deschamps - elite athlete and breast cancer survivor

2019 - Aelin Peterson Allegood & Kikkan Randall - Alaskan Olympic Athletes

2018 - Sadie Bjornsen - Olympian and elite cross country skier

2017 - 25 Breast Cancer Survivors to Celebrate 25th Anniversary

Teresa Arnold, Hazel Ballinger, Sheri Boggs, Sally Brownsberger, Carey Carpenter, Cynthia Decker, Mary Flanigin, Issa Forrest, Annette Funk, Dawn Hansen, Mary Katzke, Shirley Keisor, Lisa Keller (elite runner, breast cancer survivor, business owner and 25-year Run for Women volunteer will be the spokesperson for this group on race day), **Lorraine Krueger, Peggy Kugel, Deeta Lonergan, Mary Marsolais, Susan Musgrove, Suzanne Niemi, Terri Pauls, Lori Pedersen, Betty Predeger, Carol Waters, Beverly Wooley, and Lesley Yamauchi**

2016 - DeeDee Jonrowe - Iditarod Race 31-time participant; breast cancer survivor

2015 - Terri Pauls - AKRFW founder; breast cancer survivor

2014 - Tracy Sinclair - Channel 2 News Meteorologist; breast cancer survivor; **Mary Marsolais** - Alaska running icon; breast cancer survivor

2013 - Brent Cunningham - Sitka runner who gave his Boston Marathon medal to another runner after the bombing.

2012 - Long-time AKRFW Volunteers; 20th annual

Charlotte Tharp - founding AKRFW board member; treasurer

Gerianne Thorsness - former AKRFW board member & race director; breast cancer survivor

Jay Wisthoff - AKRFW board member; founder of the annual AKRFW raffle

2011 - Lupe Marroquin - accomplished athlete & long-time AKRFW volunteer; **Jackie Purcell** - Channel 2 weather reporter

2010 - Holly Brooks - Olympian and elite nordic skier

2009 - Teresa Arnold - AKRFW volunteer; breast cancer survivor; **April Powers** - Magic 98.9 radio co-host & AKRFW announcer; breast cancer survivor; **Betty Predeger** - board member and survivor

2008 - 5 AKRFW Board Members Who are Breast Cancer Survivors
Lisa Keller, Marcia Hastings, Peggy Kugel, Beverly Wooley & Betty Predeger

2007 - Roland Gower, MD - Founding AKRFW board member; 15th annual

2006 - Katie Hurley - 50th anniversary of Alaska's Constitutional Convention for which Katie served as secretary

2005 - Craig Harpel's wife?

2004 - Arlene Gerety - active master's athlete; breast cancer survivor

2003 -

2002 - Kathy Wisthoff - founding AKRFW board member; 10th annual

1994 - 2001 - No record