

*"My husband is the reason I can do all this," she said. "He supports me so much. When he came back from Vietnam he said that if he ever gets to the point where he can help someone else he would do whatever he could and this is our way of fulfilling that."*

Sherri currently hosts jewelry parties (on location or in her home) to raise money for specific cancer patients.

"I started throwing a party here and there, but now it's pretty steady," she said. "Family members or friends usually set it up, I provide the jewelry and they get everyone to come. All the proceeds go to that particular person."

A typical jewelry party raises more than \$1,000, Sherri said.

"The recipient can use the money to help them get to appointments, to buy groceries, to pay doctor bills, buy medicines, pay rent, whatever they need," she said.

Sherri said she is able to do two shows per month. Any proceeds from extra sales and special orders go to the Pink Ladies, who distribute funds within a 30-mile radius of Yankton.

Sherri said she spends a minimum of three hours, sometimes up to 12, a day making jewelry.

Kerry Hetzel, a local Pink Lady, helps Sherri set up, work and pack up all her shows.

"We are really good team and I couldn't do these parties without her," Sherri said.

Sherri has no training in jewelry making and doesn't follow patterns, she just instinctively knows what will look good and works by trial and error.

"I call it my therapy," she said. "It's cheaper than

going to therapy and it provides me a way to help others at the same time."

Although her daughter is her inspiration, Sherri said her husband, Don, is her support system.

"My husband is the reason I can do all this," she said. "He supports me so much. When he came back from Vietnam he said that if he ever gets to the point where he can help someone else he would do whatever he could and this is our way of fulfilling that."

When Sherri isn't making jewelry she is searching out deals for beads and other materials.

"I like to use high quality materials," she said. "Recently, I discovered Ebay and have been bidding on beads and getting some really good deals, but if people have excess beads they'd like to donate I would never turn anything down."

Sherri and Kerry believe working with the Pink Ladies and supporting cancer patients is a way of paying it forward.

"Every little bit helps," they said.

For more information on booking a party or donating beading items, call Sherri Steiner at (605)665-4652 or e-mail her at [ssteiner@hotmail.com](mailto:ssteiner@hotmail.com).

■ *By Tera Schmidt*

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