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Komen Charlotte Awards Grants to 17 Local Health Programs for Breast Cancer Screening, Education and Treatment Support

CHARLOTTE, NC, April 30, 2014 -- Susan G. Komen Charlotte announced today that 17 community health programs were awarded over \$906,000 -- 75% of net funds raised -- in financial grants to provide thousands of women and men with life-saving breast health screening, education and treatment support throughout the year. Twenty-five percent of money raised this year will also be contributed to Susan G. Komen National Research Fund.

The financial support from Komen Charlotte serves as a safety-net for families in the community, allowing grantees to deliver services to people who would not be able to afford them, says, executive director, Tami Simmons. "Our mission is to end breast cancer. We also encourage women and men to make breast health a priority and provide a place for them to go for preventative care if they are unable to afford it," says Tami Simmons, executive director.

Komen Charlotte realizes the many needs in our community and is pleased to partner with 17 organizations in its 13-county service area to provide vital breast health services to thousands of people, says Simmons. "It's exciting to see the excellence with which these grantees deliver services and care to the uninsured and underinsured in our region." Komen Charlotte serves the following counties: Anson, Cabarrus, Cleveland, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Richmond, Rowan, Stanly and Union; and York County, S.C.

Facts Behind the Komen Mission:

- 1 in 8 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetimes.
1 in 1000 men will develop the disease.
- Early detection is important to reducing breast cancer mortality. When treated early, the five-year survival rate is 99 percent - up from 74 percent in 1980.
- It is estimated that in 2014 more than 232,570 women and men will be diagnosed with breast cancer and approximately 40,000 people will die from the disease.
- There are more than 2.8 million breast cancer survivors in the U.S.

Read more about the programs that have been selected for Komen grants or contact Sarah Bailey, director of community outreach at 704-817-4078 or s.bailey@komencharlotte.org.

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About Susan G. Komen Charlotte

Komen Charlotte knows that breast cancer does not discriminate. For instance, Caucasian women have the highest incidents of breast cancer; it is the most common cancer among Latino women, and African American women die more often from the disease. And yes, men get breast cancer, too.

Komen Charlotte raises funds through events such as the annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure® to be held Saturday, Oct. 4; Laugh for the Cure® to be held Feb. 21, 2015; and a variety of community events hosted by community corporate partners, small business, faith communities, schools and volunteer organizations. More than 300 volunteers dedicate time and talent to educate, advocate and share the mission of Susan G. Komen.

Seventy-five percent of the net proceeds generated by the affiliate stay in the service area. In 2013, \$1.2 million was distributed to 21 service agencies to provide free mammograms and a continuum of breast health services to underinsured and uninsured people in our service area. In 2012, more than 6,000 free mammograms were provided. The remaining 25 percent of money raised is used to fund cutting-edge breast cancer research studies, many of which are conducted in North Carolina research facilities and universities. Susan G. Komen research funds have been invested in every major breast cancer medical research break-through over the past 30 years.

- more - (grantee list attached)

To interview a breast cancer survivor or co-survivor, physician, grantee or volunteer, or to obtain more information about breast cancer, research or treatment, contact us today.

We can help you shape the story you're after.

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2014-2015 Komen Charlotte Grant Recipients

For the period of April 1, 2014, through March 31, 2015, Komen Charlotte is awarding funding to 17 local programs that provide screening, education and treatment support to individuals with limited resources in its 13-county service area. An independent Grant Review Panel recommended projects based on breast health needs identified in Komen Charlotte's 2011 Community Profile.

CABARRUS COUNTY

Cabarrus Health Alliance

- Counties served: Cabarrus and Rowan
- Category: Screening, Diagnostic and Education

The Cabarrus Health Alliance Breast Health Program targets African American, Hispanic, and uninsured/low-income/medically underserved women with outreach and education, link them with clinical breast exams and mammography services, and assist them in overcoming barriers to accessing services.

Carolinas Medical Center NorthEast (CMC-NE Breast Health Outreach Program)

- Counties served: Cabarrus, Rowan, Iredell, and Stanly
- Category: Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment Support

The purpose of the program is to increase the accessibility and provision of screening mammograms & diagnostic services for uninsured & underserved residents. In addition, the program endeavors to improve the quality of life for underserved individuals in our community who are living with lymphedema.

GASTON COUNTY

CaroMont Cancer Center at CaroMont Regional Medical Center (No Woman Left Behind)

- Counties served: Gaston, Cleveland and Lincoln
- Category: Screening, Diagnostic and Education

The purpose of the program is to provide comprehensive breast health care for the underserved, disadvantaged, or minority individuals in the community through free mammography screening and diagnostic follow-up. The program also provides education, outreach, and support services through the breast health navigation program.

IREDELL COUNTY

Chestnut Grove Community Center (Mammograms Save Lives- Reaching our Community!)

- County served: Iredell
- Category: Screening and Diagnostic

The purpose of the program is to target minority underserved/ disadvantaged individuals in Iredell County to provide screening mammograms, and follow-up or diagnostic mammograms as needed.

LINCOLN COUNTY

Lincoln County Health Department (Pink with a Purpose)

- County served: Lincoln
- Category: Screening and Diagnostic

The purpose of the program is to target uninsured/underinsured individuals in Lincoln County to provide screening and diagnostic mammograms, ultrasounds, MRI, and biopsies.

MECKLENBURG COUNTY

Carolinas Rehabilitation - Main (Accessible Compression Therapy for an Underserved Population (ACT-UP))

- Counties served: All 13 counties
- Category: Treatment Support

The purpose of the program is to provide treatment and compression bandages and garments for women and/or men with lymphedema who are otherwise unable to afford them. Funding allows patients to receive optimal healthcare for their chronic condition without the financial burden and stresses.

Girl Scouts, Hornets' Nest Council (Scouting for the Cure)

- County: Anson, Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Rowan, Stanly and Union, NC and York, SC
- Category: Education

The purpose of the program is to increase breast health and breast cancer awareness for girls in Kindergarten - 12th grade, along with their families, troop leaders, and mentors in an active, educational, and non-threatening manner. The program focuses on increasing participation among girls living in at-risk environments, rural communities and underserved/emerging populations.

Mecklenburg County Health Department (Person-to-Person Program)

- County: Mecklenburg
- Category: Screening and Diagnostic

The purpose of the program is to fund mammograms and any necessary diagnostic procedures for low income individuals, particularly African American and Latino women. Additionally, each individual in the program will be provided with breast health education and awareness, and linked to additional medical care and treatment resources as needed.

Novant Health –Huntersville Medical Center (Screening and Diagnostic Programs for the Uninsured)

- County: Mecklenburg, Cabarrus and Iredell
- Category: Screening and Diagnostic

The purpose of the project is to encourage and provide screenings and diagnostic services for uninsured/underinsured individuals. All individuals receiving screening mammograms will receive culturally-appropriate breast health education materials.

Novant Health - Matthews Medical Center (Screening and Diagnostic Project)

- County: Mecklenburg & Union
- Category: Screening and Diagnostic

The purpose of the project is to encourage and provide screenings and diagnostic services for uninsured/underinsured individuals. All individuals receiving screening mammograms will receive culturally-appropriate breast health education materials.

Novant Health – Presbyterian Medical Center (Screening, diagnostic services for the uninsured)

- County: All 13 counties
- Category: Screening and Diagnostic

The purpose of the project is to encourage and provide screenings and diagnostic services for uninsured/underinsured individuals. All individuals receiving screening mammograms will receive culturally-appropriate breast health education materials.

MONTGOMERY AND RICHMOND COUNTY

FirstHealth of the Carolinas (Montgomery/Richmond Screenings)

- County: Montgomery & Richmond
- Category: Screening, Diagnostic and Education

This program provides low-income, uninsured women with screening mammograms and follow-up care as needed to address an existing gap in services. All individuals receiving screening mammograms will receive culturally-appropriate breast health education materials.

ROWAN COUNTY

Cornerstone Baptist Church

- County: Rowan
- Category: Screening

The program is held on Saturday, May 3, 2014, at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Cleveland, North Carolina. The purpose of the Pink Hope Project is to provide educational information, breast cancer screening and diagnostic services for up to 35 under/uninsured women in rural western Rowan County. The program is partnered with Rowan Breast Health Center to provide follow-up screenings, if necessary.

Novant Health- Rowan Medical Center (Rowan Breast Health Screening and Education Project 2014)

- County: Rowan
- Category: Screening, Diagnostic, and Education

The purpose of the program is to provide screening mammography, diagnostic mammography, ultrasound, MRI and biopsies to uninsured and underinsured individuals, and to provide community education.

STANLY COUNTY

Stanly Regional Medical Center (Project CURE)

- County: Stanly & Montgomery
- Category: Screening, Diagnostic and Education

The purpose of the program is to provide screening and diagnostic mammograms to uninsured individuals in Stanly County. The program also includes breast health outreach and education specifically to minority and underserved populations.

Stanly Regional Medical Center- Edema Management Center (Project Lymph-E.D.E.M.A.)

- County: All 13 counties
- Category: Treatment Support

The goal of Project Lymph-E.D.E.M.A. (Education, Detection, Evaluation, Management and Awareness) is to ensure members of the community with breast cancer related lymphedema are aware that treatment is available, and have access to lymphedema education, compression garments, bandages, and therapy.

UNION COUNTY

Union County Health Department (About Breast Cancer Project)

- County: Union & Anson
- Category: Screening and Diagnostic

The purpose of the program is to provide essential screening mammograms and diagnostic services to uninsured / underinsured individuals in the community.