



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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The Peoria Memorial Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure® has awarded \$504,000.00 in grants to local agencies for programs which provide breast health awareness, education, screening, and treatment.

Seventy-five percent of net proceeds raised from Peoria Memorial Affiliate events remain in Central Illinois and twenty-five percent supports the Susan G. Komen for the Cure® National Grant Program for breast cancer research to benefit women throughout the United States. Since its establishment, The Peoria Memorial Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure® has awarded a total of \$6,968,854.00 to Central Illinois agencies for breast health awareness, education, screening, and treatment.

Grant Recipients are:

**Boys & Girls Club of Greater Peoria, Inc., Peoria, IL - \$4,790.00**

The Boys and Girls Clubs project will be used to provide awareness and education regarding breast health to the medically underserved population in the Peoria Housing Authority communities, the East Bluff neighborhoods, and the teenage population within the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Peoria, Inc. This project will include the mobile mammography unit with mammogram screenings. Proper breast health will be addressed in group sessions and during home visits throughout the year.

**Cancer Center for Healthy Living Inc., Peoria, IL - \$17,900.00**

The Making Connections Project will focus will provide supportive and educational services through networking groups, support groups, individual counseling and educational seminars with a focus on the empirically proven connection between mind, body, and spirit. All services are free of charge for breast cancer survivors, patients, and people in their personal supportive network. Counseling, groups, and educational programs will be facilitated by licensed professionals and will strive to improve coping skills, self-advocacy, and quality of life for people impacted by breast cancer.

**Cancer Center for Healthy Living, Inc., Peoria, IL - \$6,480.00**

The Cancer Center for Healthy Living, Inc (CCHL) will provide nutrition services to patients with breast cancer and breast cancer survivors. The program "Fighting Breast cancer with a Fork" offers free nutrition services for breast cancer survivors and patients with breast cancer. This program focuses on nutritional classes, demonstrations, education materials, presentations, and one-on-one counseling provided by a licensed and registered dietician.

**Fulton County Health Department, Canton, IL - \$19,760.00**

Fulton County Health Department will facilitate existing Breast Cancer Support Group for newly diagnosed survivors and their families in Fulton County. A Primary focus will be to increase breast health awareness, education, and access to screenings and early detection in Fulton County, targeting identified high risk geographic areas and populations in particular.

**Hancock County Health Department, Carthage, IL - \$15,355.00**

The Hancock County Health Department will actively work to reduce the number of deaths from breast cancer by providing education, promoting early detection, and encouraging early treatment for women diagnosed with breast cancer. This project will also make available mammograms for rural, income eligible, uninsured and underinsured women and women with limited reading abilities.

**Heartland Community Health Clinic, Peoria, IL - \$46,804.00**

The Healthy Patient Initiative will provide access enhancing breast health awareness and education to 1,500 low-income, medically uninsured and/or underserved Heartland Clinic Patients at three locations (Garden, Carver, and the East Bluff). Services include breast examinations, counseling, transportation and referrals.

**Hult Health Education Center, Peoria, IL - \$17,400.00**

The Hult Health Education Center will provide breast cancer awareness presentations to high school female students. This program is designed to educate the students on breast anatomy and physiology, normal and fibrocystic tissue and changes, risk factors, signs and symptoms of the disease and the importance of early detection using breast self-examination. Anatomical models are used to teach the proper technique for performing a breast exam.

**Hult Health Education Center, Peoria, IL - \$46,603.00**

Kids Konneted is a support program that offers friendship, understanding and education for children ages 5-18 whose parent or caregiver has or had any type of cancer. All meetings are lead by credentialed professional facilitators who provide a caring and supportive environment for the families. The program also provides a support component for the parents.

**Illinois Oncology Research Association, Peoria, IL - \$2,683.00**

Illinois Oncology Research Association (IORA) will continue community outreach in educating the public and breast cancer patients on the importance of clinical trials and the contribution it makes in the development of successful treatment by organizing community campaigns that will include presentations and utilizing media outlets. We will continue our ongoing financial support and provide resources to any women joining or already on a clinical trial.

**Institute of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Peoria, IL - \$17,400.00**

The Breast Cancer Rehabilitation and Lymphedema Program at The Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation will provide comprehensive therapy services for individuals suffering from the debilitating side effects of breast cancer treatment. Breast cancer patients and survivors will receive the skilled services of a physical and/or occupational therapist to address physical limitations caused by breast cancer (including lymphedema) and to restore function for improved quality of life. This comprehensive program will provide transportation for those who qualify, treatment for physical dysfunction secondary to breast cancer, and all components of lymphedema treatment including compression sleeves and bandages.

**Knox County Health Department, Galesburg, IL - \$26,960.00**

The Knox County Health Department and the Women's Health Clinic will continue to provide breast health education and outreach services for Knox County females, to include: breast cancer risk factors, lifestyle choices related to breast health and cancer, screening guidelines, self-examination, and the importance of clinical breast exams and mammography. Additionally, the Women's Health Clinic ensures Knox County women access to clinical breast exams and mammography through cooperative programming; including, the Illinois Breast & Cervical Cancer Program, the Knox County Community Health Clinic, and the Susan G. Komen Grant Program, as well as resource and referral for support services to include local Breast Cancer Support Group and Komen support.

**McDonough County Health Department, Macomb, IL - \$13,125.00**

The McDonough County Health Project will provide screening and early detection for 25 women, less than 50 years old, who do not have a means to pay for this service (low income, underinsured or uninsured). A nurse case manager will follow-up to assure these women have received needed services including referrals.

**Methodist Medical Center of Illinois, Peoria, IL - \$27,400.00**

This Methodist Medical Center Project provides financial support to qualified patients receiving screening mammograms, breast sonograms, and unilateral and bilateral diagnostic mammograms at Methodist Medical Center who do not have adequate insurance or financial resources to cover the cost of these services and who do not qualify for IBCCP financial assistance. Funding from this grant also helps support the fuel costs of the area's only mobile mammography van, which takes diagnostic breast health services to underserved and rural areas to facilitate early diagnosis and breast health education.

**Methodist Medical Center of Illinois, Peoria, IL - \$14,270.00**

The Methodist Lymphedema Project will provide financial support to qualified breast cancer patients in Peoria and Tazewell counties who have developed lymphedema as a complication of treatment for breast cancer. Support for physical therapy treatments, compression garments, and lymphedema supplies such as wraps are included in the services covered by this grant, with the objective of controlling and managing the patient's symptoms, whether acute or chronic.

**Methodist Medical Center of Illinois, Peoria, IL - \$2,600.00**

The Methodist Medical Center Resource and Awareness Project is a collaborative effort between the breast health services of Methodist Medical Center and OSF Saint Francis Medical Center. The Methodist Medical Center Foundation will administer the granted funds. The objective of the project is to provide patients newly diagnosed with breast cancer resources in a central location that will help them understand and cope with their disease.

**Methodist Medical Center of Illinois, Peoria, IL - \$43,500.00**

The Methodist Medical Center Breast Care Resources Project is a collaborative effort between the breast health services of Methodist Medical Center, OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, and Proctor Hospital and is administered by the Methodist Medical Center Foundation. Breast cancer patients who qualify may receive financial assistance to support the purchase of post surgical camisoles, specialty bras, breast forms, and wigs/cranial prosthesis that add to their comfort and appearance during treatment and recovery. The project also provides educational materials to patients who have been diagnosed with breast cancer.

**OSF Saint Francis Medical Center Foundation Council , Peoria, IL - \$6,730.00**

The Awareness Project at OSF Saint Francis Centers for Breast Health will provide information and opportunity for one-on-one teaching for screening-aged women, young women and healthcare professionals about breast self-awareness and proper breast exam techniques. This will teach the importance of breast self-exams, clinical breast exams and screening mammography. The information will be given through materials in a breast self-awareness kit, videos, breast models and personal education by center staff.

**OSF-Saint Francis Medical Center Foundation Council, Peoria, IL - \$12,300.00**

Financial barriers deter women from obtaining mammograms, which provide early detection of cancers and improve outcomes. This OSF Low Income Breast Imaging Program will target low-income women to assure they will receive potential life-saving breast imaging procedures.

**OSF-Saint Francis Medical Center Foundation Council, Peoria, IL - \$8,700.00**

The Breast Cancer Survivorship and Hope Project is a collaborative grant with OSF Saint Francis Medical Center and Methodist Medical Center focuses on survivorship and hope for patients facing breast cancer. As part of focusing on wellness and relieving stress the grant will provide financial assistance for patients that demonstrate a need by providing gas cards for patients to travel to their doctor appointments, food/grocery cards to keep them healthy and emergency support funding. The fund will also provide a "Breast Cancer Survivor Wellness" evening with a guest speaker and educational resources.

**OSF-Saint Francis Medical Center Foundation Council, Peoria, IL - \$5,000.00**

The Prophylactic Lymphedema Program will continue a collaborative effort between OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, Methodist, and Proctor to provide each breast cancer patient with a full auxiliary lymph node dissection a prophylactic sleeve, lymphedema alert bracelet, arm measuring tool and educational material.

**OSF-Saint Francis Medical Center Foundation Council, Peoria, IL - \$34,800.00**

This comprehensive lymphedema program of OSF Saint Francis Medical Center Outpatient Rehabilitation will ensure that women or men, unable to pay, will have available to them the skilled evaluation and treatment of lymphedema secondary to breast cancer. They will be supported with lymphedema education, resource information, transportation, and needed treatment supplies. Professional staff will offer community education directed toward breast cancer survivors and toward healthcare providers. Education will include a special focus on Survivors in less densely populated areas, Hispanic and other minority patients by providing lymph node dissection education.

**The Peoria City/County Health Department, Peoria, IL - \$59,660.00**

The Peoria City/County Health Department will provide breast health services to 1500 women in the Peoria, Woodford, and Marshall County areas. A comprehensive program of services will include providing breast health information to 1500 women during outreach at health fairs, presentations, worksites, and churches; maintaining a network of medical providers; reimbursing designated breast health screening services for 250 uninsured women under age 50 and not covered by the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program; and providing follow-up case management services to assure women with abnormal screening results receive appropriate care according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. An important aspect of the program includes activities that will increase the capacity in the community by strengthening local breast health advocacy coalitions, particularly those aimed at minority, rural, and working populations of women, and by providing professional education to breast health advocates in the medical community.

**Tazewell County Health Department, Tremont, IL - \$37,280.00**

Tazewell County Health Department will provide mammograms or other diagnostic breast procedures to 125 women in Tazewell County through the "No Excuses" program. The Department will also provide education and outreach to 400 women eligible for services through the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program, and to other Tazewell County women, including Hispanic and rural women, through activities that are part of the program's marketing plan. In addition, Tazewell County Health Department will participate in the regional Mammogramathon through collaboration with Pekin Hospital to sponsor a Free Mammogram Day on National Mammography Day, October 16, 2009, and will provide mammograms to 50 women.

**University of Illinois College of Medicine-Peoria Library of The Health Sciences, Peoria, IL - \$5,000.00**

The Komen "Information for the Cure" collection at the University of Illinois at Chicago Library of the Health Sciences-Peoria, a premiere breast cancer collection, empowers health care professionals and consumers in Central Illinois in the fight against breast cancer. Educational outreach to health care providers, educators, and the community raises awareness of the collection, instructs users to locate and evaluate online breast cancer information, and promotes quality care for all. An interactive web site provides convenient access to library collections and services and encourages communication among those touched by breast cancer.

**Woodford County Health Department, Eureka, IL - \$7,500.00**

The Woodford County Health Department Think Pink Project will continue to bring breast cancer prevention messages to college women at Eureka College through an October education campaign highlighted by a special event with a guest speaker, take-home education packets, refreshments and a door prize. Think Pink will also continue to support a breast cancer support group for breast cancer survivors and their families.

**YWCA Peoria, Peoria, IL - \$4,000.00**

The YWCA Aquatic Exercise and Education Project will provide aquatic fitness classes to offer emotional support and exercise opportunities in the YWCA's warm water therapeutic swimming pool to women who are breast cancer survivors. The project would also provide breast health awareness and education to the senior women who utilize the YWCA therapeutic pool, and provide education and access to screening to the uninsured and under-insured at-risk women who reside in the YWCA homeless shelter, transitional housing and permanent housing programs. Breast health awareness outreach and education would provide to ethnic women and low-income women, as well.