



PHILANTHROPY & FUNDRAISING NEWS

Komen Orange County to donate \$1.5 million to local organizations

Fifteen breast healthcare programs will be honored at this year's Grants Awards Breakfast.

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Published: November 28, 2011 07:45 AM

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The O.C. affiliate of Susan G.

Komen for the Cure will hold its Grants Award Breakfast this Friday at The Westin South Coast Plaza. Komen Orange County will award more than

\$1.5 million in grants to 15 nonprofit organizations that help in the fight to end breast cancer.



For more than 20 years, local organizations have used the grants to help pay for the cost of diagnostic breast health services and benefit the underinsured and uninsured battling breast cancer. At this year's Grants Award Breakfast, the affiliate will unveil an inspirational mural created by 20 breast cancer sponsors and survivors. It commemorates two decades of saving lives in Orange County and Komen's pledge to end breast cancer forever. In addition, breast cancer survivors will share their experiences of receiving assistance from the affiliate's grantee organizations.

Elizabeth Thompson, president of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, will be the event's special guest speaker and will discuss the significant effect that breast cancer has had on the local community and throughout the world.

The fundraising events held year-round by Komen's affiliate help to fund local breast health programs and initiatives. Seventy-five percent of the money is donated to grantee community programs, as well as the Komen Fund for Breast Health Care Grant Program. The remaining 25 percent is contributed to the Komen Award and Research Grant Program, to support breast cancer research. Because of the affiliate's Community Grants Program, more than 8,400 uninsured women have been given assistance in receiving mammograms and other breast health services.

Lisa Wolter, executive director of Susan G. Komen for the Cure's local chapter, said, "The organizations [that will receive] grants from our affiliate in 2012 are instrumental in helping us bring lifesaving support services and education initiatives to underserved groups in the community. Awarding grants allows us to work in collaboration with other community-based nonprofits to overcome language and cultural barriers while addressing the breast health needs of Orange County women."

Some of the 2012 Komen Fund for Breast Health Care grant recipients include AltaMed Health Services Corp., Latino Health Access, Planned Parenthood of Orange and San Bernardino counties, and the Vietnamese American Cancer Foundation. Visit komenoc.org to reserve tickets to this year's Grants Award Breakfast.