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KOMEN ORANGE COUNTY AFFILIATE TO AWARD \$900,000 TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AT 2009 COMMUNITY GRANTS BREAKFAST

COSTA MESA, Calif., Nov. 23, 2009 – The Orange County Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure is awarding more than \$900,000 in grants to 14 local nonprofit organizations on Friday, Dec. 4, at its annual Community Grants Award Breakfast. The event is open to the public and tickets are \$15 per person.

The community groups receiving the grants serve a diversity of key populations in the area, and will use the grants specifically to implement breast health programs and initiatives to promote early detection of breast cancer and provide access to care throughout Orange County in an effort to save women's lives.

“We go through a rigorous, six month decision-making process to find the very best projects to overcome language and cultural barriers, to provide lifesaving mammograms, and bring breast health education and support services to the hardest-to-reach and underserved groups in Orange County,” said Lisa Wolter, executive director of the Komen Orange County Affiliate. “It is extremely rewarding to distribute these grants to organizations to work with us to make a huge difference in the lives of the people of the county.”

“Komen can clearly demonstrate that our donors' contributions are invested wisely in vital breast health programs that help save lives,” said Wolter.

Marie LaFargue, a health care consultant and Komen board member will open the program with a presentation of Komen's local priority to save women's lives; and Henry Walker, CEO of Farmers & Merchants Bank, will provide a businessman's perspective on the importance of investing philanthropic dollars in Komen programs. Walker serves as one of the Komen “Pink Tie Guys,” influential and prominent businessmen in Orange County tasked with bringing breast cancer awareness to the forefront of the business community. Komen Orange County Affiliate board president and two-time breast cancer survivor Chris Tannous will also speak.

Eileen Frère, of ABC7, will emcee the program and several breast cancer survivors will share their personal experiences of receiving help from Komen and grantee organizations.

By implementing an extensive range of breast health initiatives, Komen grantees take proactive steps in ensuring that all women and men have access to life-saving breast health care. Since 1991, the Komen Orange County Affiliate has invested more than \$24 million in community breast health programs and research. Last year alone, more than 8,500 uninsured and underserved women were provided assistance in obtaining free mammograms.

The 2009 community grants recipients and their breast health programs are:

- **AltaMed Health Services Corporation** / Breast Cancer Early Detection and Care Program



- **Asian American Senior Citizens Service Center** / Strengthening the Ties: A Multi-dimensional Approach to Raising Breast Health Awareness among Chinese American Women
- **Breast Cancer Solutions** / Medical Financial Aid; Temporary Financial Aid Program
- **Kommah Seray Inflammatory Breast Cancer Foundation** / Taking Care of Ourselves and Each Other
- **Laguna Beach Community Clinic** / Breast Care Advocacy
- **Latino Center for Prevention and Action in Health and Welfare** / Salud de Seno Breast Health Program
- **Nhan Hoa Comprehensive Health Care Clinic** / Breast Care for Low-Income and Uninsured Young People
- **Orange County Korean American Health Information and Education Center** / Pink Ribbon Awareness
- **Orange County Rescue Mission Healthcare Services** / ACT (Access to Care & Treatment) Now Project
- **Planned Parenthood Orange and San Bernardino Counties** / Breast Health Program
- **Share Our Selves (SOS)** / SOS Women's Initiative
- **The G.R.E.E.N. Foundation** / Be Self Empowered (BSE)
- **Vietnamese American Cancer Foundation** / Breast Health Navigation and Education Program
- **YWCA of North Orange County** / Early Breast Cancer Screening and Education

The breakfast is open to the public and will take place from 7:30 – 9:30 a.m. at Bowers Museum, 2002 North Main Street, in Santa Ana. Tickets are \$15 per person or \$150 for a table of 10 and may be reserved by calling 714-957-9157, or online at www.komenoc.org. Individuals and companies are welcome to attend, or may donate hosted seats for breast cancer survivors and community agencies to attend.

The Komen Orange County Affiliate maintains year-round fundraising efforts through events such as Race for the Cure[®], Pink Tie Ball, and several more. Seventy-five percent of the money raised by Komen Orange County Affiliate goes into grantee community programs and 25 percent is invested in the national Komen Award and Research Grant Program to fund groundbreaking breast cancer research.

Together with other Affiliates, Susan G. Komen for the Cure is the world's largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to ending breast cancer at every stage – from the causes to the cures and the pain and anxiety of every moment in between.

ABOUT SUSAN G. KOMEN FOR THE CURE[®]

Nancy G. Brinker promised her dying sister, Susan G. Komen, she would do everything in her power to end breast cancer forever. In 1982, that promise became Susan G. Komen for the Cure and launched the global breast cancer movement. Today, Komen for the Cure is the world's largest grassroots network of breast cancer survivors and activists fighting to save lives, empower people, ensure quality care for all and energize science to find the cures. Through events like the Komen Race for the Cure, nearly \$1 billion has been invested to fulfill that promise, making Komen for the Cure the world's largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to fighting breast cancer.

For more information on the Orange County Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, please visit www.komenoc.org or call 714-957-9157.

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