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## **KOMEN ORANGE COUNTY AFFILIATE RECEIVES PACIFIC LIFE FOUNDATION SERVICE AWARD**

COSTA MESA, Calif., Feb. 1, 2011 – The [Orange County Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure](#) received the Walter B. Gerken Community Service Award, along with a \$25,000 grant, from the Pacific Life Foundation on Jan 24, during a special presentation at the Foundation’s annual grants reception.

Established in 1995 to honor Walter B. Gerken, founding chairman of the [Pacific Life Foundation](#), the prestigious award is given annually to an organization that shares his heartfelt philanthropic commitment to the community.

“In its fight to end breast cancer forever, Komen Orange County has exemplified the dedication and commitment that embodies the true spirit of the Walter B. Gerken Award,” said Robert Haskell, president of the Pacific Life Foundation. “We salute the endeavors of Komen’s Orange County Affiliate over the past 20 years.”

The Komen Orange County Affiliate’s relationship with Pacific Life began in 1992, when the Foundation hosted the inaugural [Race for the Cure](#) on its premises in Newport Beach. For the last 20 years, the Foundation has been actively involved in helping Komen end breast cancer forever, providing grants and in-kind donations, hosting the Race each year and providing volunteers through the [Pacific Life Good Guys program](#). The 2011 Race for the Cure is scheduled for Sunday, Sept.25, 2011.

“We are deeply honored to be recognized by one of our dedicated partners – particularly to receive an award in Walter Gerken’s name – for the work we do in the breast cancer community,” said Komen Orange County board president Chris Tannous, who accepted the award on behalf of the organization along with the board secretary Nancy Enomoto. “Komen is the only breast health organization in Orange County entirely focused on ensuring that local women receive the diagnostics and treatment they need, and this Pacific Life grant will help us continue our mission to create a world without breast cancer.”

One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. With nearly 1,900 women in Orange County facing a diagnosis of breast cancer this year, and many more already battling the disease, the Komen Orange County Affiliate is at the forefront of ensuring that life-saving breast health initiatives are accessible to all women in our community, regardless of their age, race, language, sexual orientation or income level.

The Walter B. Gerken Award was established after Gerken’s retirement to honor his devotion to the betterment of society and support those who share that spirit of community service. Recipient organizations must have a long history and/or a significant partnership with the Foundation or company. The Komen Orange County Affiliate will join the list of 16 organizations already inscribed on a sculpture that resides in the Pacific Life lobby.



### **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.

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