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THE WELLNESS COMMUNITY-DELAWARE RECEIVES GRANT FROM THE SUSAN G. KOMEN FOR THE CURE®

Komen Philadelphia Affiliate distributes more that $2 million to thirty-eight grantees to empower local communities in the fight against breast cancer.

The Philadelphia Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure® recently announced that The Wellness Community-Delaware will be receiving a grant for their breast cancer outreach initiative targeting medically underserved women in Sussex County. The Wellness Community and the rest of the grantee group represent some of the finest healthcare, community and family organizations from throughout the Komen Philadelphia Affiliate's thirteen-county service area. For the 2011-2012 grant period, The Affiliate will distribute $ 2,024,737 in grants to support breast health education, awareness, screening, treatment and support projects specifically targeting low-income, uninsured women.

“Despite the tremendous progress in the breast cancer movement over the past two decades, there are still tens-of-thousands of women, right here in our own communities who believe a breast cancer diagnosis is a death sentence," said Elaine I. Grobman, Executive Director of the Philadelphia Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure. "Every day, mothers who have limited or no healthcare benefits are choosing to feed their families instead of getting a mammogram or breast health care simply because they are unaware that life-saving screening and treatment services are available to them."

"Our grantees are hard at work every day in our neighborhoods building bridges to these women," Grobman continued. "They are connecting them with the resources that enrich and save lives, educating entire communities, replacing helplessness with hope, empowering all generations and cultures to live in a world with breast cancer *without* living in fear… regardless of race, financial ability, education or background."

This is the fourth grant received by The Wellness Community since the Komen Affiliate was founded in 2001. The Affiliate's highly specialized grantee-selection process assures funded programs uphold the integrity of the Komen name and reach a balanced diversity in terms of ethnicity, geography and lifestyle. The Wellness Community was chosen for its demonstration of a firm commitment to, and passion for, reaching out to its local community to empower as many people as possible – especially those with no or limited health coverage – to fight back against the disease that takes one life every sixty-nine seconds. Through this grant-funded project, The Wellness Community-Delaware aims to improve the quality of life of medically underserved women in western Sussex County concerning breast cancer prevention and treatment.

“We are tremendously excited about the Komen grant,” said Jo Wilkins, Sussex County Director for The Wellness Community-Delaware. “We believe our project has the potential to help transform women and their families, particularly in western Sussex County, by helping them discover the capacity to gain responsibility and control over important health issues in their lives.”

The Philadelphia Affiliate distributes grants to organizations that work with the medically underserved, including uninsured and underinsured individuals and those individuals who may not receive adequate care because of barriers such as language, cultural differences and fear. The outreach spans the Komen Philadelphia service area of: Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lancaster, Lehigh, Montgomery, Philadelphia and York counties, PA; Camden County, NJ; and Kent, New Castle and Sussex counties, DE.

In total, the programs funded by Komen Philadelphia Affiliate grants are expected to accomplish the following:

- Referrals to mammograms: 6,161
- Mammograms performed: 3,864
- Clinical breast exams: 4,365
- Outreach contacts: 40,849
- Education/counseling: 8,237

The thirty-eight new Komen Philadelphia Affiliate Grantees were honored at the annual Komen Philadelphia Grantee Luncheon on Wednesday, March 16 at the Loews Philadelphia Hotel. The grant money is a result of Komen Philadelphia Affiliate fund-raising efforts throughout 2010, the biggest contributor being the 20th annual Susan G. Komen Philadelphia Race for the Cure.® Seventy-five percent of net proceeds generated by the Komen Philadelphia Affiliate stays in its thirteen-county service area to support education, screening and treatment initiatives—the Grant recipients. The remaining funds go to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Grant Program to help fund groundbreaking research.

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. Thanks to events like the Komen Race for the Cure® and the Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure®, Komen has invested more than $1.9 billion to fulfill our promise, becoming the largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to the fight against breast cancer in the world.

Up to 75% of net proceeds generated by the Komen Philadelphia Affiliate stays in its thirteen-county service area. The remaining goes to the national Komen for the Cure Grants Program.
More information on the Komen Philadelphia Affiliate is available at **www.KomenPhiladelphia.org**

About The Wellness Community - Delaware
The mission of The Wellness Community Delaware, an affiliate of the Cancer Support Community, is to ensure that all people impacted by cancer are empowered by knowledge, strengthened by action and sustained by community. Through participation in professionally led support groups, educational workshops and mind/body classes, people affected by cancer learn vital skills that enable them to regain control, reduce isolation and restore hope regardless of the stage of disease. At The Wellness Community-Delaware, all programs are free of charge. More information about The Wellness Community is available at **www.wellnessdelaware.org.**

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