

Local Breast Cancer Projects Funded By Race for the Cure Monies

1995 Race Grant Recipients (\$35,000)

- **Capital District Breast Cancer Survivor Book Project (\$15,000).** This project purchases books on breast cancer survivorship for the nearly 100 public libraries in the Capital District.
- **Capital District Breast Health Partnership (\$10,000).** The Partnership works with a number of individual partners to provide support and coordination of breast and cervical cancer education and screening. Grant funds were used to assist women who were ineligible for Partnership funds – those under the age of 40 who are uninsured or underinsured.
- **Albany Medical Center's "New Image" Wig Project (\$3,200).** This program supports and helps female cancer patients by providing head coverings and offering a selection of wigs.
- **Albany Medical Center's Genetic Screening Research (\$6,000).** Using the grant, the Upstate Cancer Genetics Screening Service developed a community-based regional genetic cancer risk assessment program. The program provided genetic testing with an educational component.
- **St. Peter's Breast Health Program (\$800)** Funds were used to develop a 24 hour access phone line dedicated to providing breast cancer information at the Cancer Care Center at St. Peter's Hospital. The funds were also used to purchase a breast model for educational purposes.

1996 Race Grant Recipients (\$30,000)

- **St. Peter's Hospital Lymphedema Project (\$14,903)** Women treated for breast cancer are at risk throughout their life for developing lymphedema, a condition in which fluid accumulates in the arm, causes swelling and discomfort, decreases mobility, and may often cause episodes of infections and inflammation. St. Peter's Hospital will use the grant to offer a program to provide women with prevention and early detection strategies as well as physician supervised therapy, treatment, and follow-up evaluation.
- **Albany Medical Center's New Image Program (\$7,700)** .The Cancer Advisory Committee of Albany Medical Center will use the grant to expand the New Image Wig Services Project to include temporary breast prostheses and specialized undergarments for mastectomy patients. This project will serve 50 women per year for 2 years. Glens Falls Hospital is the only other cancer center to offer this service.
- **Albany Medical Center's Talking to Children About Cancer Program (\$4,300)**. The Cancer Center of Albany Medical Center will initiate a "Talking to Children About Cancer" program to distribute educational video tapes (free of charge) and books to guide parents with cancer in talking about it to their children. The program would serve women with young children who are diagnosed with or being treated for cancer at Albany Med.
- **Capital Region Breast Health Partnership c/o Albany County DOH (\$3,097)**. The Capital Region Breast Health Partnership will use the grant to supplement existing education and support group and exercise classes.

1997 Race Grant Recipients (\$54,000)

- **Cancer Center of Albany Medical Center (\$15,000).** The "Junior League Breast Program" was awarded \$15,000 to provide screening to 200 underserved women and will provide whatever medical treatment is necessary for the 4 women who are diagnosed with breast cancer through this program.
- **Camp Good Days & Special Times (\$12,250).** The Women's Oncology Program will receive \$12,250 to send 40 Capital District breast cancer survivors to "wellness camp." This program gives women breast cancer survivors an outdoor challenge and adventure experience in a traditional residential camp setting at Keuka Lake in Western, New York.
- **St. Peter's Hospital (\$9,075).** The "Physical Therapy for the Management of Lymphedema Program" will receive a \$9,075 award to continue a program of Lymphedema treatment through physical therapy. Lymphedema is a painful swelling under the arms that occurs in about 20 percent of patients who undergo lymph node biopsies. This project is the only one of its kind in the Capital District and currently has a 2 month waiting list for patients. This project was started last year with the help of the 1996 Race grants.
- **Ellis Hospital (\$6,933).** The "First Time Mammography & Wellness Program" will receive \$6,933 to establish an incentive of a free one month membership followed by a one-year discounted membership to the Sunnyview Lifestyle Wellness Center for women over the age of 40 who come to Ellis Hospital for their first mammography. The Hospital will host 8 "First Time" breast cancer screening sessions during the year.
- **Bellevue Research Foundation (\$6,500).** The Breast Care Center of Bellevue Women's Hospital will receive \$6,500 to assist the Foundation to provide breast health screening for women of local communities who are uninsured or underinsured and are not eligible for the free New York State Breast and Cervical Health Partnership's breast cancer screening services.
- **Breast Health Partnership (\$5,000).** The Breast Health Partnership, which is coordinated by the Albany County Department of Health, will receive \$5,000 to supplement federal and state funding for the screening and diagnostic services which cannot be covered by Partnership monies. These funds are especially necessary when underinsured or uninsured women under the age of 40 have breast health problems.
- **Samaritan Hospital (\$2,493).** Samaritan's Cancer Treatment Center will receive \$2,493 to serve women who do not meet the New York State Health Department criteria for receiving treatment through the Breast Health Partnership. Over the past year, Samaritan received 30 calls from women in need of screening and diagnostic

services who were all under the age of 40. The funds will be used to serve women under the age of 40 who are underinsured or uninsured and not eligible for services elsewhere. This grant will allow for 23 screening mammograms, 5 diagnostic mammograms, and 11 ultrasounds.

- **Community Maternity Services (\$385.70)** Community Maternity Services, which provides parenting and pregnancy educational services to adolescent clients, pregnant inmates, and pregnant students, will receive \$385.70 to add a class on breast cancer awareness to the "Childbirth Education and Reproductive Health Series."

1998 Race Grant Recipients (\$50,000)

Pen & Palette (\$8,980) - Pen & Palette is expanding their current art and poetry program for breast cancer survivors in collaboration with Albany Medical Center and other art programs in the Capital Region. The creative workshop program will culminate in an exhibition of work by breast cancer survivors at a regional medical center.

YWCA of Schenectady (\$5,058) - The ENCOREplus program provides post surgery exercise, both on land in the water, to help women who have had a mastectomy or lumpectomy regain a full range of motion in the affected arm.

Seton Health/Seton Health for Women (\$1,100) - Seton Health for Women will offer 2 breast health education open houses featuring private, one-on-one breast self exam instruction and information regarding diagnostic alternatives. The target population will be the medically underserved and medically indigent population of Troy.

Albany Medical Center Hospital (\$3,600) - The New Image Program (Wig/Breast Prosthesis Service) provides wigs, hats, turbans, breast prostheses and cosmetic consultations to breast cancer patients. This free service helps lessen the burden of treating the disease and helps to strengthen the patient's self-image and confidence. *This is a continuation project.*

Greater Capital District Coalition for Cancer Survivorship (\$5,330) - The goal of this project is to publish the Waiting Room Book which will include thoughts and comments from breast cancer patients.

Healthy Women Partnership (\$10,650) - The Partnership will work collaboratively with a variety of organizations and medical providers to assure a comprehensive approach to increase breast cancer screening (including diagnostic ultrasound services and mammographies) and awareness among low income, uninsured/underinsured women under 40.

Capital Region Action Against Breast Cancer (\$14,182) - The project will establish a book/journal club for breast cancer patients and survivors, create and distribute the Breast Cancer Essentials Book List bookmark and establish a Internet Resource Guide to Breast Cancer, comprehensive resource guide of websites and literature for breast cancer information in the Capital District.