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## **More than \$250,000 granted to 16 local organizations to fight breast cancer**

*Northeastern New York Komen Affiliate addresses unmet breast health needs  
of area's medically underserved*

ALBANY, NY (April 6, 2006) -- The Northeastern New York Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation has awarded \$269,935 in grants to 16 community based programs, bringing the total amount granted to more than \$1 million since the first Komen Albany Race for the Cure® in 1995. Grants were announced today at Bellevue Woman's Hospital, one of the grantees.

"Thanks to our sponsors, volunteers, race and walk participants and to everyone who made a donation, the Northeastern New York (NENY) Komen Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation is able to support education, treatment and screening programs covering 11 counties in upstate New York," said Affiliate President Susan G. Kopp. "Komen grants have been an important source of funding for scores of programs supporting the medically underserved in our communities."

Grant monies will be distributed from proceeds raised from the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation's Albany Race for the Cure® held Oct. 1, 2005, plus a special grant from the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation National Organization. Up to 75 percent of the NENY Komen Affiliate's net income stays in the community to fund programs in upstate New York. The remaining 25 percent supports the Komen Foundation Award and Research Grant Program.

The mission of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation is to eradicate breast cancer as a life-threatening disease by advancing research, education, screening and treatment. Affiliates of the Komen Foundation represent one of the nation's largest private funding sources for breast health and breast cancer screening, education and treatment support programs.

"It's thanks to programs such as these 16 that we are funding today that the Capital District was named *Self Magazine's* 'Region with the Healthiest Breasts' in 2005," Kopp said.

The Northeastern New York Komen Affiliate awards grants to the following programs:

### **Albany County**

#### **American Cancer Society**

#### **Breast Cancer Screening for African American Women**

**\$24,651**

To provide underinsured and uninsured African American women in Albany and Rensselaer Counties with free mammograms and to educate this population about the need for mammograms.

*(more)*

**Camp Bravehearts**

**Camp Bravehearts Retreats**

**\$15,000**

To provide women dealing with cancer with a variety of weekend retreats, one-day educational programs and social activities. Weekend programs include social, exercise, health, spiritual and educational events

**CRAAB**

**Timely Information & Practical Services - Phase II**

**\$25,000**

To provide workshops that impart information about screening, quality care and ways to reduce breast cancer risk to underserved populations at greater risk for breast cancer, including senior, overweight women and immigrant women. For post-treatment care, the program includes life coaching to help women reevaluate their priorities after breast cancer, and timely information about current research and news of clinical trials.

**Gilda's Club**

**Seniors and Breast Health**

**\$19,000**

To provide breast health and breast cancer education to seniors at Gilda's Clubhouse. The Club will also facilitate a networking group called Seniors Living with Breast Cancer and a telephone support group.

**St. Peter's Hospital**

**Lymphedema Management Program**

**\$8,632**

To expand the program's capacity to serve patients with lymphedema secondary to breast cancer and to provide lymphedema educational materials to physicians, discharged patients and the community. The program also provides free compression bandages required to treat upper extremity lymphedema.

**To Life!**

**Breast Cancer Information and Support**

**\$15,000**

To continue the outreach program into the Hispanic community of Montgomery County with BSE training and an educational forum. The grant will also fund wig-fitting services and the monthly support group at Saratoga Hospital.

**Clinton County**

**Community Link Mobile Health**

**Women's Health Screening**

**\$15,000**

To fund a mobile clinic that provides breast health screening to rural areas in Clinton County with future expansion of the same services into Franklin and Essex counties.

**CVPH Medical Center**

**Doorways to Healing**

**\$20,000**

To provide weekend workshop retreat programs that encompass the emotional, psychological and spiritual realm. The program provides an opportunity for women to enhance their coping strategies and promote their emotional and spiritual healing in a safe, comfortable and relaxed environment.

**Franklin County**

**Adirondack Medical Center, Breast Cancer Media Blitz**

**\$25,000**

To provide a North Country mammography media blitz during October 2006. The blitz will cover approximately 9,700 square miles that includes a total population of 400,000, of which 100,000 are women over the age of 35. The blitz will educate women about mammograms, breast cancer prevention and encourage them to talk to their local healthcare provider and get a baseline or repeat mammogram.

**Hamilton County**

**Great Camp Sagamore**

**Adirondack Arts & Healing Retreat**

**\$10,072**

To provide a two-day retreat that promotes healing for women living with breast cancer in the greater Adirondack region. The retreat uses the arts, humanities and nature to develop a sense of community, connection and empowerment.

**Montgomery County**

**Amsterdam Memorial Hospital**

**Zonta Mammography Project**

**\$10,000**

To provide uninsured and underinsured women with mammograms and provides follow-up care and breast health education to women in Montgomery County.

**St. Mary's Hospital**

**Healing Touch Buddies**

**\$10,000**

To provide breast cancer survivors with Healing Touch treatments, a gentle, noninvasive complimentary therapy with the beneficial effects of pain reduction, relaxation and stress reduction.

**Schenectady County**

**Bellevue Woman's Hospital**

**Employee In-Reach Program**

**\$18,000**

To expand the existing program to provide incentives to have a mammogram at Bellevue's Screening Day. This project targets female employees working in low-wage jobs at various supermarkets in Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Washington and Montgomery counties.

**St. Clare's Hospital**

**Breast Cancer Screening Program**

**\$20,000**

To provide breast cancer screenings and diagnostic follow-up services to low-income women in Schenectady County.

**Sunnyview Rehabilitation Hospital**

**Lymphedema Training and Supplies**

**\$9,580**

To add address the lack of lymphedema treatment in the Schenectady and Montgomery service area by adding another lymphedema certified clinician to Sunnyview staff. The project will also make bandaging supplies and compression garments available to uninsured or underinsured patients.

**YWCA of Schenectady**

**Take Care of Your Health**

**\$25,000**

To target medically underserved women from minority populations residing in Schenectady County. The program will provide individual and group sessions about breast cancer early detection techniques.