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**LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVE \$210,000 TO FIGHT AGAINST BREAST CANCER**

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

**ALBANY, NY – March 29, 2007** – Thirteen local organizations involved in the fight against breast cancer can serve more people and save more lives thanks to nearly \$210,000 in grants announced today by the Northeastern New York Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure.

"Thanks to our sponsors, volunteers, race and walk participants and to everyone who made a donation, Komen Northeastern New York can work to keep its promise to save lives and end breast cancer forever by empowering people, ensuring quality of care for all and energizing science to find the cure," said Affiliate President Susan Kopp. "For the past 12 years, Komen grants have been an important source of local funding for scores of programs that help the medically underserved in our communities. We've been able to grant more than \$1.32 million to organizations right here in northeastern New York."

Grant monies will be distributed from proceeds raised from the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure held last October, plus funds received from the Susan G. Komen for the Cure national organization. The race attracted a record number of participants—nearly 4,500—and raised a record amount of money—more than \$200,000. However, a record number of organizations—twenty—also applied for funding this year, meaning that not all needs were able to be met.

Up to 75 percent of the net income raised by Komen Northeastern New York stays in the community to fund programs in upstate New York. The remaining 25 percent supports the the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Award and Research Grant Programs supporting research, awards and educational and scientific programs around the world.

Kopp pointed out that the funds raised by Komen Northeastern New York and the local programs supported by those funds are contributing to significant progress in the fight against breast cancer. "Breast cancer is being detected much earlier now than even just 20 years ago. Now, nearly 75 percent of women over 40 years old receive regular mammograms, the single most effective tool for detecting breast cancer early. In 1982, less than 30 percent of women received a clinical exam. And the five-year survival rate for breast cancer, when caught early before it spreads beyond the breast, is now 98 percent, compared to 74 percent in 1982."

However, Kopp added that an estimated 5 million Americans will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and without a cure more than 1 million could die over the next 25 years

Grant applications were reviewed and ranked by a review panel and approved for funding by the affiliate board. Komen Northeastern New York awards grants to the following programs:

### **ALBANY COUNTY**

#### **Camp Bravehearts**

##### **Oncology Retreat Programs**

**\$10,000**

To provide women dealing with cancer with weekend retreats to learn new skills, increase self-esteem, and help address the risks and fears that many women face during and after treatment.

#### **CRAAB**

##### **Timely Information and Practical Services – Phase 3**

**\$20,000**

To provide workshops on risk reduction and life coaching; to connect survivors and medical professionals with up-to-date clinical trials and research developments; and to offer medical massage to complement medical treatment and post-treatment care.

#### **Gilda's Club**

##### **Breast Cancer When You Least Expect It**

**\$20,000**

To provide a breast cancer recurrence support group, a networking group for young women living with breast cancer; and an educational breast cancer series geared specifically toward young women.

#### **St. Peter's Hospital**

##### **Lymphedema Management Program**

**\$17,565**

To provide physicians, discharged patients and the community with education about lymphedema and breast disease. The program also provides free compression bandages required to treat upper extremity lymphedema.

#### **To Life!**

##### **Breast Cancer Education and Support**

**\$10,000**

To reach women in the Capital District area with pertinent, up-to-date and culturally appropriate information and support about breast cancer risk and prevention factors, detection techniques, treatment options and diagnosis strategies.

### **CLINTON COUNTY**

#### **Community Link Mobile Health**

##### **Women's Health Screening**

**\$22,000**

To fund a mobile clinic that provides breast health screening and education to rural areas in Clinton, Essex and Franklin counties, with particular emphasis on the elderly and those with little or no insurance.

#### **CVPH Medical Center**

##### **Doorways to Healing**

**\$20,000**

To provide workshops that address the emotional, psychological and spiritual needs of cancer survivors. In addition to two workshops on women and cancer, this program will introduce "Couples and Cancer: Transforming Crisis into the Gifts of Love."

## **MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

### **Amsterdam Hospital**

#### **Zonta Mammography Program**

**\$12,000**

To provide uninsured and underinsured women with mammograms and follow-up care and to provide breast health education to women in Montgomery County, particularly older women and women in the Hispanic community.

### **St. Mary's Hospital**

#### **Healing Touch Buddies**

**\$16,500**

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.

## **RENSSELAER COUNTY**

### **Samaritan Hospital**

#### **Women Guiding Women**

**\$15,000**

To teach medically underserved women how to keep themselves healthy by giving them the skills they need to get the health care they deserve, including breast cancer education, screening and treatment.

## **SCHENECTADY COUNTY**

### **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, targeting women who do not qualify for Medicare or Medicaid because they do not meet age or income guidelines.

## **WARREN COUNTY**

### **Glens Falls Hospital**

#### **Regional Breast Cancer Initiative**

**\$20,000**

To increase awareness and education of breast cancer risks, prevention and treatment, as well as to improve awareness and access to lymphedema care. Program elements include increasing the awareness and use of breast screening and early detection methods.

## **WASHINGTON COUNTY**

### **Stillpoint Foundation**

#### **Women Moving Through Breast Cancer**

**\$6,532**

To address the emotional and spiritual needs of women struggling with breast cancer by offering life healing, small group discussion to help women with breast cancer recognize and develop inner spiritual resources for healing. It is targeted at women in rural Washington County who are nearing completion of treatment for, or who have had, breast cancer in the past.

### **About the Northeastern New York Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure**

The Northeastern New York Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure—along with those who generously support us with their talent, time and resources—is working to better the lives of those facing breast cancer in our community. We join more than 100,000 breast cancer survivors and activists around the globe as part of the world's largest and most progressive grassroots network fighting breast cancer. Through events like the Komen Northeastern New York Race for the Cure, we have invested more than \$1.32 million in local breast health and breast cancer awareness projects in our 11-county service area, which includes Albany, Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Hamilton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren and Washington counties. Join us by calling (518) 454-0045 or visiting us online at [www.komenneny.org](http://www.komenneny.org). This year's race will be held Oct. 6 at Empire State Plaza.

### **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 cure. Thanks to events like the Komen Race for the Cure, we have invested nearly \$1 billion to fulfill our promise, becoming the largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to the fight against breast cancer in the world. For more information about Susan G. Komen for the Cure, breast health or breast cancer, visit [www.komen.org](http://www.komen.org) or call 1-800 I'M AWARE.

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