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## **2017 SUSAN G. KOMEN RACE FOR THE CURE® REPORTS RESULTS AND ANNOUNCES 2017-2018 GRANT RECIPIENTS**

Los Angeles, CA... With over 10,000 attendees, nearly 4,000 participants in the certified 10K and 5K, and 400+ breast cancer survivors present at the 2017 Susan G. Komen Los Angeles County Race for the Cure®, almost \$800,000 was raised through the annual event at Dodger Stadium, held on March 11.

This support allowed for the following community health grants to be awarded, serving the breast health needs of uninsured and underinsured Los Angeles County residents:

**Patient Navigation Services: These programs provide patient advocacy, navigation, and coordinated referral services throughout the entire continuum of care.**

### **St. John's Well Child Family Center**

The program will implement the Breast Health Patient Navigation Project (BHPNP) that will serve low-income African American women and low-income women. Key activities include patient advocacy, navigation, and coordinated referral services throughout the entire continuum of care. Outcomes include an increase in the percentage of women who enter, stay in, or progress through the continuum of care, and reduce time from diagnostic finding to treatment.

### **Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance**

OCAPICA's Thai Women's Health Project will serve low income, underserved Thai women with patient navigation services to improve their access to breast health and breast cancer treatment services. OCAPICA has a highly trained bicultural, bilingual patient navigator who will provide services across the cancer continuum of care model including breaking down the cultural barriers to seeking and adhering to screening and treatment, medical interpreting, transportation, health education and information, medication management, understanding screening procedures, compliance with treatment and follow up care, and improved patient-provider communication.

**Social Support Services: These programs provide psychosocial support and/or other assistance for breast cancer patients, survivors, their families, or caregivers.**

### **PALS for Health**

PALS for Health has been providing a comprehensive approach to improving health care access for limited-English proficient (LEP) individuals in Southern California since 1993. The mission is to improve the health care system's understanding and support of LEP patients and families; to increase its capacity to provide quality interpretation/translation services; and to inform LEP patients and families of their right to these services and how to access them.

PALS for Health introduces Project Language Access for Support in Treatment (Project LAST), to provide supportive services to Latina and API women facing language barriers to care. Project LAST will provide face-to-face medical interpretation during breast health care intake services, medical treatment appointments, and in support groups. The project addresses the large population of LA County residents who are limited English proficient (LEP), a known barrier to medical care.

### **Cancer Support Community - Los Angeles**

To improve access to psychosocial care, eliminate health disparities, and improve quality of life, Cancer Support Community-Santa Monica will provide two weekly Spanish-language breast cancer support groups (daytime and evening) at White Memorial Medical Center. This program is designed for monolingual Spanish-speaking Latinas with any stage of breast cancer and their families who are low-income or underinsured.

### **Project Angel Food**

Project Angel Food cooks and delivers over 500,000 nutritious meals each year, free of charge, to the homes of men, women, and children affected by life-threatening illnesses. Project Angel Food is a nutritional lifeline to Los Angelenos diagnosed with breast cancer who are unable to afford healthy meals due to housing and medical care expenses.

### **City of Hope**

City of Hope is dedicated to making a difference in the lives of people with cancer, diabetes and other serious illnesses. The mission is to transform the future of health care by turning science into practical benefit, hope into reality. The City of Hope will serve medically underinsured, low-income women with breast cancer. The project will provide women with breast cancer who undergo surgical treatment access to high quality, perioperative rehabilitation services to ensure return to preoperative function, to decrease risk of lymphedema, and to manage lymphedema, if needed. The key activity provided will be telehealth perioperative rehabilitation sessions with an occupational therapist specializing in post-breast surgery rehabilitation.

### **Women of Color**

Women of Color aims to increase access to mental health services for African American Breast Cancer Survivors (AABCS) by offering culturally responsive therapies such as counseling, mindfulness, meditation, and innovative group therapies. The program will also aim to reduce stigma in AABC communities by presenting mental health assessment resources to leaders serving AABCS. Women of Color will improve AABCS ability to cope with psychological challenges, supporting mental health in survivorship, assist AABCS in self-care approaches to improving QOL, and increase community organizations' ability to assess and effectively respond to AABCS' mental needs.

### **Black Women for Wellness**

Black Women for Wellness (BWW) believes in the strength and wisdom of communities and allies by developing personal power. BWW will focus on providing support services to Black women. The key activities will be art as a healing tool, journaling, next steps mentoring, and a comprehensive resource guide. Expected changes will be coping skills (emotional/stress) and the opportunity for increase survival rates measured through evaluation surveys and any self-reported health improvements.

### **Olive View UCLA Medical Center**

Olive View UCLA Medical Center is an acute care hospital that serves the San Fernando, Santa Clarita, and Antelope Valleys. The hospital provides a full range of medical-surgical inpatient and outpatient services. This grant will create a new model of care for their Spanish-speaking patients. The new Thriving Through Integrative Oncology Program has three components: 1) a part-time Support Service Coordinator to coordinate and market the program, 2) a series of support groups that incorporate psychological, spiritual, artistic, and mind-body healing modalities for Latina patients and caregivers affected by a breast cancer diagnosis, and 3) a program evaluation. The patient centered approach embraces the patient's beliefs and cultural norms and addresses distress.

### **Herald Cancer Association**

Herald Cancer Association (HCA) aims to fight against cancer by raising cancer awareness through public education, increasing survival rate of cancer patients through early detection and prevention programs, and helping Chinese American cancer patients and their families with proper guidance and support groups to improve their quality of life. HCA will implement the "Walking with You" project to address specific needs among Chinese

American breast cancer patients and survivors in their fight against the disease. The three components of “Walking with You” will work to meet the needs by offering one-on-one sessions with HCA Senior Director, a two-time breast cancer survivor with close to 30 years of experience helping immigrant Chinese breast cancer patients. HCA will also conduct monthly support groups to provide psychological support and have designated staff to provide language service to Chinese breast cancer client to link them with government or community resources.

The 2017 grant cycle will run from April 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018.

"We are proud to be advocating for the breast health needs of LA County families for two decades, but we have a long way to go before we end this disease entirely. Those who joined us and supported this milestone event through participation and fundraising allowed us to continue to provide access to free services to those most in need," explained Mark Pilon, executive director of Susan G. Komen® Los Angeles County.

Event sponsors included: Bank of America, American Airlines, Ford, New Balance, AutoNation, Ralphs/Food4Less, CBS2/KCAL9, Sit 'n Sleep, Cancer Treatment Centers of America, Anthem BlueCross, Sparkling Ice, Northgate Market, Healthcare Partners, KPMG, Cedars-Sinai Marina Del Rey Hospital, Don Francisco's Coffee, The Kim Pagano Show, Late Night Health, L'Empereur Magazine, AMR, White Memorial Medical Center Cecilia Gonzales De La Hoya Cancer Center - Adventist Health and Steve & Kate's Camp

### **About Susan G. Komen® and Komen Los Angeles County**

Susan G. Komen is the world's largest breast cancer organization, funding more breast cancer research than any other nonprofit while providing real-time help to those facing the disease. Komen has set a Bold Goal to reduce the current number of breast cancer deaths by 50 percent in the U.S. by 2026. Komen was founded in 1982 by Nancy G. Brinker, who promised her sister, Susan G. Komen, that she would end the disease that claimed Suzy's life. Komen Los Angeles County is working to better the lives of those facing breast cancer in the local community. Through events like the Komen 20th annual Race for the Cure®, Komen Los Angeles County has invested \$10,535,590 in community breast health programs in Los Angeles County and has helped contribute to the more than \$920 million invested globally in research. For more information, call 310-575-3011 or visit <http://komenlacounty.org>.

\*Race photos are available upon request.