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SUSAN G. KOMEN INVESTS IN THE FUTURE OF BREAST CANCER RESEARCH
Komen Research Investment in Oregon Now \$11.5 Million

DALLAS, TX and PORTLAND, OR – Oct. 1, 2014 – Following through on a commitment to young scientists and clinicians, the Susan G. Komen organization today announced new grants to more than 50 early-career breast cancer researchers -- almost half of Komen's \$34.7 million investment in new breast cancer research funding for 2014. Komen is the largest nonprofit funder of breast cancer research, with more than \$847 million invested since its founding in 1982.

"Our 2014 grants are intended to ensure continuity in breast cancer research for years to come," said Komen President and CEO Judith A. Salerno, M.D., M.S. "With federal research dollars tightening, we are deeply concerned that a generation of promising breast cancer researchers will be lost to other fields. While we fund young researchers, we are also continuing to grant to established researchers whose work has led to significant progress against this disease."

Komen is funding nearly \$16 million in new grants to early-career researchers – those who are still in training and those at the earliest stages of their research careers. The remaining funds are being granted to leading breast cancer scientists who have already made significant contributions to the field, and to support scientific programs and partnerships that advance Komen's mission to end breast cancer forever.

Research is just one aspect of Komen's mission: since 1982, Komen and its Affiliates have invested more than \$1.8 billion in community health outreach and global programs that last year served more than half a million women and men facing breast cancer. More than 80 cents of every dollar Komen spends is devoted to mission programs.

Komen's Investments in Oregon

In Oregon, Komen Scholar Joe Gray, Ph.D., of Oregon Health & Science University Knight Cancer Institute will receive \$200,000 in continued funding to understand if the local environment in the breast tissue (including the oxygen levels) could cause some HER2-positive breast cancer tumors to become resistant to treatment. This information will be used to design more specific drug combinations that will counter these effects.

Because of the current Knight Challenge, Komen's grant of \$200,000 will be matched 1-to-1 by Phil and Penny Knight, resulting in \$400,000 to OHSU's Knight Cancer Institute.

Komen has invested \$11.5 million into biomedical and behavioral research at Oregon institutions, including this year's grant to investigate treatment resistance in some breast cancer patients. [A list of Komen's research awards in Oregon can be found here.](#)

In addition to \$11.5 million in research, Komen has raised and distributed \$19 million for early detection, treatment access and survivor support programs across Oregon and SW Washington. Komen's regional advocacy has helped to change state laws and regulations effecting breast cancer, and increased public and private resources committed to the disease.

About Susan G. Komen

Susan G. Komen is recognized as the leader and inspiration for the global breast cancer movement. Since its founding in 1982, Komen has raised and distributed over \$2.6 billion for research, screening, education, treatment and psychosocial support programs serving millions of people in more than 30 countries worldwide. Working to save lives and end breast cancer forever, Komen Oregon and SW Washington has raised and invested over \$30 million locally in research, early detection, survivor support and advocacy. Visit us at komenoregon.org, call 1.800.404.8241 and connect with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

**Grant is awarded when agreement is signed with Komen.*

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