

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **KOMEN OREGON AND SW WASHINGTON ANNOUNCES 2018-2019 COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO FURTHER ITS MISSION AND BOLD GOAL**

***To educate, remove barriers to care, provide screening and treatment access, and support cutting-edge research to help women in our communities***

**July 25, 2018, Portland, OR** – Susan G. Komen Oregon and SW Washington announces its partnerships with eight organizations in the region by providing funding for critical breast cancer projects and services, to further its mission of saving lives by meeting the most critical needs in our communities and investing in breakthrough research to prevent and cure breast cancer.

“On average, in Oregon and SW Washington, one in seven women is diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime. What’s more, eleven women die from breast cancer every week right here. Our work in the community, at a grassroots level, is focused on eliminating health disparities in order to improve those numbers,” says Andrew Asato, Komen CEO. Asato adds that, “We are excited about the local community partnerships which allow us to move closer to our bold goal of reducing the number of deaths by 50 percent at the end of 2026. We are solely focused on improving lives and making a positive difference in the region.”

Komen’s 2018-2019 community partnerships include:

- **The Corvallis Clinic**: The Project H.E.R. Survivorship Program provides survivorship education and resources to breast cancer survivors and fighters in Benton, Linn, and Lincoln counties through support groups, Survivorship Care Plans, and education workshops. Komen’s partnership will help this program reach its goal of increasing quality of life for participants.
- **Familias en Acción**: A bilingual/bicultural patient navigator will provide critical support to Latina breast cancer survivors and their families, by helping them to navigate the healthcare system and self-manage their disease.
- **Oregon Health Authority**: Komen contributes to the ScreenWise Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program by providing funds to ensure uninsured and underinsured women and men in Oregon have access to genetic counseling and breast screenings and diagnostic services.
- **Northwest Family Services**: By using a Community Health Worker, this partnership will work to provide culturally sensitive outreach to low income and uninsured women of color, to reduce barriers to breast cancer screenings in the Portland Metro area.

- **Pacific Communities Hospitals:** Health District Foundation: This partnership will provide additional resources for financial assistance to cover costs of utilities, rent, food, and mortgage, for breast cancer patients living in Lincoln County.
- **PeaceHealth SW Medical Center:** The Washington Breast, Cervical, and Colon Health Program continues to provide uninsured, low-income individuals with access to breast cancer screenings in SW Washington.
- **Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center:** This project will reduce barriers to breast cancer screenings for uninsured women through the use of a Community Health Worker, to connect women to resources.
- **211info:** The Komen Treatment Access Program, administered by 211info, helps remove barriers for people to obtain treatment. Financial assistance for gas, food, and lodging while in treatment is a critical need for some people – it could be the difference between electricity and transportation to the hospital.

### **About Susan G. Komen Oregon and SW Washington**

In the last 27 years, the local organization has funneled nearly \$19.8 million into programs that prioritize the importance of improving and building on the quality of life for survivors and fighters, emphasize the value of early detection and screenings, as well as provide financial assistance for access to treatment. Another \$12.4 million has been dedicated, locally, to cutting edge research. Go to [Komenoregon.org](http://Komenoregon.org).

### **About Susan G. Komen**

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. Nationally, since 1982, Komen has funded \$3 billion in funding to research, screening, education, treatment and psychosocial support programs serving millions of people in more than 30 countries worldwide.

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