

*One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, with Oregon and Washington State leading the country in the number of cases. Susan G. Komen for the Cure® has a vision: A world without breast cancer.*

## LEADING THE GLOBAL BREAST CANCER FIGHT: 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 cures. Thanks to events like the Komen Race for the Cure®, we have invested nearly \$1 billion to fulfill our promise, becoming the largest source in the world of nonprofit funds dedicated to the fight against breast cancer.

The organization works as a catalyst to reach rural and low-income men and women, as well as special populations who struggle to access life-saving breast health programs. For more information, visit: [www.komenoregon.org](http://www.komenoregon.org).

### THE PROMISE

We at Susan G. Komen for the Cure® have made a promise: To save lives and end breast cancer forever by empowering people, ensuring quality of care for all and energizing science to find the cures.

## SUSAN G. KOMEN FOR THE CURE, OREGON AND SW WASHINGTON AFFILIATE

The Susan G. Komen for the Cure® Oregon and SW Washington affiliate was founded in 1991 by a group of individuals committed to the vision of a world without breast cancer. The local Affiliate serves Oregon as well as Clark, Skamania, and Cowlitz counties in SW Washington. It is the only non-profit serving Oregon and SW Washington that focuses solely on breast cancer. Seventy-five percent of funds raised by the Affiliate stay local to pay for vital services, while the remaining 25 percent is combined with other Affiliates nationwide to fund millions of dollars of breast cancer research each year.

Washington and Oregon have the highest rates of breast cancer in the United States. Educational outreach and screening programs are working to make a difference in reversing this alarming statistic.

- **Community Grants.** Each year the local Affiliate awards Komen for the Cure Community Grants of up to \$40,000 for projects that include breast health education, outreach and support for breast cancer treatment and survivors. In 2008, 25 grants totaling \$609,115 were awarded to organizations from all around the state. Since the Komen Affiliate's founding, more than \$3 million has been granted to more than 100 different programs.

- **Advancing Research.** Since 1993 our local community has contributed 26 million dollars for research, screening and treatment through the Komen Portland Race for the Cure® and other fundraising efforts. New screening and treatment methods have resulted from Komen for the Cure funding. Komen for the Cure funding contributed to the research of scientist V. Craig Jordan, PhD who pioneered development of post-chemotherapy drug Tamoxifen; of Mary Clair King, MD, who localized the BRCA 1 gene for inherited susceptibility to breast cancer; and of Dr. Steve Harms, whose research led to the development of MRI screening that allows doctors to see inside the breast without x-rays or surgery.
- **Awareness.** Susan G. Komen for the Cure® is arguably best known for its fundraising and awareness-building efforts, including the Komen Portland Race for the Cure® and numerous other events, such as the Survivor Celebration Luncheon, Lunch for the Cure, Breast Cancer Issues™ Conference and Health Expo. The Komen Portland Race for the Cure is the largest Race on the West Coast, with nearly 48,000 runners and walkers joining the cause and raising \$2.94 million in 2007. It is a reflection of the many people and families impacted by breast cancer.
- **Resources.** Komen for the Cure has a wide network of resources including groups that provide financial, transportation, information, medical and emotional support.
- **Advancing Screening.** Each year the Komen Affiliate provides free mammograms, as well as diagnostic and case management services for women and men who cannot afford these life-saving services. In 2007 the local Oregon and SW Washington Affiliate directed \$650,000 toward mammograms for thousands of Oregon and Washington residents in need, through a partnership with the Oregon Breast and Cervical Cancer Program.

Please check out our web site at [www.komenoregon.org](http://www.komenoregon.org) for information about the Susan G. Komen for the Cure® Oregon and SW Washington Affiliate.