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SUSAN G. KOMEN® ORANGE COUNTY GRANTS MORE THAN \$1 MILLION TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING COMMUNITY BREAST HEALTH SERVICES

Susan G. Komen aims to cut breast cancer mortality nationally by 50 percent in the next decade

COSTA MESA, Calif., Dec. 5, 2016 – [Susan G. Komen Orange County](#)® awarded \$1.07 million at its annual Grants Breakfast on Friday, Dec. 2 to 15 nonprofit organizations providing breast health care services to women locally. More than 250 supporters gathered at The Westin South Coast Plaza to celebrate the affiliate's 25 years of service in Orange County and learn more about its role in the national organization's [Bold Goal](#) to cut breast cancer mortality by 50 percent in the next decade.

In Orange County, grant funds were raised through various signature events such as the annual Race for the Cure® and Pink Tie Ball® in addition to individual donations. More than 75 percent of funds raised are allotted to deserving community-based organizations that participate in one or both of the grant programs:

- The [Community Grants Program](#) provides impactful breast health to underserved and uninsured populations in Orange County.
- The [Komen Fund for Breast Health Care Program](#) works in collaboration with local clinics to cover the cost of diagnostic breast health services for uninsured patients who are not eligible for any other state or federal programs.

"We are so grateful for the generosity of people in Orange County who value our breast health mission. Our community donated more than \$35 million over the past 25 years because it wants Komen and our grantees to continue to provide valuable services," said Lisa Wolter, Executive Director of Susan G. Komen Orange County. "From education to treatment, 2017 grant recipients will address breast cancer disparities in at-risk populations such as Latina women who are more likely to be diagnosed at a later stage and African-American women whose survival rate is 41 percent lower than for other women."

The Grants Breakfast also served as the backdrop for the introduction locally of Susan G. Komen's Big Bold Goal, the national organization's exciting plan to cut the country's 40,000 breast cancer deaths in half by 2026. The Big Bold Goal aims to improve overall access to cancer care for the underserved population and support research focusing on aggressive breast cancer types and metastatic disease.

Famed television personality Ed Arnold and [Pacific Life Insurance Company](#), were honored with a More Than Pink Award recognizing their unwavering commitment and support in the fight against breast cancer for the past 25 years. Pacific Life has been the Newport Beach home to Race for the Cure since 1992, while Ed Arnold is known as the voice of Komen Orange County, promoting the cause on KOCE and emceeding most of the affiliate's signature events, including this year's breakfast.

The event was highlighted by a short video depicting the emotional story of fearless warrior Veronica Mora, a young Latina diagnosed with breast cancer at 26. When the uninsured Cal State Fullerton student noticed something unusual with her breast, she immediately turned to Planned Parenthood for help. She was referred to Breastlink, where Susan G. Komen Orange County and its community partners stepped in to ensure Veronica received the assistance she needed – from treatment to moral support. As the video concluded, Mora was joined on stage by her best friend, family and the organizations that were by her side on her journey from diagnosis to treatment.

The 2017 Community Grant and Komen Fund for Breast Health Care recipients:

- AltaMed Health Services
- Breast Cancer Solutions
- Central City Community Health Center
- Hurtt Family Health Clinic
- Korean Community Services Health Center
- North Orange County Regional Health Foundation
- Orange County Herald Center
- Pacific Islander Health Partnership
- Planned Parenthood of Orange and San Bernardino Counties
- Serve the People Community Health Center
- Share Our Selves Corporation
- Southland Integrated Services, Inc.
- The Cambodian Family Community Center
- Vietnamese American Cancer Foundation
- YWCA of North Orange County

Key figures illustrating the impact of Komen Orange County's community grants in 2015:

- In partnership with Alinea Medical Imaging and other grantees, mobile mammograms were brought to more than 12 events at Northgate Gonzalez Markets and other sites in Orange County.
- 9,892 uninsured and underserved women were provided free mammograms.
- 71 cases of breast cancer were detected.
- Komen Orange County participated in 35 community events reaching 27,350 individuals throughout Orange County.
- The affiliate's breast health educational events reached more than 60,000 people.

In 2017, Komen Orange County will continue saving lives by once again assigning 25 percent of funds raised to groundbreaking research. On Feb. 16, the Orange County affiliate will host a research symposium uniting leading breast health scientists and specialists who will share their scientific knowledge of breast cancer.

About Susan G. Komen®

Susan G. Komen is the world's largest breast cancer organization, funding more breast cancer research than any other nonprofit outside of the federal government while providing real-time help to those facing the disease. Since its founding in 1982, Komen has funded more than \$920 million in research and provided more than \$2 billion in funding to screening, education, treatment and psychosocial support programs serving millions of people in more than 30 countries worldwide. Komen was founded by Nancy G. Brinker, who promised her sister, Susan G. Komen, that she would end the disease that claimed Suzy's life. Visit komen.org or call 1-877 GO KOMEN. Connect with us on social at ww5.komen.org/social.

For more information on Susan G. Komen Orange County, visit www.komenoc.org or call 714-957-9157. Connect on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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