Susan G. Komen is fueling the best science and making the biggest impact in the fight against breast cancer. Our new Bold Goal is to reduce the current number of breast cancer deaths in the U.S. by half by 2026.

Our History: In 1980, 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® and launched the global breast cancer movement.

Our Promise: To save lives and end breast cancer forever.

Our Motivation: Every 60 seconds, somewhere in the world, someone dies from breast cancer.

Our Scope: We have a global headquarters in Dallas, Texas, with a robust network of Affiliates in the United States and internationally. We are active in more than 25 countries around the world.

Funding

To date, we have invested more than $3 billion in research and lifesaving community programs.

Research: Beginning with a single grant for $28,000 in 1982, we have now invested more than $956 million in research, making Komen the largest nonprofit source of breast cancer research funding outside of the U.S. government. We currently manage more than 300 active research grants totaling nearly $200 million. In our early years, we focused our research heavily on understanding breast cancer. Now that we have a better understanding of the disease, we are focused on developing improved therapies for aggressive forms of breast cancer, effective treatments for metastatic (Stage IV) breast cancer and transformative technologies that will allow us to detect breast cancer at the very earliest stages, when treatment is most effective.

Community Programs: Komen’s network of Affiliates annually funds more than 800 community organizations providing education, screening, patient navigation and treatment assistance for those facing breast cancer. In order to overcome racial, ethnic, socioeconomic and geographic disparities in breast cancer outcomes. Komen has invested more than $2.1 billion in community grants since 1982.

Snapshot of Achievements

Susan G. Komen® changed how the world talks about and treats breast cancer (In 1982, people wouldn’t even say the words “breast cancer” aloud).

Since our founding in 1982, Komen has touched many advances in breast cancer research, including discoveries such as tilmanocept, molecular breast imaging, ultrasound tomography and a new breast cancer predisposition gene, RECQL.

Early detection and effective treatment have resulted in a 38 percent decline in breast cancer mortality in the U.S. between 1989-2014.

Komen was the first to understand the power of communities and advocacy in breaking down barriers to breast cancer care.

We are the only breast cancer organization with a large network of community Affiliates.

Signature Event

The Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure® Series, with more than 140 events across the globe, involves more than 850,000 participants and volunteers has raised more than $2 billion while educating the public and honoring those affected by breast cancer. In the U.S., up to 75 percent of funds raised from these events stays in the local communities to fund education, screening and treatment programs while at least 25 percent of the net proceeds goes towards Komen’s national research program.