Meeting Breast Cancer Needs in the Community

Susan G. Komen® believes that where you live should not determine whether you live. For decades, the Komen network of local Affiliates and partners has worked to level the playing field for medically underserved populations by filling gaps in care locally through grants to community organizations who address important breast cancer care needs.

Komen examines the impact of breast cancer in each Affiliate service area every five to six years by conducting an assessment known as a Community Profile. These Community Profiles include breast cancer incidence, late-stage diagnosis, death rates and trends and demographic and socioeconomic data. There is an analysis of the health care systems, health-related public policies and qualitative data collected from individuals that either reside in, or provide services to, these communities. These data are compiled by each Affiliate and used to identify and prioritize the needs in each community, as well as a Mission Action Plan that will guide their programming and funding priorities until the next Community Profile is completed. The current Community Profiles were completed in 2015.

In fiscal year 2017 (FY17), Komen Headquarters and U.S. Affiliates collectively funded 839 grants to community organizations in the U.S. and globally. These funds support projects that overcome the barriers to quality health care identified in Komen’s breast cancer needs assessments by providing breast health education, patient navigation, breast cancer screening, diagnosis, and treatment services.*

Our FY17** Community Grant Investment

$37.4 million supporting 839 Community Grants

In addition to funding the most critical breast health needs in their service areas, Komen Affiliates across the U.S. are involved in activities such as advocacy, coalitions and collaborations, breast cancer education programs and community outreach focused on impacting health care disparities among racial and ethnic groups, rural areas and the lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender/questioning (LGBTQ) community. These activities, combined with strategic grantmaking and research, work toward Komen’s Bold Goal to reduce the current number of breast cancer deaths by 50 percent in the U.S. by 2026.

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*Grants include multiple service types, education, screening, diagnosis, and/or treatment. As such, grants may be counted multiple times among the categories in the graphic above.

**Fiscal Year 2017, April 1, 2016—March 31, 2017, referring to Komen HQ, Global and U.S. Affiliates Community Grants cycle