



2011 – 2012 Grant Recipients

Breast Cancer Solutions

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“Enabling Access to Care- Financial Assistance for Breast Cancer Patients”

Breast Cancer Solutions (BCS) provides breast cancer patients with direct assistance, community referrals and compassionate support. BCS provides payments for life-supporting expenses to eliminate barriers to quality breast cancer treatment. BCS researches other federal, state and private resources and assist our clients in pursuing these options. BCS provides professional mental health support and experience-based moral support to all who contact us. BCS’ assistance enables patients to choose to access treatment, as well as their ability to comply with treatment protocols. Not only are patients able to pursue and complete treatment, but the accompanying stresses are lessened, contributing to an improved outcome.

Desert Cancer Foundation

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“Suzanne Jackson Breast Cancer Fund”

The Suzanne Jackson Breast Cancer Fund provides free breast cancer screening and diagnostic services to low income, uninsured/underinsured Coachella Valley residents who have been referred to the program due to a breast health issue. The program provides (as needed) mammograms, ultrasounds, biopsies and aspirations. Related pathology and radiology services are also covered.

This program not only provides early detection services for breast cancer, but also promotes proactive health behaviors. The medically underserved generally seek assistance for health problems in more advanced stages of disease. This situation requires more costly treatment and often provides a less optimistic prognosis. This program is saving lives through services that promote early detection of breast cancer.

Gilda's Club Desert Cities

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“Breast Cancer Support Services”

Gilda's Club provides an opportunity for people with cancer and their families to join together in a clubhouse setting to build a meaningful community at a time of need. Gilda's Club enables men, women, and children of different ethnicities, touched by breast cancer to join with others to create an affirming support community. Facilitated by licensed, trained mental health professionals, Gilda's Club is dedicated to fostering successful experiences that address the physical and psychosocial health of cancer survivors by structuring support groups, workshops, and recreational activities targeted to evaluate the quality of survival of all persons diagnosed with cancer and to minimize or stabilize adverse effects experienced cancer survivorship.

Inland Agency- The Pink Ribbon Place

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“The Pink Ribbon Place Patient Navigation Resources”

The Pink Ribbon Place provides patient navigation and support services to uninsured/underinsured women and men under age 40 who are symptomatic, have had an abnormal mammogram, and/or are diagnosed with breast cancer residing in parts of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties not served by other programs. The program will also provide support to children of breast cancer patients through the innovative “Art Adventure”. Navigation assistance will include case management from initial referral to enrollment, through diagnosis and treatment. Support will include financial assistance for emergency needs and medical supplies, support groups and individual counseling.

Kids Konnected

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“Cost-Free Support for Children & Teen Co-Survivors and Families”

Kids Konnected provides free, professional group support for children affected by a parent's breast cancer diagnosis or death. Kids Konnected comprehensive programs incorporate friendship, understanding, education and support so that the family's journey through breast cancer is less devastating. By teaching effective coping skills, Kids Konnected keeps children co-survivors on track with their own life, preventing emotional crisis. Positive impact consists of improvement in mood, home and school behaviors, parent/child relationships, and openness to discuss feelings. Children cope with the short-term effects of a parent's cancer, while gaining a lifelong skill of transforming difficult experiences into positive growth.

Loma Linda University

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“Accrual of Underrepresented Minority Women in Breast Cancer Clinical Trials in the Inland Empire, California”

Loma Linda Universities program is aims to improve clinical trial enrollment rate of underserved minority women in the Inland Empire in a culturally sensitive basis. The program will promote the concept of multidisciplinary care for minority women with breast cancer from the perspective of culturally sensitive care-giver team, specifically targeting the previously identified barriers for clinical trial participation. The ultimate goal of the program is to decrease disparities in breast cancer care, improve the cure rate and quality of life and eventually decrease the breast cancer burden particularly in the underserved minority groups in Inland Empire.

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“Breast Health Assistance Program”

Michelle's Place is a breast cancer resource center providing women and their families with breast health education, breast cancer resources, and diagnostic breast health services. The Breast Health Assistance Program provides breast health resources, navigation, financial assistance and support to women and their families dealing with breast cancer in the Inland Empire. Michelle's Place provides free and low cost diagnostic breast health services to uninsured women less than 40 years old who have a symptom of breast cancer. The program also provides navigation services to aid participants in the process of making medical appointments, support services and other available community resources.

“Breast Health Assistance Program- Education”

Michelle's Place is a breast cancer resource center providing women and their families with breast health education, breast cancer resources, and diagnostic breast health services. The Breast Health Assistance Program- Education provides monthly seminars free to the community 10 months of the year at the Resource Center. Topics include preventative care such as “How to do a monthly self-breast exam” and “Nutrition and Breast Health”. Topics for women dealing with breast cancer include “Sign and Symptoms of Lymphedema” and “Breast Reconstruction”. Many of these seminar topics are provided to the Esperanza para Mujeres Spanish speaking support group. All seminars are video-recorded and uploaded on the Michelle's Place website for viewing by those unable to attend. A minimum of 35 breast health and early detection discussions are provided to various groups throughout the community, and include how to do a self-breast exam, statistical information on breast cancer, and the importance of mammography and breast health.

Quinn Community Outreach Corporation

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“Southern California Witness & Esperanza y Vida Projects”

The Southern California Witness and Esperanza y Vida Projects, are research-based programs of Quinn Community Outreach Corporation, that address a critical need for culturally relevant, community-based breast cancer education/awareness, outreach and support to uninsured, underinsured, and low income African American and Latina women and men of all ages residing in the ethnically diverse Inland Empire communities. Teams of trained Staff, Lay Health Advisors and Witness Role Models work with participants to acknowledge, overcome social and cultural issues surrounding breast cancer, its detection, address fears, and encourage open dialogue expressing concerns about breast cancer in a supportive environment. Breast cancer survivors (Witness Role Models) share their own experiences while stressing the importance of early detection and that being diagnosed with breast cancer does not have to be a “Death Sentence”. Staff and Lay Health Advisors provide instruction on how to do breast self-exams through demonstrations, facts and myths about breast cancer, and the importance of breast health care.

Redland’s Community Hospital, Community-Based (Outreach) Programs

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“Enhancing Breast Cancer Awareness and Early Detection in Redlands Family Clinic”

The Community-Based (Outreach) Programs will disseminate educational materials through a community-based clinic; public service announcements, advertisements, and a major public event will raise local awareness; and clinic health care professionals will complete MammaCare training and obtain certification as MammaCare Specialists. Patients at the Redlands Family Clinic will learn how to conduct breast self-examinations and know when to have mammograms/breast examinations. The community will become more aware of breast cancer related issues. Health care providers will have advanced knowledge and skills to help address breast health issues among low-income/uninsured/underinsured patients.

Redland's Community Hospital, Women's Health Imaging Center

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“Navigation Assistance for Uninsured/Underinsured Women with Abnormal Mammograms”

The Women's Health Imaging Center (WHIC) contacts approximately six women per month who have physicians' orders for follow-up on abnormal mammograms. This project will cover the cost of their diagnostics/post-diagnostics at Medicare rates, and will enhance the patient navigation knowledge and skills of WHIC staff. WHIC will conduct outreach to major physician groups to make them aware of no-cost diagnostics. WHIC staff will train and certify with the National Consortium of Breast Centers. All of WHIC's breast patients will receive state-of-the-art navigation support.

San Antonio Community Hospital

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“Women's Breast & Imaging Center”

San Antonio Community Hospital offers a comprehensive range of medical and surgical services utilizing the latest technologies. The Women's Breast & Imaging Center offers the Women Caring for Women (WCW) outreach program, specifically designed to remove traditional barriers by bridging the existing gap in services to low-income and uninsured women. WCW is dedicated to achieving the hospital's goal of providing exceptional breast care to the women in the west end of the Inland Empire.

St. Bernadine Medical Center Foundation

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“SBMC Breast Cancer Patient Navigation”

SBMC Women’s Wellness & Imaging Center works to better the lives of those facing breast cancer. SBMC wants to facilitate the process by providing education and support, so the patient can make confident decisions for more successful outcomes. SBMC’s Breast Cancer Patient Navigator assists men/women with abnormal mammograms, or those diagnosed with breast cancer, with access and relationship issues, providing healthcare information, tracking interventions, and outcomes. The navigator is the liaison between the medical staff and the patient, providing education, and ensuring communication, as well as conduct patient consultations. The patient will receive information and resources surrounding exercise, nutrition, stress reduction, physical therapy, insurance, and personal care supplies. SBMC will also offer a Breast Cancer Support Group for patients affected by breast cancer. The SBMC Breast Cancer Patient Navigation program will improve patients’ access to information, offer support programs, and language translation services.

St. Mary Hospital Foundation

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“High Desert / Victor Valley Breast Health Program”

The St. Mary Hospital Foundation’s High Desert and Victor Valley Breast Health Program provides screening, diagnostic, and patient navigation services to women at-risk, under age 40, low-income, uninsured, and women without access to state-funded cancer detection programs. The patient navigator will educate and guide each woman through needed screening and diagnostic services, while linking and transporting them to treatment when indicated by diagnosis. Symptomatic women will have access to patient support resources such as assistance with transportation, lymphedema garments, wigs, and special needs. Patients are encouraged to participate in the monthly breast cancer support group facilitated by a cancer survivor whose cancer was detected as part of the Every Woman Counts initiative. Clinic sites are located in Adelanto, Hesperia, and Apple Valley, as well as a mobile clinic serving additional communities in Lucerne Valley, Victorville, and Hesperia.

Special Service for Groups/PALS for Health

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“Bridging the Language Gap to Better Breast Health”

Special Service for Groups (SSG)/ PALS for Health’s comprehensive breast health program will empower LEP Latinas and Asian Pacific Islander women to access early detection screenings and breast health care services through tailored community empowerment and education efforts. Patient educators will be trained to promote breast cancer screening in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner, and to empower underserved women to advocate for language assistance and quality breast health care for themselves. Furthermore, the project will support and improve existing early detection screenings and breast health care through the provision of face-to-face, trained interpretation services. Finally, the program will design and implement a one-of-a-kind training module for health care interpreters who can be utilized to interpret during any stages of breast health and/or breast cancer process. This project is unique and non-duplicative because it is the only strategic partnership, between breast health organizations and a language service provider, aimed at providing culturally and linguistically appropriate breast health services to ethnic, underserved LEP women in the Inland Empire.

The Foundation for Community and Family Health

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“Breast Health Detection Program”

Program provides breast cancer diagnostic services for eligible symptomatic women age 49 and younger in Corona, Norco, and surrounding Western Riverside communities. Program is based on the following criteria: 1) under age 50; 2) has an identified breast problem; 3) is uninsured or underinsured. The Program strives to combat breast cancer by expanding the number of free diagnostic services for breast cancer by providing diagnostic services up to detection of breast cancer and quality treatment services. Upon diagnosis, referrals are made for continuing care.