



2008 – 2009 Grant Recipients

Angels at Work

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“Breast Cancer Support Services”

Angels at Work is a non-profit organization that provides basic services to individuals battling breast cancer and other cancers in the Temecula Valley. Through generous support and donations made by the community, Angels at Work is able to provide much-needed services at no charge to patients suffering from the mental and physical pain of cancer. Services include transportation to medical treatments, house cleaning, yard maintenance, massage therapy, granting small wishes and so much more.

Breast Cancer Survivors

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“Mission 2008”

We assist breast cancer patients by paying for rent, mortgage, utilities and other basic living expenses while they are in treatment. We also research other federal, state and private resources and assist our clients in navigating the maze of paperwork required to obtain these services. Above all, we provide experience-based moral support to all who contact us. As a result of these efforts, not only are breast cancer patients in our community able to access treatment who might otherwise not be treated, but the stresses accompanying treatment are lessened so that the treatment outcome is more likely to be positive. *Our Mission: Breast Cancer Survivors provides temporary financial assistance to individuals undergoing treatment for breast cancer who are unable to meet their basic living expenses due to the impact of their disease.*

Desert Cancer Foundation

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“Suzanne Jackson Breast Cancer Fund”

Suzanne Jackson Breast Cancer Fund (SJBCF), administered by Desert Cancer Foundation (DCF), provides screening at no cost to uninsured low-income residents of the Coachella Valley. Eligibility for the free screening(s) is based on household income not exceeding 200% of current Federal Poverty Level. Clients must be referred by a clinic or medical provider for their first service. Annual follow-up screenings are provided for those clients who were referred for an initial screening in the past. Unlike State funded programs, there is no limitation on age (Every Women Counts requires that an applicant be 40 years or older). The program provides (as needed) mammograms (unilateral and bilateral), ultrasounds (unilateral and bilateral), clinical breast exams, digitization for Screening and Diagnostic CADs, cyst aspiration, core biopsy, stereotactic biopsy, wire localization, Lymphoscintigraphy, Fine Needle aspirations, and Ductograms. Pathology and Radiology services related to the screenings are also covered by the Fund.

Inland Agency

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“Women’s Health Initiative” “Breast Health Education Program”

The expansion of the “Women’s Health Initiative” project will provide breast cancer screening for eligible women age 39 and younger in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Inland Agency, a non-profit community based organization, will administer this project. Inland Agency’s current program, “Desert Sierra Partnership Promoting Breast and Cervical Health (DSP) is Cancer Detection Program; Every Woman Counts (CDP:EWC) funded by the California Department of Health Services, Cancer Detection Section, whose purpose is to provide breast cancer screening for eligible women age 40 and over. Inland Agency has successfully administered the DSP program since 1995. The “Women’s Health Initiative” (WHI) program will continue to offer this unique service to high-risk women age 39 and younger. This project will continue to provide breast cancer screening and diagnosis for women based on the following criteria: 1) under age 40; 2) has an identified breast problem and/or a family

history of breast cancer; 3) is uninsured or underinsured; 4) meets the 200% Federal Poverty guidelines; and 5) resides in Riverside or San Bernardino Counties. Inland Agency will partner with St. Mary Medical Center and utilize St. Mary Bright Futures Mobile Van for individuals living in Adelanto, Apple Valley and surrounding areas; Dr. German Crisol and Riverside County Regional Medical Center for individuals living in Moreno Valley and surrounding areas; Dr. Josolito Babaran and Arrowhead Regional Medical Center for individuals living in Ontario, and the surrounding West San Bernardino County Valley. Inland Agency will provide professional training to clinic staff, and will reimburse clinics for program costs. When cancer is detected, women will be navigated into a free treatment program. A minimum of 150 women will be served.

The Women's Health Initiative" program will be widely promoted through a variety of sources including direct healthcare Provider contact (including over 80 CDP: EWC providers) through clinical site visits, telephone calls, and mailers. Our Health Educator will coordinate the efforts of our outreach workers to assist with promotion of the program. Contractor and other volunteers will outreach in churches, beauty salons, health fairs and through other community venues. Marketing through presentations and flyers will alert other healthcare providers and community partners about the program.

The Clinical Coordinator will assist providers and patients through the enrollment and screening/diagnostic process. If a patient is diagnosed with breast cancer, the clinical staff will facilitate via the providers the appropriate referral for treatment. Every effort will be made to expedite the screening and diagnostic services for each patient. The program will use a payment system based on Medi-Cal rates and accepted by the medical providers.

The program will reimburse providers for the following services based on Medi-Cal or best negotiated rates: 1) clinical breast exam; 2) mammogram; 3) ultrasound; 4) biopsy charges including anesthesia, surgery and pathology; 5) pre-op testing including EKG, chest x-ray, and labs; 6) immunocytochemistry; and 7) associated office visits and facility charges.

Kids Konnected

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“Counseling for Children and Teens Whose Parent has Breast Cancer”

Our bi-monthly Support Group Sessions are at the core of our comprehensive program. In this program, kids meet face to face in age-specific, groups to discuss how a parent’s cancer is impacting their lives. The group atmosphere is conducive to healing, as the children share in one another’s strength and in turn realize their own strength.

It is critical for the child’s progress, that issues are discussed in a manner appropriate to the child’s age and comprehension skills. For this reason, we offer assistance in three age groups (4-7, 8-13, 14-18) plus the parent’s group. The children meet to share their feelings and gain strength from one another. Groups are facilitated by licensed professional therapists and assisted by our Youth Leaders. Our Youth Leaders are teens that have already lived through the experience of a parent with cancer and have utilized Kids Konnected services for over one year. Each Youth Leader is required to go through a 3-day training course twice a year where they learn basic counseling skills. Our Director of Clinical Services coordinates the efforts of the Youth Leaders and the licensed professional therapists. Medical professionals attend on occasion to answer questions and to help explain medical terminology in a language that can be understood.

While the children are in their group, the parents convene for their own session, which is also facilitated by a licensed professional therapist. It is critical to give the parents the tools to assist their children in identifying and coping with the difficult emotional issues they are experiencing. In addition, the parents discuss their own anxieties and fears as their breast cancer affects their role as parents. Parents need the companionship and support of other parents who face the same difficult questions, such as discussing treatments with children, discussing the possibility of death and maintaining their parental role during breast cancer treatment.

Loma Linda University – School of Public Health

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“Breast Cancer Clinical Trials Education for Black Women in the Inland Empire”

Clinical trial research is important for the prevention, diagnosis and the treatment of breast cancer. However, the numbers of Black women participating in breast cancer clinical trials has been low. Black women in the U.S. continue to have a higher death rate from breast cancer than White women. This has been attributed to earlier onset, late stage at diagnosis, and more aggressive tumors. Recent data suggests that clinical research that works with a community throughout the research process— inception, planning, recruitment, and conduct, as well as education—is the key to reducing health disparities. Therefore, we will work in a community participatory approach to educate, recruit and retain Inland Empire Black women in a breast cancer clinical trial educational program. We will accomplish this goal by establishing partnerships between the Inland Empire communities, the San Bernardino County Department of Public Health, clinicians from Loma Linda University Medical Center, the City of Hope Medical Center, and scientists from Loma Linda University in a community-based participatory approach. We will develop a culturally sensitive clinical trial educational curriculum by involving the community. Our goal is to increase the number of Black women making informed decisions to participate in breast cancer clinical trial research studies to reduce health disparities.

Michelle's Place

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"Care Coordinator Project"

The Care Coordinators program began April of 2004, when Michelle's Place, The Breast Cancer Resource Center received grant funding from the Inland Empire Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Almost three years later, more than 2,873 women have been accepted into the Care Coordinators program. We have facilitated in the diagnosis of 25 cases of breast cancer. 20 of these women were less than 40 years old. Another 2,000 women were provided education, resource information, guidance and support through our Center and funding from the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

The care coordinator project provides breast health services to women who are uninsured, less than 40 years old and have a symptom of breast cancer. The program offers free access to a qualified nurse care coordinator, complete initial clinical needs and assessment at time of enrollment, education regarding disease process, treatment modalities and psycho-social issues, a provider liaison to ensure timeliness of appointments and care, referrals to community resources and insurance/claim assistance.

Since breast cancer is generally treated on an outpatient basis, clients are often in need of direction during the treatment process and benefit greatly from outpatient care coordinating. The Care Coordinators program provides a personal coordinator to each client enrolled in the program. In April of 2004, Michelle's Place hired Michele Broad, CNP to act as the Care Coordinator. Since that time, Ms. Broad has served as the Care Coordinator. Her mission is to interact with the client and the provider team to coordinate client care. Clients are discharged only after entering a regular follow-up program.

Care Coordinators program services include:

- Free access to a qualified nurse care coordinator throughout treatment.
- Complete initial clinical and needs assessment at time of enrollment.
- Individualized plan of care.
- Education regarding disease process, treatment modalities and psycho-social issues. Materials are mailed as needed.
- Provider liaison to ensure timeliness of appointments and care.
- Referrals to community resources.
- Facilitates free diagnostic services
- Insurance/claims assistance.

- Basic needs resources including transportation, in home services, meals and other support services.

Quinn Community Outreach Corporation

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Empowering Women through Knowledge, Screening and Support

The Southern California Witness and Esperanza y Vida Projects, programs of Quinn Community Outreach Corporation, addresses a critical need for culturally relevant, community-based breast cancer education, screening, support, and outreach to low income, African American and Latina women residing in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Teams of trained Witness Role Models (WRM) and Lay Health Advisors (LHA) work with participants acknowledge and overcome social and cultural issues surrounding cancer and its detection, fears, encouraging open dialogue about cancer, and early detection practices in a supportive environment. Breast cancer survivors, (WRM), share their own experiences while stressing the importance of early detection and diagnosis. They emphasize that breast cancer does not have to be a “**Death Sentence**”. LHAs provide instruction on how to do breast self-exams by demonstrations and breast models reflecting the body types most often encountered in African American and Latina women.

Saving lives is the ultimate goal of the projects.

The Foundation for Community and Family Health

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“Breast Health Detection and Education Program”

This project is designed to provide free breast cancer screening and diagnostic services for low income, uninsured and underinsured women under age 40 living in the Inland Empire. The primary objective of the Breast Health Detection Program is to significantly increase the number of women under 40 who receive necessary breast cancer screening services and diagnostic services. This multi-faceted Program depends on the joint partnership efforts with Corona Regional Medical Center, and local authorized providers in Corona and Norco. Working together, significant steps will be made in teaching women about the benefits of screening and early detection. The Program strives to combat breast cancer by expanding the number of free

screening and diagnostic services for breast cancer and referral to quality treatment services in the Inland Empire.