

The Susan G. Komen for the Cure Advocacy Alliance

The Next Step in Fulfilling Our Promise to Save Lives and End Breast Cancer Forever

The Susan G. Komen for the Cure® Advocacy Alliance (KAA) is the nonpartisan voice for over 2.5 million breast cancer survivors and the people who love them. Our mission is to translate the Komen promise to end breast cancer forever into action at all levels of government to discover and deliver the cures. With more than 120 Affiliates in communities across the country, and a vibrant, engaged grassroots network of supporters, we have a unique perspective on the challenges people face in the health care system and the solutions needed to help close the gaps in access to care.

Advocating for Lasting Change. Komen recognizes that investment in research and community programs must be complimented by sound public policy in order to achieve the mission. The Komen Advocacy Alliance was established to strengthen and enhance Komen's ability to advocate for lasting and life-saving change.

Komen's grassroots network organizes and mobilizes around public health issues important to breast cancer patients and survivors, including maintaining a strong government investment in discovering and delivering the cures. Komen Affiliates have secured more than \$72 million in new state funding for breast cancer programs, and our advocacy was instrumental in the inclusion of several vital bipartisan patient protections in the recent health reform law.

Principles for Action. The Komen Advocacy Alliance believes all women in the U.S. have a right to timely, affordable, high-quality breast health services. Based on our nearly 30 years of experience in funding research, providing community education and working with women fighting the disease, we created the Breast Cancer Bill of Rights to protect the women we serve. Among others, we promise to fight for:

- **EARLY DETECTION:** Every woman has a right to access breast cancer screening tools that may save her life.
- **FINANCIAL STABILITY:** Women who are diagnosed with breast cancer have a right to fight the disease without fear of bankruptcy.
- **ACCESS:** Breast cancer patients and survivors have a right to health coverage.

A Promise that Changed the World. Nancy G. Brinker promised her dying sister that she would do everything in her power to end breast cancer forever. In 1982 that promise became Susan G. Komen for the Cure®, the global leader in the breast cancer movement that has literally changed the way the world talks about and treats the disease. Komen helped turn millions of breast cancer patients into breast cancer survivors.

Investing in the Cures. Komen for the Cure is the world's largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to curing breast cancer at every stage.

- To date, Komen has invested more than \$550 million in life-saving research that has touched every major advance in breast cancer treatment and care.
 - Komen provided \$59 million in research grants this year; a significant investment in a down economy. Over the last four years, Komen has invested more than \$300 million for breast cancer research.
 - Komen is a leader in providing access to breast cancer screening. In 2009, Komen community grants funded 500,000 screenings; about 5,000 women were diagnosed with breast cancer through a Komen community grant.
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