



## **Avon Walk for Breast Cancer 2007 Grants**

The Avon Foundation awards initial grants at the close of each Avon Walk for Breast Cancer to ensure funds immediately support access to care and finding a cure for breast cancer in the geographic area of the Walk. Additional grants are awarded throughout the year to national programs and organizations across the US. Grants awarded at the 2007 Avon Walks included:

### **Avon Walk Charlotte, NC (October 20-21)**

**Duke University (Durham, NC)** will receive \$250,000 to support expansion of Duke's outreach to the African-American Community in Raleigh, Greensboro, and Charlotte and patient navigation services as needed. Funds will support key staff including a breast cancer physician, a patient navigator and a clinical assistant, as well as patient transportation and materials.

**Medical University of South Carolina (Charleston, SC)** will receive \$250,000 to continue the Avon-MUSC Patient Navigation Program, which was established through Avon Foundation funding in 2005. The program has navigated several hundred medically underserved women in need of breast cancer diagnosis and treatment. New funds will support key staff including Nurse Manager, Patient Navigator, Patient Care Coordinator and provide funds for patient transportation.

**National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) (Triangle Park, NC)** will receive \$530,000 for the expansion of the Avon-NIEHS partnership for the Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Centers, funding community advocate involvement and coordination of studies into the role of possible environmental and genetic factors and future risk of breast cancer.

**Presbyterian Hospital (Charlotte, NC)** will receive \$150,000 to expand community outreach and patient navigation services to better reach underserved communities in Charlotte, Mecklenburg County and eleven surrounding counties. These funds will help increase community outreach events and education programs, increase free mammograms by 25% and increase free diagnostics and follow up by 100%.

### **Avon Walk New York (October 6-7)**

**Avon Foundation Breast Care Fund (New York, NY)** - \$6,855,000 to be disbursed as grants to 130 non-profit Community Based Organizations across the country for education and outreach programs nationwide. These programs will collectively navigate 100,000 women next year into mammography screening and educate 500,000 others on breast health and the importance of early detection.

**Brookdale Hospital Medical Center (Brooklyn, NY)** - \$175,000 to develop a culturally competent patient navigation program of breast health targeting African American and Caribbean American women. These funds will help increase early diagnosis and management of breast cancer, implement targeted outreach programs and increase access to mammography services for these women.

**Cancer Care (New York, NY)** - \$1,235,000 to continue the AVONCares program, which is a national financial assistance program that helps low-income, underserved women gain access to care. The program launched in 2000 and has already assisted 34,000 women fighting breast cancer.

**God's Love We Deliver (New York, NY)** - \$250,000 to continue meal delivery service to breast cancer client families, which have supported over 28,000 meals to date. The funds will also support the "Avon Foundation Nutritionist" position and Client Service Outreach Associates, as well as translation and printing of a Spanish version *Nutritional Tips for Breast Cancer Patients*.

**Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center- NYCHHC (Bronx, NY)** - \$250,000 to improve program outreach, screening and follow up for women living and working in the South Bronx, with a focus on poor, uninsured Latino and African American women age 50 and over.

**Metropolitan Hospital Center (New York, NY)** - \$250,000 for the outreach and patient navigator program. Funds will support a Breast Care Coordinator and Breast Health Educator, as well as patient transportation assistance.

**Newark Beth Israel Medical Center Foundation (Newark, NJ)** - \$250,000 for an MRI Computer Aided Detection System to help increase accuracy of MRI screening for high risk patients, plus a multi-lingual Advance Practice Nurse, patient transportation and program materials.

**New York-Presbyterian Hospital and Columbia University Medical Center - Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center (New York, NY)** - \$1,000,000 to continue support of access to care through the Avon Breast Imaging Center and research through the Avon Foundation Breast Cancer Research Laboratories. NYPH provides a point of access to mammography screening for underserved women in the Washington Heights neighborhood. The Cancer Center also conducts cutting edge research and allows the opportunity for uninsured or underserved women to receive the most modern breast cancer treatment through access to clinical trials.

**New York University Cancer Institute-Bellevue Hospital Center (New York, NY)** - \$500,000 to continue to support a program to meet the needs of underserved breast cancer patients, largely from Latina and Chinese populations, as well as a study and survivor program for minority and medically underserved women.

**Young Survival Coalition (New York, NY)** - \$100,000 to support their Annual Conference for young women affected by breast cancer and the development of a new Young Women's Breast Cancer Registry.

### **Avon Walk Los Angeles, CA (September 15-16)**

**Clinica Msr. Oscar A. Romero (Los Angeles, CA)** - \$180,000 to provide intensive outreach and navigation services to underserved Latina populations in Los Angeles, to increase the number of screening mammograms and decrease delays in care.

**Council of Community Clinics (San Diego, CA)** - \$250,000 to provide care coordination, screening mammogram and diagnostic services, referral to follow up, and breast health education and outreach to low-income, ethnically diverse, underserved women throughout San Diego, Imperial and Riverside Counties.

**John Wayne Cancer Institute and the Center for Healthy Aging (Santa Monica, CA)** - \$275,000 to continue to support research at John Wayne and increase access to care in partnership with the Center for Healthy Aging, a collaboration created through Avon Foundation support in 2003.

**Project Angel Food (Los Angeles, CA)** - \$100,000 to expand their meal and nutritional services program to breast cancer clients and their families in greater Los Angeles County. More than 27,000 meals will serve 75 breast cancer client families over the next year.

**UCLA Jonsson Cancer Center Foundation (Los Angeles, CA)** - \$1,168,137 for research, fellowships, equipment and access to care. Specifically, this will encompass: breast cancer research and clinical trials

that focus on improving treatment options for women with HER2+ breast cancer and women with triple-negative breast cancer; breast imaging fellowships; new, state-of-the-art equipment; and linking underserved women from UCLA's partner organizations, such as from Olive View Medical Center and its related community clinics in San Fernando, Santa Clarita and Antelope Valleys, to the world-class UCLA medical team.

With this grant, UCLA Jonsson becomes one of the eight current named *Avon Foundation Centers of Excellence* across the country. Individually and together, these leading cancer centers advance both pillars of the mission of the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade: access to care and finding a cure. Centers conduct breast cancer research across a wide spectrum of scientific topics, which offer the best opportunities in the fight against breast cancer, as well as deliver clinical care for medically underserved and uninsured women.

### **Avon Walk San Francisco, CA (July 7-8)**

**Alameda County Health Care Foundation (Oakland, CA)** - \$215,000 to continue support of the Pathfinders Outreach and Cancer Navigation program, which provides outreach to unscreened populations in the East Bay Area. This program aims to increase the number of low-income, multi-cultural women who are screened and to improve the quality of care offered to underserved women by providing outreach to unscreened populations and navigation for all women referred for breast evaluation.

**Cancer Resource Center of Mendocino County (Mendocino, CA)** - \$200,000 to support two initiatives: first, the incorporation of findings from its "*Consultation Support for Diverse, Rural Breast Patients*" Research Project into CRCM's core decisions support programming for 135 breast cancer survivors, family members and caregivers. Secondly, funds will support the development of training curriculum for rural patient navigation and pilot it in two rural communities.

**Communities for a Better Environment (Oakland, CA)** - \$125,000 to support the expansion of a community research project entitled "*Linking Breast Cancer Advocacy and Environmental Justice: Household Exposure Study*". This includes conducting a door-to-door community health survey targeting 200 homes in the East Bay, including Richmond and Oakland. The study will also examine neighborhood data on mammography screening, the number of breast cancer cases, and access to breast health information. Communities for a Better Environment will collaborate with experts at U.C. Berkeley and the Silent Spring Institute in Newton, Massachusetts (which is also funded by the Avon Foundation).

**Contra Costa Health Services (Martinez, CA)** - \$200,000 to continue support of patient navigation and case management services for low-income, uninsured, underserved women, with special emphasis on African American women, Spanish-speaking and other non-English speaking women. These funds will help to increase the number of women obtaining breast health services by 500; increase the number of women navigated by 5%; and, reduce the time between breast cancer diagnosis and the start of treatment from 2 months to 1 month.

**Marin County Department of Health (San Rafael, CA)** - \$400,000 to support the *Marin Women's Study* focused on breast cancer risk, with the goal to validate a new assay that measures hormone levels in saliva and to design a new risk algorithm that links association between breast density, age at first full term pregnancy, and circulating hormone levels. This study aims to validate a saliva test that measures circulating hormone levels with postmenopausal breast cancer risk and, if successful, it can be rapidly expanded to possible home-use and community-wide screening.

**Project Open Hand (San Francisco, CA)** - \$200,000 to support the expansion of Project Open Hand's (POH) Homebound Critically Ill Program that provides meals and an education program for breast cancer patients and other critically ill patients. The goals are to increase the number of unique, unduplicated breast cancer family clients annually; expand outreach to the local breast cancer community; and fully implement and expand the new grocery program.

**San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH)/ University of California - San Francisco (UCSF) (San Francisco, CA)** - \$1,250,000 for the “Avon Comprehensive Breast Care Center,” which was created through past grants and includes a mobile mammography van, a high-risk genetic clinic, community outreach and breast cancer research programs. New funds will support program staff, a Stereotactic Biopsy table, expansion of a high-risk clinic from a pilot program to a prospective clinical trial, enhancement of community outreach efforts and instituting a survivor program to engage women served by the Avon Comprehensive Breast Care Center.

**Women’s Cancer Resource Center (Oakland, CA)** - \$225,000 for community outreach, education and navigation services to women facing cancer in the underserved communities of the East Bay area, namely Oakland, Richmond and Contra Costa County. The goals of the program are to serve 3,000 women each year diagnosed with cancer (75% breast cancer) through all programs – navigation, financial assistance, education and case management. Four community health education workshops will be held each year and cancer navigation services will be provided to Latina patients referred to Highland Hospital and Alameda County Medical Center.

**Zero Breast Cancer (San Rafael, CA)** - \$150,000 to support a program to build community capacity and engagement in research projects, public education initiative and advocacy efforts focused on the prevention of breast cancer in understudied and at-risk communities. Funds will support continued involvement with the NIEHS Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Centers and continued partnership between Zero Breast Cancer and UCSF.

### **Avon Walk Denver, CO (June 23-24)**

**Children’s Treehouse Foundation (Denver, CO):** received \$125,000 to continue training, education and awareness programs that educate health experts and the public of the impact on children when a parent is diagnosed with cancer. These new funds will expand the number of hospitals involved in the Children’s Lives Include Moments of Bravery (CLIMB) training program, reaching 276 families affected by breast cancer. They will also help fund the National Training Seminars in Colorado and an annual regional seminar.

**University of Colorado Cancer Center (Aurora, CO):** received \$750,000 to support continued research and outreach at the Avon Foundation Center at the University of Colorado Cancer Center. Funding supports research into the role of hormones in breast cancer and to better understand metastasis, as well as two community access programs: *Survivorship Outreach to Latinas (SOL)* and *CoMadre Project*, which will reach 5,000 women on breast cancer screening.

### **Avon Walk Chicago, IL (June 2-3)**

**Mount Sinai Hospital (Chicago, IL)** - \$1,950,000 to support a task force which has been formed to address and find solutions for the critical issue of black/white disparities in Chicago breast care and mortality. The task force includes participation of the leading hospitals that care for the underserved populations in the Chicago area. Funds will support the program manager of the task force and an immediate study of two lower-income neighborhoods, North Lawndale and Humboldt Park, specifically to determine if the disparity results in part from unequal access to mammography or from reduced quality mammography screening. While focused on Chicago, the findings of the task force can help resolve disparity issues nationwide.

**Mercy Foundation f.b.o. Mercy Hospital and Medical Center (Chicago, IL)** - \$1,000,000 to support a new program “*Providing Solutions for Breast Care Disparities in Chicago*,” with the funds specifically slated to support patient navigation and the purchase of two digital mammography machines, with the goal to increase capacity for screening and diagnostic mammography by 25%. Mercy will reach out to the entire population in the Chicago area and, in particular, to women on a one- to two-year wait-list for screening at Stroger Hospital.

**Robert H. Lurie Cancer Center/Northwestern University and Northwestern Memorial Hospital (Chicago, IL)** - \$1,000,000 to support both breast cancer care and research, including: access to breast care for the underserved at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and the Erie Family Health Center; and research focused on clinical studies identifying markers for breast cancer prevention and treatment response, and characterizing molecular mechanisms of breast cancer growth, survival and metastasis.

### **Avon Walk Boston, MA (May 19-20)**

**BayState Health, Inc. (Springfield, MA)** - \$150,000 to support the comprehensive delivery of quality medical services to uninsured and underserved women. Funds will also support a Clinical Nurse and Community Health Worker, as well as client transportation and educational materials.

**Boston Medical Center - Boston University (Boston, MA)** - funds for three projects totaling \$1,600,000. Funds will continue to support the Avon Breast Health Initiative at Boston Medical Center (BMC), which has emerged as a national model for the use of patient navigation services. To date, BMC has provided navigation to over 1,700 low income, high risk and primarily minority women. Additional funds are provided this year to launch two national studies to examine the most effective roles of patient navigation and, once completed, to bring this information to the national level to support federal reimbursement for patient navigation services.

**Cambridge Health Alliance (Cambridge, MA)** - \$230,000 to further develop the screening and diagnosis components of its comprehensive breast health services for underserved women by providing staff and program support to fully implement its patient tracking systems; outreach to the community; develop capacity in the mammography department; and establish a new screening program for high risk women.

**Community Servings (Roxbury, MA)** - \$200,000 to continue the Community Servings-Avon Door-to-Door Delivery Program, which serves thousands of meals to breast cancer client families and educates hundreds on proper nutrition during cancer treatment. Funding will also support a Program Coordinator, Nutritionist and Client Services Coordinator.

**Lifespan Foundation (Providence, RI)** - \$250,000 to continue, further develop and implement and evaluate a bi-lingual breast health patient navigation program for safety net care at the Lifespan Comprehensive Cancer Center at Rhode Island Hospital and Miriam Hospital. Funds will continue to support two Patient Navigators, Bilingual Navigator Assistant and Data Manager.

**Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Comprehensive Cancer Center (Boston, MA)** - \$3,250,000 to support breast health, access to care, community education and patient navigation programs for safety net care through the three external clinics of MGH and the Avon Breast Center at MGH (\$400,000); to support on-going research and clinical trials (\$600,000); and to launch the International Breast Cancer Research Center and Metastatic Tumor Bank, a major multi-million dollar, multi-year initiative (\$2,250,000). This International Center will be the first of its kind that will collect and study metastatic breast cancer and will be shared with international participants and U.S. institutions.

**Silent Spring Institute (Newton, MA)** - \$175,000 to continue to support the Institute; update the MassHEIS environmental information system; and analyze other ongoing clinical prevention trials to study gene-environment interactions.

### **Avon Walk Washington, DC (May 5-6)**

**Antietam Healthcare for Washington County Hospital (Hagerstown, Md.)** - \$225,000 over two years to support targeted outreach to uninsured and minority populations in rural Maryland.

**Food & Friends (Washington, D.C.)** - \$450,000 over two years to continue the unique Avon Pink Ribbon Delivery Program that provides meals and nutritional counseling to breast cancer patients and their families. Since 2001, the Avon Pink Ribbon Delivery Program has served more than 275,000 meals to 938 breast cancer patients and their families.

**Franklin Square Hospital Center (Baltimore, Md.)** - \$250,000 to support the purchase of new equipment for breast cancer screening.

**Georgetown University on behalf of Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center/Capital Breast Care Center (CBCC) (Washington, D.C.)** - \$750,000 to support key staffing plus the development of new outreach materials and programs for this sole breast care center in Washington, D.C. dedicated to serving the poor and uninsured, created with Avon Foundation funding.

**National Breast Cancer Coalition Fund (NBCCF) (Washington, D.C.)** - \$1.65 million to continue primary sponsorship of Project LEAD (Leadership, Education, Advocacy and Development Training.)

**Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at John Hopkins Medical Center (Baltimore, Md.)** - \$1 million to continue support of patient care at the Avon Foundation Comprehensive Breast Center; continue research into breast cancer chemoprevention, chemotherapy administration and other novel therapies; community outreach research; and pre-clinical lab studies.

**Winchester Medical Center (Winchester, Va.)** - \$250,000 to support patient navigation and professionally-facilitated support group services to underserved populations in the Virginia area.