

Immediate Release

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Christiana Care Health System's Pink Ribbon Program Earns Grant from Susan G. Komen Philadelphia

(Wilmington, Del. – June 15, 2018) For the 17th consecutive year, Christiana Care Health System received a \$25,000 grant from Susan G. Komen Philadelphia to fund its Pink Ribbon Program, a free service pairing patients with bilingual navigators to improve access to mammography screenings.

The program, which is run by Christiana Care's Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute, uses outreach navigators and partner agencies to assist individuals to schedule mammogram appointments, provide breast health education, find transportation and help find funding sources to cover the cost of the mammogram. The navigators also educate the community about breast health, cancer prevention and early detection.

The Pink Ribbon Program also provides funds for screening mammograms for those who are eligible.

The program helps to increase women's access to screening mammograms by eliminating barriers. For example, Christiana Care arranges block-time screenings with women's groups, including added support and interpreters when needed. In addition, special screening times are available on the second Tuesday and third Thursday of each month at Christiana Care's Wilmington Hospital and through special weekend events.

"Through the Pink Ribbon program and coordination with our community partners, our goal is to continue to reach women who lack resources and assist them with completing their annual breast screening," said Nora Katurakes, RN, MSN, OCN, manager of Community Health Outreach and Education at the Graham Cancer Center. "Our special weekend screening events in addition to our blocked scheduling time at Wilmington Hospital provide unique access."

The Pink Ribbon Program's impact in the last 12 months:

- Provided services to more than 1,000 women and detected two women with breast cancer.

- Assisted more than 1,000 women to schedule appointments, receive breast health information and find transportation and funding sources with the help of our community partners.
- Provided 320 screening mammograms and diagnostic services (128 mammograms, 82 diagnostic mammograms and 110 ultrasounds).
- Provided financial assistance to 240 women for screenings and diagnostic procedures. Nine were assisted with support services.
- Offered language interpreter services at screenings and special events.

In the 2018-2019 grant period, Komen Philadelphia distributed \$425,000 in grants to support breast health education, awareness, screening and treatment initiatives specifically targeting medically underserved, uninsured or low-income populations. Christiana Care Health System received a screening, diagnostic and treatment grant from the Komen Philadelphia Community Grants Program to fund its program Pink Ribbon Breast Program. The program focuses on providing breast screenings to Delaware women and help to breast cancer survivors.

“I am privileged to work with our grantees almost every day, so I know how utterly devoted they are to breaking down the barriers that exist and connecting thousands of people with the services that can save their lives, as well as put them on a path of better all-around breast health,” said Jennifer Leith, program director, Grants & Public Policy, Komen Philadelphia. “Moreover, our grantees are experts in this. Many of them have been with Komen Philadelphia over the span of 10 years, 20 years or even longer. They have seen this breast cancer movement evolve, and they have been right there with us being a driver of change. Our grantees understand there is not a one-size-fits-all formula, and that what worked a year or two ago is not necessarily the solution for right now. All of this gives us full confidence that they will carry out the mission entrusted to them.”

About Christiana Care Health System’s Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute

The Helen F. Graham Cancer Center & Research Institute is one of the most advanced cancer centers in the country, part of one of a few hybrid academic-community health systems conducting translational cancer research, and the only center of its kind committed to high-level advancements in research through its Gene Editing Institute. The Graham Cancer Center is part of Christiana Care Health System, one of the country’s largest health care providers and a regional center of excellence in cardiology, cancer and women’s health services. For more information, visit www.christianacare.org/cancer.

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