

NEWS RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Melody Parsley, BreastCare Program Director
Office: 501-661-2495
Melody.Parsley@arkansas.gov
www.ArBreastCare.com



FOR RELEASE: May 2, 2012

BreastCare Awarded Largest Grant Among 23 Arkansas Organizations

Komen Arkansas supports BreastCare's "Bridging the Screening Gap" program

May 2, 2012; Little Rock, Ark. – **BreastCare**, a program within the **Arkansas Department of Health**, received a grant of \$197,500 from the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Arkansas Affiliate. This is the largest among the 23 grants awarded to Arkansas organizations. The grant will be used to fund BreastCare's "Bridging the Screening Gap" program.

"Bridging the Screening Gap" will allow BreastCare to provide breast cancer screening to more than 1,100 women and also cover the diagnostic follow-ups of subsequent abnormal results within 63 counties in Arkansas.

"We are honored to be awarded such a large amount from the Komen Arkansas Affiliate with whom we've continued to have a long standing relationship," said Melody Parsley, BreastCare program director. "Women in Arkansas rely on BreastCare for breast cancer screening and therefore rely on Susan G. Komen for the Cure to help pay for the services as well. We are lucky to have such a viable chapter in Arkansas."

This year marks the 18th year for the Komen organization to award grants to Arkansas programs statewide that are working in the fight against breast cancer. A total of \$1.25 million was granted.

"The recipients of these funds were chosen because they reflect the commitment of the Arkansas Affiliate to assure the uninsured and underserved women of Arkansas get the vital breast health services they need," said Sherrye McBryde, Komen Arkansas Affiliate executive director.

BreastCare provides free breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnosis to qualified Arkansas women. Since the program began, BreastCare has provided more than 143,000 free mammograms and more than 77,000 free Pap tests to Arkansas women. For more information about the BreastCare program, visit ARBreastCare.com.

#