



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LIVINGSTON HEALTHCARE RECEIVES GRANT FROM KOMEN MONTANA TO PAY FOR MAMMOGRAMS

The Montana Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure® has awarded a \$20,000 grant to Livingston HealthCare to support breast cancer prevention in Park County and the surrounding area. The grant from Komen for the Cure will support breast health and breast cancer prevention education programs and the establishment of a fund to pay for mammograms for women who are uninsured or underinsured.

“We know that mammograms are a critical screening tool for detecting breast cancer, and that survival is highly dependent on early diagnosis,” said Sandi Marlowe, Executive Director for the Livingston HealthCare Foundation. “However, our estimates show that only 53% of women in Park County who should be getting annual mammograms actually are. That’s what we’re hoping to change with this program—educating women about the importance of annual mammograms and providing access for women who might not be able to afford them.”

“At the Komen Montana Affiliate, we conducted a needs assessment and discovered that Livingston HealthCare’s request addresses an unmet need in Park County,” said Wendy Nicolai, Executive Director of Komen Montana. “We are confident that through this program more women will have access to mammograms, an important screening tool in the fight against breast cancer.”

Livingston HealthCare will launch “Paint Park County Pink”, a comprehensive breast health education program, in July. The initiative will include direct mail to local women, newspaper and radio advertising, and summer events all over Park County and in Big Timber and White Sulphur Springs.

“Women are good at taking care of other people—this is an initiative to remind them to take care of themselves,” added Marlowe. “Every woman in Park County 40 and over should be getting an annual mammogram. We want to let them know why they should and how they can.”

Part of the education program will be to let women know of resources that are available to them if a mammogram is unaffordable. Livingston HealthCare’s Mammogram Program will provide mammograms for women aged 49 and under who

are uninsured or underinsured. Livingston HealthCare will be working together with Montana's Breast and Cervical Health Program, which also provides free mammograms, primarily to women 50 and over. Information about both programs is available through local healthcare providers and at www.livingstonhealthcare.org.

For more information about Paint Park County Pink or Livingston HealthCare's Mammogram Program, or to make a donation to the Mammogram Fund, call 823-6262 or visit www.livingstonhealthcare.org.

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