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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **LIVINGSTON HEALTHCARE RECEIVES GRANT FROM COMMUNITY CLOSET TO SUPPORT MAMMOGRAM PROGRAM**

Community Closet has awarded a \$502 grant to Livingston HealthCare for the purchase of specialized mammogram gowns. These gowns provide more coverage and make the process of the mammogram exam more comfortable for women.

This small change can help break down a barrier that may prevent women from getting this important annual screening. Currently, the number of local women getting regular mammograms is estimated at 53%. Livingston HealthCare seeks to increase this number to 70%.

Livingston HealthCare implemented digital mammography in May 2009. In conjunction with this new technology, Livingston HealthCare renovated the mammogram exam room to create a more comfortable and supportive environment and designated a staff person specifically to communicate with mammography patients. The new gowns are another component of improving women's mammogram experience.

"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. "That is why we are working to remove barriers that may stop women from getting their annual mammogram."

Livingston HealthCare is conducting a comprehensive breast cancer awareness campaign across Park, Sweet Grass, and Meagher Counties. Through a grant from the Montana Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Livingston HealthCare is also able to provide free mammograms to women age 49 and under who are uninsured or underinsured.

For more information about Livingston HealthCare's Mammogram Program call 823-6262 or visit [www.livingstonhealthcare.org](http://www.livingstonhealthcare.org).

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