



## A Message from our Executive Director

Dear Friends:

We have received numerous inquiries and comments regarding last week's news surrounding actions by the National Headquarters of Susan G. Komen for the Cure®.

Please know that we value and appreciate your opinions regarding this matter. The overwhelming response that we have received only reinforces what we already knew here in St. Louis – that our volunteers, donors, sponsors and friends are truly committed and engaged in our organization. And we want to thank you for your dedication to our cause.

Our focus, as it must be, remains on breast health and our vision to create a world without breast cancer. Komen St. Louis is fortunate to have 28 community partners, selected by an independent review panel, that help the underserved and uninsured through breast health and breast cancer screening, treatment, education and support programs in our 17-county service area in Missouri and Illinois. We are committed to making sure that every woman who needs breast health help receives the help and services she needs.

Funds raised by Komen St. Louis in 2010-11 helped provide 5,945 mammograms; 1,372 diagnostic procedures; and 1,469 support services for women diagnosed with or at risk for breast cancer. Our funds also provided breast cancer educational programs reaching 27,245 people. Last year, 116 breast cancers were detected through Komen St. Louis Affiliate-funded services.

Seventy-five percent of the money raised by our local Affiliate stays in our Missouri/Illinois service area to fund life-saving services, while the other 25 percent funds breast cancer research on a national level. Through events like the Komen St. Louis Race for the Cure, we have been able to contribute more than \$7 million to Susan G. Komen for the Cure for national research. At the same time, more than \$15.25 million has come back to St. Louis area research facilities for vital research.

We are in daily communication with Affiliates around the country and our national headquarters, and believe that an open discussion and exchange will only strengthen our vision and commitment. Meanwhile, we ask for your support and help in telling our story.

If you have any questions, I hope you will contact me or another member of our board or staff. I want to personally thank you for your concern and ongoing support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Helen", followed by a horizontal line.

Helen Chesnut  
Executive Director  
St. Louis Affiliate  
Susan G. Komen for the Cure®