

Volunteer Newsletter

Breast Cancer Survivor Calendar in the Works

Imagine a calendar filled with brave, beautiful, strong women gracing the pages of each month. But these aren't just ordinary women; they're West Virginia women who share a common bond, their battle with breast cancer and the will to survive.

Volunteers in the northern panhandle are making such a calendar a reality. Jondavid Pollock, M.D., Ph.D., from the Schiffler Cancer Center of Wheeling Hospital, spearheaded the effort to resurrect a breast cancer survivor calendar for 2010, following the success of a similar calendar developed in 2008. Dr. Pollock treats breast and cervical cancer patients and sees firsthand the difference a little hope can make.

Also committed to the project is Pamela Conaway, Clinical Research Coordinator at the Cancer Center. She educates individuals about offered services and raises funds for cancer research, screening programs, and treatment. When the idea of the calendar was born, she actively sought companies to donate their time and efforts to the project, including: Neil

Warren, Design & Image Studios (photography); Art Mancuso, River City Advertising (calendar layout and design); and Health Plan of the

Upper Ohio Valley (printing). These volunteers have given time outside of work to help raise awareness about breast cancer and ensure the calendar's success. Thank you all for your dedication to breast cancer awareness.

Additionally, the models, ranging from 40 to 76 years of age and representing all socio-economic statuses, began taking photos in June and will showcase 12 historical sites in the northern region of West Virginia. The calendar aims to demonstrate that cancer is not a discriminatory disease and affects not only women, but entire communities. Remember that even as lives change, communities remain. Thank you ladies for participating in the 2010 breast cancer survivor calendar!

For more information about the calendar, contact the Education Coordinator at 304-293-2370.

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WV Family and Community Education Assist WVBCCSP



Volunteers from West Virginia's Family and Community Education (WVFCE) received Komen grant funding for 2009-2010. The funds are used to compliment WVBCCSP breast screening services and offer breast health education. From Spa Days to the annual May Fair for Women, volunteers in Region 5 educated over 635 women about breast cancer in May and June and referred 166 of those to the WVBCCSP. Let's keep up the great work! Thank you WVFCE volunteers.

Pauline Brown Walks Toward a Healthier Life



Pauline walks with a friend during the 2008 Grafton Walk for Women



Thirteen years ago, Pauline Brown was the administrator for the Taylor County Health Department. Now she is a WVBCSP volunteer and a Walk for Women veteran. Pauline, along with the PATCH/FRN committee in Grafton, started the Taylor County Walk for Women as a way to educate the public about the importance of breast cancer screenings.

Every year in October, Pauline and other members of the community gather at the International Mother's Day Shrine in Grafton, WV, for a day filled with hope, passion, and commitment. The event usually begins with an inspirational speaker or two and ends with a ceremony recognizing all cancer survivors. Other highlights of the Walk include door prizes, refreshments, a balloon launch, and an invocation.

The 3-mile roundtrip Walk leaves participants with the feeling that they have taken a step closer to beating breast cancer. Pauline said she enjoys promoting the Walk because the money raised goes directly to the West Virginia Breast and Cervical Cancer Diagnostic and Treatment Fund. As a result, West Virginia women in need of breast and cervical cancer screening, diagnostic, and treatment services get the help they need with the support they need.

When breast cancer touches one person, it affects many more. Pauline committed herself to the fight when she took a good friend battling breast cancer to all her chemotherapy appointments. And she remembers that breast cancer awareness isn't just an October event; it's a year-round campaign. On Mother's Day, Pauline hands out carnations and brochures on breast cancer.



Meet the Staff

The WVBCSP would like to welcome its new Program Director, GeorgeAnn Grubb. Ms. Grubb brings many years of experience to the program in management, administration, advocacy, and community level work experience. She holds a Master's Degree in Public Health and an undergraduate degree in Sociology/Anthropology. She enjoys spending time with her two children and granddaughter. Her hobbies include reading, walking/running, gardening, and shopping in consignment shops and flea markets. The Program is excited about the experience Ms. Grubb brings to the team.



GeorgeAnn Grubb, WVBCSP Program Director