



# COMMUNITY PROFILE REPORT

Susan G. Komen for the Cure®  
Central Georgia Affiliate



2009

## **Acknowledgements**

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# Executive Summary

## Introduction

Nancy G. Brinker promised her dying sister, Susan G. Komen, she would do everything in her power to end breast cancer forever. In 1982, that promise became Susan G. Komen for the Cure® and a global breast cancer movement was launched. Today, Komen for the Cure is the world's largest grassroots network of breast cancer survivors and activists. Susan G. Komen for the Cure's vision is a world without breast cancer.

To meet our promise, the Komen Central Georgia Affiliate relies on the Community Profile to create funding guidelines for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure® Grants Program. The Community Profile includes an overview of demographic and breast cancer statistics throughout the Komen Central Georgia Service Area.

## Susan G. Komen for the Cure® Promise

### Our Promise

The Susan G. Komen for the Cure promise: to save lives and end breast cancer forever by empowering people, ensuring quality care for all and energizing science to find the cures.

## Overview Demographic and Breast Cancer Statistics Key Findings

Breast cancer incidence in Central Georgia is very similar to the rest of the US and the state of Georgia. Caucasian women are most likely to be diagnosed with breast cancer. African American women are the mostly likely to die from breast cancer. In 2006, 271 women were diagnosed with invasive breast cancer in the Central Georgia Affiliate and 61 died. (National Cancer Institute, 2005)

The following counties make up the Central Georgia Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure Service Area:

### *Baldwin County*

Baldwin County is west of Jones County and north of Wilkinson County in Georgia. The population is 46,716 and the county is 258 square miles wide. 54.9 % of the county population is Caucasian, 42.9 % is African American, 1.5% is Hispanic and 1.2% is Asian. The median income for a household in the county is \$39,180. (US Census Bureau. Quick Facts and Figures. Baldwin County, Georgia.)

### *Bibb County*

Bibb County is south of Monroe County and north of Houston County in Georgia. The population is 155,216 and is 250 square miles wide. 46.9% of the county populations is Caucasian, 50.2 % African American, 1.7% of the population are Hispanic and 1.5% is Asian. Bibb County has the highest percentage of African Americans in the Central Georgia Affiliate

Service Area. The median income for a household in the county is \$36,954. (US Census Bureau. Quick Facts and Figures. Bibb County, Georgia.)

#### *Crawford County*

Crawford County is west of Bibb County and Peach County. The population is 12,510 and the county is 325 square miles wide. 76.2% of the population is Caucasian, 22.2% is African American, 2.3% is Hispanic, and .2% is Asian. Crawford County has the highest percentage of Caucasians in the Service Area. The median income for a household in the county is \$42,626. (US Census Bureau. Quick Facts and Figures. Crawford County, Georgia.)

#### *Houston County*

Houston County is south of Bibb County and east of Twiggs County. The population is 133,161 and the county 376 square miles wide. Houston County is one of the fastest growing counties in Georgia. 68.2% of the population is Caucasian, 27.6 % is African American, 2 % is Asian, and 4.1 % of the population are Hispanic. The median income for a household in the county is \$52,911. (US Census Bureau. Quick Facts and Figures. Houston County, Georgia.)

#### *Jones County*

Jones County is east of Monroe County and north of Bibb County. The population is 27,542 and the county is 393.7 square miles wide. 74.9% of the population is Caucasian, 23.4% is African American, 1% is Hispanic and .8% is Asian. The median income for a household in the county is \$50,652. (US Census Bureau. Quick Facts and Figures. Jones County, Georgia.)

#### *Monroe County*

Monroe County is north of Bibb County and Crawford County. The population is 25,252 and the county is 395 square miles wide. 72.6% of the population is Caucasian, 25.7% is African American, 1.7% of the population are Hispanic and .6% is Asian. The median income for a household in the county is \$50,423. This is the highest median income in the Service Area. (US Census Bureau. Quick Facts and Figures. Monroe County, Georgia.)

#### *Peach County*

Peach County is west of Houston County and south of Crawford County. The population is 26,736; the county is 151 square miles wide and is the smallest county in the Affiliate. 53.6% of the population is Caucasian, 44.8% is African American, 5.4% of the population is Hispanic and .5% is Asian. Peach County has the largest Hispanic population in the Central Georgia Affiliate Service Area. The median income for a household in the county is \$39,506. (US Census Bureau. Quick Facts and Figures. Peach County, Georgia.)

#### *Twiggs County*

Twiggs County is southeast of Jones County and northeast of Houston County. The population is 10,257 and the county is 363 square mile wide. Twiggs County has the smallest population and is the largest county in the Service Area. 58.3 % of the population is Caucasian, 40.3 % is African American, 1.4% of the population is Hispanic, and .2% is Asian. The median income for a household in the county is \$36,096. (US Census Bureau. Quick Facts and Figures. Twiggs County, Georgia.)

## **Overview of Programs and Services Key Findings**

There are seven hospitals in the Komen Central Georgia Service Area. There are also five community health clinics that offer free or low cost mammograms. There are currently several community grant projects that directly reach out to African American women and all women who are uninsured or underinsured. Each of the eight counties in the Service Area has a local health department. There are also several organizations that offer services and support to breast cancer survivors.

## **Overview of Exploratory Data Key Findings**

Main Messages of Key Informants and Providers:

- *Provide transportation for breast cancer treatment and women who need screening*
- *Address barriers to breast cancer screening*
- *Offer a variety of culturally sensitive education*
- *Accommodating women with physical challenges*
- *Advertise clinical trials*
- *Inform rural areas on early detection, screening, and where free or reduced cost services are available*

## **Narrative of Affiliate Priorities**

The first priority of the Central Georgia Affiliate is for people to have access to free or low cost breast screenings. It is known that the early detection of breast cancer saves lives (National Cancer Institute, 2009). It is part of the Affiliate's promise to ensure quality care for all and that includes providing mammograms for all women who need one regardless of age, race, socio-economic status, or nationality. There are several hospitals and clinics that currently work with women providing life saving services. It is the Affiliate's number one priority to assist these 501(c) (3) organizations with funding to continue providing free and low cost mammograms. The Central Georgia Affiliate is also committed to reaching out to other organizations and looking for ways to partner with them in order to increase the services offered so that a greater number of men and women can be screened for breast cancer.

The second priority for Komen Central Georgia is to continue to provide breast health education throughout the Service Area. Komen National provides Affiliates and grantees access to cost effective education materials that are culturally sensitive and cover a wide variety of topics, containing easy to understand and assessable information. These education materials are distributed at community functions like health fairs, church events, colleges and are available to the public either for free or through a small grant education material application. The Affiliate works to recruit new educational grants projects in order to reach different groups of people throughout Central Georgia. It is also important to the Central Georgia Affiliate to offer breast health education and education materials to primary care physicians who have direct access to patients who need to be educated and reminded about the importance of breast self awareness and screenings.

The third priority for the Komen Central Georgia is to maintain a strong community presence throughout the eight county Service Area. Public policy, fund raising, and educational events are all ways to spread the word of Susan G. Komen for the Cure's promise. These are also ways to recruit new activists and volunteers to help with the Affiliate's efforts as well as let breast cancer survivors in the community know that the Affiliate can be a resource for them. In order to expand the Affiliate's growing public policy efforts, the Central Georgia Affiliate along with the Greater Atlanta Affiliate and the Coastal Georgia Affiliate are working to further a joint effort to promote state wide breast health. The Komen Central Georgia also wants to strengthen and build relationships with local, state, and federally elected officials to insure National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Programs (NBCCEDP) and other areas of breast cancer advocacy.

The fourth priority of the Central Georgia Affiliate is to offer support to breast cancer survivors during and after treatment. The Affiliate funds breast cancer survivor programs that promote mind body awareness and encourage survivors to seek support not only from friends and family but other breast cancer survivors. The Affiliate encourages breast cancer survivors to attend support groups but there can be more immediate needs that survivors face. Transportation is a constant problem, not only for poor and medically underserved. It can be a challenge for all breast cancer patients and assisting is one of the Affiliate's priorities.

## **Affiliate Action Plan**

### **Priorities and Objectives**

#### **Priority 1 – Provide free and/or low-cost breast screening**

*Objective 1:* Continue to fund grants that meet the needs of those women who fall through the crack because they are too young for the BCCCP, uninsured, underinsured, etc. Seek additional partnerships through 501(c) (3) organizations.

*Objective 2:* Increase available funding for breast health services to those counties within the Central Georgia Service Area that currently possess the most limited resources, where many women are uninsured or underinsured and do not seek healthcare as a result.

#### **Priority 2 – Provide Breast Health Education**

*Objective 1:* Educate the public about breast health. Education is needed throughout the Komen Central Georgia Affiliate's Service Area among women of all ages. It is important to get the information to the public in a non-threatening and accessible manner.

*Objective 2:* Communicate the importance of breast health education and screening to primary care physicians through volunteers, presentations, and forums to arm physicians with the newest breast health information so they can share with their patients.

*Objective 3:* Raise awareness among county breast health providers about Komen Grants and other state programs that provide free /low-cost screening.

### **Priority 3 - Maintain a strong community presence throughout the Service Area**

*Objective 1:* Increase the Central Georgia Affiliate's presence in the community through public policy, fund raising, and targeted education efforts.

*Objective 2:* Strengthen and build relationships with local, state and federal elected officials to serve as a trusted resource for breast-related legislation, with an emphasis on the state BCCEDP programs.

### **Priority 4 - Offer support to breast cancer survivors during and after treatment**

*Objective 1:* Encourage breast cancer survivor involvement with support groups, fund projects that directly target breast cancer survivors improvement in quality of life

*Objective 2:* Provide access to transportation for women seeking breast health services. Transportation is a major obstacle for women in the rural areas. For many there is no public transportation and the closest health care facility is many miles away, sometimes in another county.

# Introduction

## Affiliate History

Founded on the promise between two sisters, Susan G. Komen for the Cure is now the world's largest grassroots network of breast cancer survivors and activists. There are now 125 Affiliates throughout the US and internationally. Thanks to events like the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure ® more than \$1.2 billion has been invested to fulfill the promise, becoming the largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to the fight against breast cancer in the world.

One of these Affiliates, founded in 1999, is the Central Georgia Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure. Volunteers worked tirelessly to make great strides in improving breast health services and to reach out to the underserved women in the eight county Service Area. This Service Area is made up of Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Monroe, Peach and Twiggs County. Komen Central Georgia was founded when several nurses in Macon saw the need to raise funding and breast cancer awareness in the Central Georgia area. After contacting national headquarters of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, an eight county Central Georgia Affiliate was established. While Bibb County and Houston County host the majority of breast health service providers, it was imperative to the founding members of the Central Georgia Affiliate to extend breast health services into the surrounding rural communities.

The Central Georgia Affiliate established its branch of the Komen Grants Program to provide funding for local nonprofit organizations, government agencies and educational facilities for screening, treatment, education and prevention of breast cancer. With events like Komen Central Georgia Race for the Cure and other events hosted by organizations and individuals, the Affiliate has given nearly \$750,000 for local projects to help screen, treat, educate and prevent breast cancer.

## Core Values

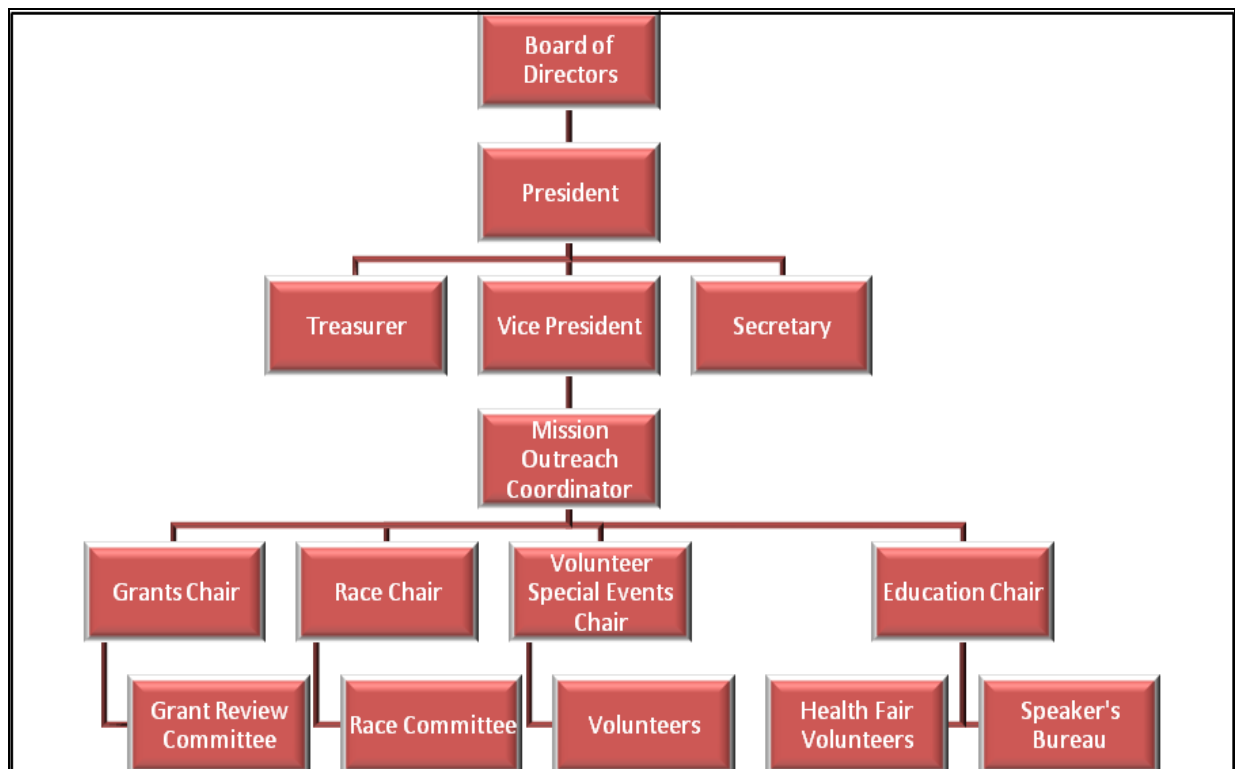
<b>Inclusion</b>	to embrace the uniqueness of every individual
<b>Stewardship</b>	to be accountable for our performance, individually and collectively
<b>Honesty</b>	to foster a community of trust and integrity
<b>Openness</b>	to seek out new ideas and new ways of thinking
<b>Passion</b>	to demonstrate personal commitment to our Promise
<b>Empowerment</b>	to entrust others and hold yourself accountable

Source: Susan G. Komen for the Cure (2009)

## Organizational Structure

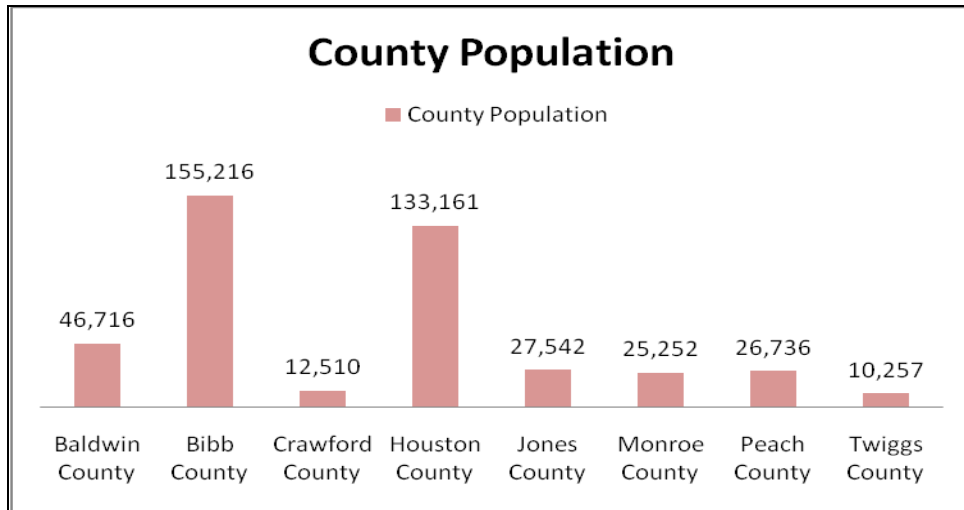
The Komen Central Georgia Affiliate is governed by a board of directors made up of members of the Central Georgia community. For the past several years, the board has been in the process of transitioning from a working board to a governing board. The Affiliate hired a Mission Outreach Coordinator in the fall of 2007. Committee chairs are key volunteers from the community who initiate and organize specific aspects of the affiliate's activities.

### Central Georgia Affiliate Organizational Structure



### Description of Service Area

The Central Georgia Affiliate service area is made up of Baldwin, Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Monroe, Peach and Twiggs counties. The total population of these eight counties is 437,390 (US Census Bureau. Quick Facts and Figures.). Most of the Health Care Service Providers, along with the greatest majority of the population, are located in Bibb and Houston Counties. Mostly comprised of small southern towns, Macon and Warner Robins are the cities with the largest populations in the Central Georgia Affiliate where most people seek medical care.



Source: US Census Bureau, Quick Facts and Figures (2009)

More information about each county is available at the following websites:

#### County and Chamber of Commerce Web Sites

County	County Seat	Websites
Baldwin County	Milledgeville	<a href="http://www.milledgevillega.us">www.milledgevillega.us</a> <a href="http://www.milledgevillega.com">www.milledgevillega.com</a>
Bibb County	Macon	<a href="http://www.cityofmacon.net">www.cityofmacon.net</a> <a href="http://www.maconchamber.com">www.maconchamber.com</a>
Crawford County	Roberta	<a href="http://www.robertacrawfordchamber.org">www.robertacrawfordchamber.org</a>
Houston County	Warner Robins	<a href="http://www.warner-robins.org">www.warner-robins.org</a> <a href="http://www.warner-robins.com">www.warner-robins.com</a>
Jones County	Gray	<a href="http://www.cityofgrayga.net">www.cityofgrayga.net</a> <a href="http://www.jonescounty.org">www.jonescounty.org</a>
Monroe County	Forsyth	<a href="http://www.cityofforsyth.net">www.cityofforsyth.net</a> <a href="http://www.forsyth-monroechamber.com">www.forsyth-monroechamber.com</a>
Peach County	Fort Valley	<a href="http://www.peachcounty.net">www.peachcounty.net</a>
Twiggs County	Jeffersonville	<a href="http://www.twiggscounty.us">www.twiggscounty.us</a>

## **Purpose of Report**

Susan G. Komen for the Cure's promise is to save lives and end breast cancer forever by empowering people, ensuring quality care for all and energizing science to discover cures for breast cancer. To meet this promise, The Central Georgia Affiliate relies on the information obtained through the Community Profile process to guide the work needed to accomplish the promise in its communities.

The purpose of the Community Profile is, in a sense, to take the pulse of the community. It includes an overview of demographic and breast cancer statistics that highlight target areas, groups or issues. The statistics help show where efforts will have the most impact. In order to ensure effective and targeted efforts, it is important to also understand what programs and services gaps, needs and barriers exist, as well as what existing assets can be looked to for partnership and collaborative interventions. The 2009 Community Profile outlines where the needs and gaps in breast health education and services are. The Community Profile also gives the affiliate feedback and direction as to where and what kind of services are available, who in the community is giving information about breast health, where women can go for free or low cost services and what areas need the affiliates assistance the most.

This Community Profile will allow the Central Georgia Affiliate to:

- Target granting priorities
- Establish focused education needs
- Confirm area most in need of outreach
- Drive public policy efforts
- Strengthen sponsorship efforts and "tell the story"

# Demographic and Breast Cancer Statistics

## Data Source and Methodology Overview

The breast cancer statistics for the Central Georgia Affiliate Service Area have been broken down into categories of incidence of invasive breast cancer, breast cancer mortality, and breast cancer *in situ*. The data were analyzed and organized into rows per county and columns by race recognized by Caucasian, African American, Hispanic, and Other which includes but is not limited to Asian, Pacific Islander, or Native American.

## Overview of Key Demographic and Breast Cancer Statistics

According to the National Cancer Institute, an estimated 182,460 women were diagnosed with and 40,480 women died of breast cancer in 2008. The following information is based on NCI's Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results, or SEER, Cancer Statistics Review (SEER, 2008).

### Incidence & Mortality

#### SEER Incidence

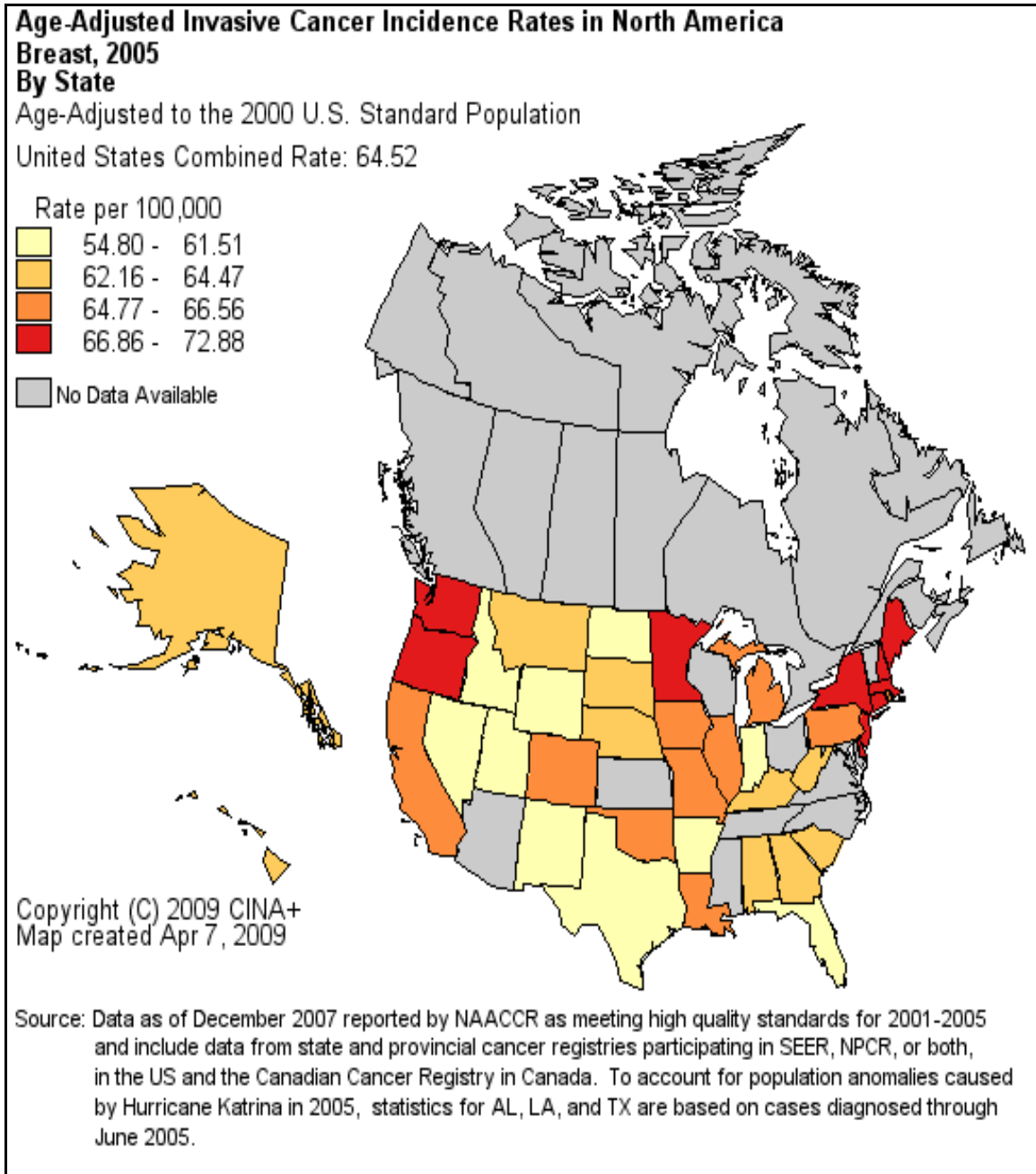
From 2001-2005, the median age at diagnosis for cancer of the breast was 61 years of age. Approximately 0.0% were diagnosed under age 20; 1.9% between 20 and 34; 10.6% between 35 and 44; 22.4% between 45 and 54; 23.3% between 55 and 64; 19.8% between 65 and 74; 16.5% between 75 and 84; and 5.5% 85+ years of age.

The age-adjusted incidence rate was 126.1 per 100,000 women per year. These rates are based on cases diagnosed in 2001-2005 from 17 SEER geographic areas. (SEER, 2008)

National Breast Cancer Incidence Rates by Race	
Race/Ethnicity	Female
All Races	126.1 per 100,000 women
White	130.6 per 100,000 women
Black	117.5 per 100,000 women
Asian/Pacific Islander	89.6 per 100,000 women
American Indian/Alaska Native	75.0 per 100,000 women
Hispanic	90.1 per 100,000 women

## US Mortality

From 2001-2005, the median age at death for cancer of the breast was 69 years of age. Approximately 0.0% died under age 20; 1.0% between 20 and 34; 6.4% between 35 and 44; 15.3% between 45 and 54; 19.6% between 55 and 64; 20.1% between 65 and 74; 22.9% between 75 and 84; and 14.7% 85+ years of age (Invasive Breast Cancer Incidence Rates in the US as of 2005. 2008)



The age-adjusted death rate was 25.0 per 100,000 women per year. These rates are based on patients who died in 2001-2005 in the US (SEER, 2008).

<b>National Breast Cancer Death Rates by Race</b>	
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	<b>Female</b>
All Races	25.0 per 100,000 women
White	24.4 per 100,000 women
Black	33.5 per 100,000 women
Asian/Pacific Islander	12.6 per 100,000 women
American Indian/Alaska Native	17.1 per 100,000 women
Hispanic	15.8 per 100,000 women

Source: SEER, 2008

The National Cancer Institute tracks the death rate and trend comparison by cancer and how many deaths there are per year. The current statics are through 2005. NCI found that Bibb County, Houston, County and Peach County have rates similar to the rest of the US. The data for Crawford County, Jones County, Monroe County and Twiggs County was suppressed to ensure confidentiality and stability of rate and trend estimates. This is frequently done in counties with very small populations (National Cancer Institute, State Profiles, 2005). The National Cancer Institute determined that the data for Baldwin County could not be reliably determined due to the small number of deaths per year.

In the United States, Caucasian women are the most likely to be diagnosed with breast cancer followed by African American women, and then Hispanic women. African American women throughout the US are more likely to die from breast cancer than any other racial group followed by Caucasian, then Hispanic women (American Cancer Society, 2007). In all eight counties Central Georgia, Caucasian women are mostly like to be diagnosed with breast cancer, which follows the national trend. Bibb County follows the national trend in breast cancer mortality. African American women in Bibb County are the most likely to die from breast cancer followed by Caucasian women.

In Baldwin County, Peach County, and Twiggs County the mortality statistics were the same for Caucasian and African American women. Crawford County, Houston County, Jones County and Monroe County, Caucasian Women were more likely to die from breast cancer than African American Women. This is different from the national average. The two counties with the highest populations have different racial groups with higher mortality statistis. Some of the counties with the smallest populations have the largest square miles. The differences in the eight counties statistics call for varied approaches in educating women about breast cancer and breast health (National Cancer Institute, State Cancer Profiles).

**Table 1***Central Georgia Breast Cancer Mortality, by Race and County, 2006*

County	Caucasian			African American			Hispanic			Other		
	Deaths	Mortality*	95% CI	Deaths	Mortality*	95% CI	Deaths	Mortality*	95% CI	Deaths	Mortality*	95% CI
Baldwin	3	88*	(0.1 - 18.6)	3	111*	(0.1 - 23.2)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)
Bibb	11	324*	(16.3 - 48.4)	14	519*	(32.6 - 71.1)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)
Crawford	1	29*	(0.1 - 8.7)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)
Houston	11	324*	(16.3 - 48.4)	5	185*	(3.6 - 33.5)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)
Jones	3	88*	(0.1 - 18.6)	1	37*	(0.1 - 10.9)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)
Monroe	2	59*	(0.1 - 13.9)	1	37*	(0.1 - 10.9)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)
Peach	2	59*	(0.1 - 13.9)	2	74*	(0.1 - 17.5)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)
Twiggs	1	29*	(0.1 - 8.7)	1	37*	(0.1 - 10.9)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)
Total	34	557*	(43.0 - 68.4)	27	443*	(31.5 - 56.9)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)	0	0*	(0.0 - 0.0)

\* Per 1,000

\*\* Undefined variable

**Table 2***Central Georgia Invasive Breast Cancer Incidence, by Race and County, 2006*

County	Caucasian		African American		Hispanic		Other	
	New Cases	Incidence Rate	New Cases	Incidence Rate	New Cases	Incidence Rate	New Cases	Incidence Rate
Baldwin	17	91*	9	111*	0	0*	0	0*
Bibb	58	312*	41	506*	0	0*	1	333*
Crawford	7	38*	1	12*	0	0*	0	0*
Houston	63	339*	16	198*	1	1000*	2	667*
Jones	14	75*	3	37*	0	0*	0	0*
Monroe	13	70*	3	37*	0	0*	0	0*
Peach	10	54*	6	74*	0	0*	0	0*
Twiggs	4	22*	2	25*	0	0*	0	0*
<b>Total</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>686*</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>299*</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4*</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11*</b>

*\* Per 1,000**\*\* Undefined variable*

**Table 3***Central Georgia In Situ Breast Cancer Incidence, by Race and County, 2006*

County	Caucasian		African American		Hispanic		Other	
	New Cases	Incidence Rate	New Cases	Incidence Rate	New Cases	Incidence Rate	New Cases	Incidence Rate
Baldwin	4	91*	2	111*	0	0*	0	0*
Bibb	14	318*	9	500*	0	0*	0	0*
Crawford	2	45*	0	0*	0	0*	0	0*
Houston	15	341*	3	167*	0	0*	1	1000*
Jones	3	68*	1	56*	0	0*	0	0*
Monroe	3	68*	1	56*	0	0*	0	0*
Peach	2	45*	1	56*	0	0*	0	0*
Twiggs	1	23*	1	56*	0	0*	0	0*
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>698*</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>286*</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0*</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16*</b>

\* Per 1,000

\*\* Undefined variable

## Counties of Interest: What the Data Shows

Each county in the Central Georgia Affiliate eight county Service Area has a particular need to be addressed by the affiliate. While Bibb and Houston have the highest incidence and mortality rates, they also have the largest populations. Both counties have large hospitals, free clinics and have been the recipients of grants over the past several years. The counties with smaller populations are more rural the residents have less access to medical attention and breast health education.

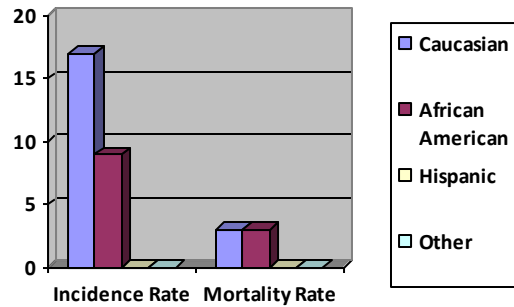
### Baldwin County - Population- 46,716

*Incidence Rate*

Caucasian- 17 new cases  
 African American – 9 new cases  
 Hispanic- 0  
 Other- 0

*Mortality Rate*

Caucasian- 3  
 African American- 3  
 Hispanic-0  
 Other-0



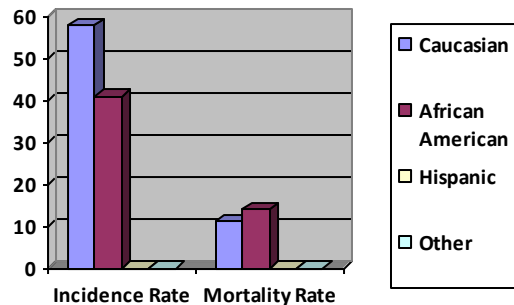
### Bibb County-Population-155,216

*Incidence Rate*

Caucasian- 58 new cases  
 African American – 41 new cases  
 Hispanic- 0  
 Other- 0

*Mortality Rate*

Caucasian- 11  
 African American- 14  
 Hispanic-0  
 Other-0



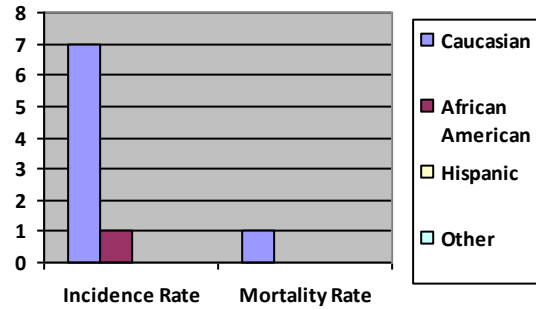
**Crawford County- Population- 12,510**

*Incidence Rate*

Caucasian- 7 new cases  
 African American – 1 new case  
 Hispanic- 0  
 Other- 0

*Mortality Rate*

Caucasian- 1  
 African American- 0  
 Hispanic-0  
 Other-0



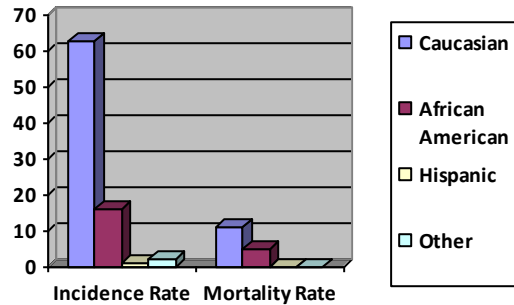
**Houston County - Population- 133,161**

*Incidence Rate*

Caucasian- 63 new cases  
 African American – 16 new cases  
 Hispanic- 0  
 Other- 0

*Mortality Rate*

Caucasian- 11  
 African American- 5  
 Hispanic-0  
 Other-0



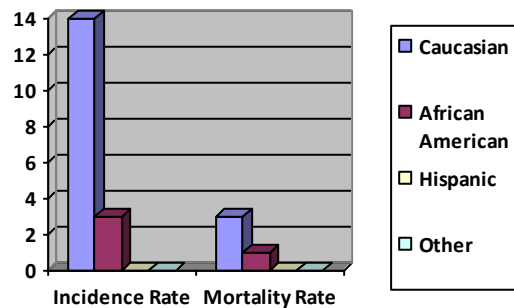
**Jones County- Population- 27,542**

*Incidence Rate*

Caucasian- 14 new cases  
 African American – 3 new cases  
 Hispanic- 0  
 Other- 0

*Mortality Rate*

Caucasian- 3  
 African American- 1  
 Hispanic-0  
 Other-0



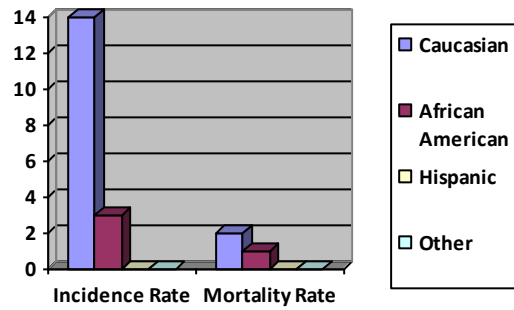
**Monroe County- Population- 25,252**

*Incidence Rate*

Caucasian- 14 new cases  
 African American – 3 new cases  
 Hispanic- 0  
 Other- 0

*Mortality Rate*

Caucasian- 2  
 African American- 1  
 Hispanic-0  
 Other-0



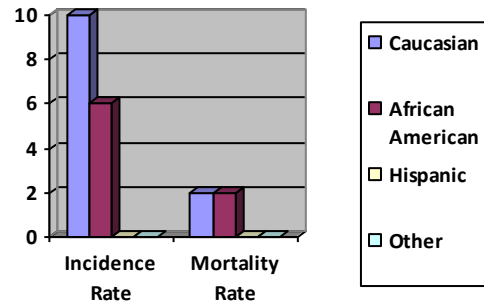
**Peach County - Population- 26,736**

*Incidence Rate*

Caucasian- 10 new cases  
 African American – 6 new cases  
 Hispanic- 0  
 Other- 0

*Mortality Rate*

Caucasian- 2  
 African American- 2  
 Hispanic-0  
 Other- 0



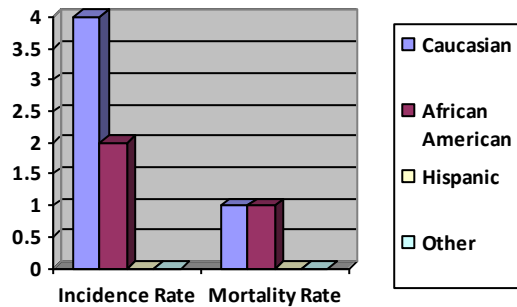
**Twiggs County- Population-10,257**

*Incidence Rate*

Caucasian- 4 new cases  
 African American – 2 new cases  
 Hispanic- 0  
 Other- 0

*Mortality Rate*

Caucasian- 1  
 African American- 1  
 Hispanic-0  
 Other-0



## **Demographic and Breast Cancer Findings**

Based on breast cancer statistics and demographic analysis, it was determined that no one specific county could be targeted with a greater need than the rest. Each of the eight counties in the Central Georgia Affiliate have specific needs that must be addressed. While Bibb County and Houston County have the highest incidence and mortality rates, the smaller, more rural counties must continue to be high on the priority list to continue to reach out to the residents with breast health education and information. It is important to the community profile team to continue to look for ways to reach all of the people of Central Georgia.

## **Programs and Services**



### **Data Source and Methodology Overview**

Surveys and questionnaires were developed by members of the Community Profile Team. Other affiliates from across the country shared which tactics had been effective and which effects had not had the desired effect through a list serve. Surveys were taken of both Key Informants and Service Providers. Key Informants included breast cancer survivors, some of whom are members of the Bosom Buddies Support Group in Macon and Warner Robins, others survivors who are not members of support groups, breast cancer activists, and members of the community who work closely with breast cancer and breast cancer survivors. Service Provider Surveys were given to hospitals, clinics, volunteer organizations, county health departments and cancer centers.

Organizations were contacted by phone or in person and asked to be part of the data collection process. Those who agreed were sent a survey to complete and return. Individuals who completed the Key Informant Surveys were also either contacted directly or were given a copy of the survey through the Bosom Buddy Support Group. All of these completed surveys were reviewed and entered onto a spreadsheet.

### **Programs and Services Overview**

#### **Medical Providers**

Central Georgia has limited medical care facilities and providers throughout the Service Area. The majority of service providers are located in Macon and Warner Robins. People living outside those cities generally commute for medical care. The cancer-related health care facilities with nurse and patient navigators are the Central Georgia Breast Care Center in the Medical Center of Central Georgia and the Cancer Center at The Coliseum Hospital which are both located in Macon. The Pavilion, a part of Houston HealthCare, provides breast health information through a nurse navigator in Warner Robins.

### Central Georgia Affiliate Hospitals

Hospital Name	Address	Phone Number
Coliseum Hospital	330 Hospital Drive, Macon, GA 31217	478-756-7000
Coliseum Northside Hospital	400 Charter Boulevard, Macon GA 31210	478-757-8200
Houston Medical Center	1601 Watson Blvd. Warner Robins, GA 31093	478-929-8100
Medical Center	1014 Forsyth Street, Macon, GA 31201	478-633-2000
Monroe County Hospital	88 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Forsyth, GA 31029	478-994-2521
Oconee Regional Medical Center	821 North Cobb Street, Milledgeville, GA 31061	478-454-3505
Perry Hospital	1120 Morningside Drive, Perry, GA 31069	478-987-3600

### Community Health Centers

There are several Community Health Centers available to poor and medically underserved men and women in Central Georgia. Compassionate Care Clinic is located in Baldwin County. The Macon Volunteer Clinic serves working poor Bibb County residents who are below the poverty line. First Choice Primary Care is a private nonprofit community health center that provides medical care to the medically underserved of Bibb County. The Volunteer Medical Clinic of Houston County serves the working poor of Houston County.

### Central Georgia Affiliate Free or Low Cost Health Clinics

Organization	Address	Phone Number
Community Health Works	105 Patrol Road, Ste. 2, Forsyth, GA 31029	478-994-1914
Compassionate Care Clinic	102 Airport Road, Milledgeville, GA 31061	478-453-0077
First Choice Primary Care Center	770 Walnut Avenue, Macon, GA 31210	478-787-4266
Macon Volunteer Clinic	376 Rogers Avenue, Macon, GA 31204	478-755-1110
Volunteer Medical Clinic of Houston County	125 Russell Parkway, Warner Robins, GA 31088	478-923-9730

## County Health Departments

The Central Georgia Affiliate Service Area is inside the North Central Georgia Public Health Department District. Each County in the Central Georgia Affiliate has at least one health department. Peach County has offices in the cities of Fort Valley and Byron. The Health Departments provide education and screening through the Georgia Comprehensive Cancer Control Program. Diagnosis and treatment for breast cancer is available for indigent women through the Cancer State Aid Program.

### Central Georgia Affiliate County Health Departments

Health Department	Address	Phone Number
Baldwin County	953 Barrows Ferry Road Milledgeville, GA 31061	478-445-4274
Bibb County	171 Emery Highway Macon, GA 31217	478-745-0411
Crawford County	301 McCrary Street Roberta, GA 31078	478-836-3167
Houston County	98 Cohen Walker Drive Warner Robins, GA 31088	478-218-2000
Jones County	114 Forest Street Gray, GA 31032	478-986-3164
Monroe County	106 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Forsyth, GA 31029	478-992-5082
Peach County: Fort Valley	406 East Church Street, Fort Valley, GA 31030	478-825-6939
Peach County: Byron	200 Mosely Road, Byron, GA 31008	478-956-7679
Twiggs County	26 Main Street P.O. Box 293 Jefferson, GA 31044	478-945-3351

## Information and Support Services

There are several organizations in the Central Georgia Affiliate Service Area that provide breast cancer information, materials, supplies, and support. These organizations are located throughout the Service Area. Some of these organizations are members of the Komen Grants Program. The mission of each organization varies. Some provide materials at little or no cost, while others charge for the medical supplies they supply. Some offer support to specific demographics while others are open to all breast cancer survivors.

### Central Georgia Affiliate Breast Cancer Resources

Organization	Services Provided	Phone Number
American Cancer Society	breast health information and support	478-741-9505
Beach Buddies	support for young breast cancer survivors	478-718-4123
Bosom Buddies	Breast cancer support group	478-765-4805
Central Georgia Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure	education materials and breast cancer awareness speakers	478-390-4828
Color Me Pink	breast cancer supplies	478-953-1377
Harriet's Closet	free cancer resource center	478-454-3505
First Baptist Church of Perry	Hope Ministry; breast cancer information and survivor kit	478-987-2002

**2009-2010 Central Georgia Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure Grant Slate**

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Amount Recommended</b>
1	<b>Macon Volunteer Clinic</b>	<i>Breast Cancer Screening</i>	\$30,000
2	<b>Houston Healthcare</b>	<i>Breast Health Regional Outreach Partnership</i>	\$30,000
3	<b>Medical Center of Central Georgia</b>	<i>Cancer Well-Fit Project</i>	\$15,000
4	<b>READ Foundation</b>	<i>By thought, word and deed: Breast Cancer Education and Outreach</i>	\$10,000
5	<b>Georgia Cancer Foundation, Bosom Buddies</b>	<i>Journey To A Better You</i>	\$15,000
6	<b>Houston Healthcare</b>	<i>Girls Night Out</i>	\$8,000
7	<b>Georgia College and State University</b>	<i>Breast Health Program for women with Intellectual disabilities</i>	\$4,083
8	<b>Mercer University School of Medicine</b>	<i>A Culturally Appropriate Breast Cancer Program for African American Women in Rural Middle Georgia</i>	\$17,000
9	<b>Houston Healthcare</b>	<i>Cancer Survivor Exercise Program</i>	\$3,230
10	<b>New Hope International</b>	<i>Pink Sunday 2009 and Circle of Promise Pageant 2009</i>	\$7,500
11	<b>LINKs, Inc.</b>	<i>Sister's Keepers</i>	\$6,500
12	<b>First Choice Primary Care</b>	<i>Breast health awareness and mammograms for underserved women</i>	\$30,000
13	<b>Georgia Cancer Foundation</b>	<i>Low Cost Mammograms in Baldwin County</i>	\$15,000



### **Partnerships and Grant Opportunities**

The Komen Grants Program in the Central Georgia Affiliate strives to meet the needs and gaps outlined in the Community Profile. During the 2007-2008 and 2009-2020 grant cycles, the funding priorities were:

- Breast screening services targeting women of color throughout the service area
- Breast health education programs targeting women of color throughout the service area
- Projects addressing barriers to breast health education and screening in rural areas of the service area

These funding priorities help to guide the grant application review process. Applications are more likely to be funded the closer they line up with the funding priorities. Funding priorities are explained in great detail each year during a Grant Writing Workshop held in November. Two projects that fit the guidelines for the 2009-2010 Grant Cycle by targeting breast health education for women of color in rural areas of Central Georgia are:

- *Sisters Keepers* is a project out of Peach County, which is one of the more rural counties in the Service Area. The project recruits and trains women of color about breast health in order that they become “Sisters Keepers” and take responsibility to remind their mothers, daughters, co-works, friends or any women in their life to get screened annually and practice breast self awareness.
- The READ Foundation’s project *By Thought, Word, and Deed* reaches out to women of color throughout four rural counties, organizing educational lunches with African American doctors teaching about breast health. They also go into barber

shops, beauty parlors, and housing authority community centers in order to take the message of breast health wherever there are people who need to be educated.

Transportation to treatment continues to be a need throughout the service area, especially from rural areas to the hospitals and treatment facilities located in the Service Area's larger cities. Some grant projects have attempted to provide transportation for breast cancer survivors but a successful program has not yet been established.

### **Promising Practices and Evidence-Based Programs**

*Cancer Well Fit* and *Cancer Survivor Exercise Program* are two promising practices and evidenced-based programs that are grantees in the Komen Central Georgia Affiliate are mind body exercise program designed for cancer survivors. *Cancer Well Fit* was started by the Medical Center at the Wellness Center as a 12 week exercise and education program provided free to any cancer survivor with a doctor's recommendation. Program participants rave that the social interaction motivated them to attend classes and participate in the exercise, which studies show is beneficial to breast cancer survivors undergoing treatment. Another 12 week exercise and education program for cancer survivors was started in 2008 in Houston County by Houston HealthCare. As this program grows, it is a promising opportunity for the Central Georgia Affiliate to have two exercise programs for breast cancer survivors within the service area. A study conducted by R. Segal and colleagues from the University of Ottawa in Canada, demonstrated that exercise can overcome some of the negative side effects of adjuvant breast cancer treatment and should be included in the treatment plan discussion between patients and their physicians (Segal, 2000). *Cancer Well Fit* and the Houston HealthCare *Cancer Exercise and Survivor Program* both promise to help women recover more successfully from their breast cancer treatment.

### **Public Policy Perspectives**

The Central Georgia Affiliate is in the beginning stages of building a relationship with the state and regional directors of the Breast and Cervical Cancer Prevention Program. Together, both organizations are working on improving communications and using each other for referral services. While Public Policy is a relatively new initiative for Komen Central Georgia, it has already proven successful. The Public Policy efforts of Greater Atlanta Affiliate, Coastal Georgia Affiliate and the Central Georgia Affiliate have joined forces to present a unified public policy agenda and to work with our representatives to focus on funding of the Breast Cervical Cancer Prevention and Treatment.

Women in Central Georgia can access the BCCPT program through their local health department in each of the eight counties in the Affiliate Service Area. The policy statement of BCCPT is to provide "Medicaid coverage to women diagnosed and who are in need of treatment for breast or cervical cancer and/or precancerous conditions of the breast or cervix." For a woman to be covered she must be under 65 years old, a legal US resident or registered alien, a resident of the state of Georgia and under 200% of the Federal Poverty Level and without health insurance (Georgia Department of Community Health Eligibility Criteria. 2009).

## The Elected Representatives for the Central Georgia Affiliate Service Area

### *U.S. Senators*

**Saxby Chambliss**

202-224-3521

416 Russell Senate Office Building

Washington, DC 20510

**Johnny Isakson**

(202) 224-3643

120 Russell Senate Office Building

Washington, DC 20510

### *U.S. Representatives*

**Jim Marshall**

(202) 225-6531

Georgia-8th, Democrat

504 Cannon HOB

Washington, DC 20515-1003

**Sanford D. Bishop Jr.**

(202) 225-3631

Georgia-2nd, Democrat

2429 Rayburn HOB

Washington, DC 20515-1002

**John Barrow**

(202) 225-2823

Georgia-12th, Democrat

213 Cannon HOB

Washington, DC 20515-1012

### *Georgia Government*

**Sonny Perdue**

Governor

**Casey Cagle**

Lt. Governor

**Karen Handel**

Secretary of State

**Tommy Irvin**

Agriculture Commissioner

**John Oxendine**

Insurance Commissioner

### *Georgia Representatives*

**Robert Brown**

District 26

Bibb County, Centerville, Warner Robins,

Twiggs

**Johnny Grant**

District 25

Baldwin County, Jones County

**Cecil Staton**

District 18

Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Monroe

**Ross Tolleson**

District 20

Houston County

**George Hooks**

District 14

Peach County

## Exploratory Data



### Data Sources and Methodology Overview

Exploratory, or community data, were collected through Provider and Key Informant Surveys. The Providers work with breast cancer survivors on a daily bases and the Key Informants offer specific expertise and insight into the breast health needs in the community. Survey responses were compiled and the data were then coded. The data were reviewed by different members of the Community Profile Committee. Data taken from the National Cancer Institute website, Service Area County demographic websites, Georgia Department of Community Health is also included in the statics.

### Exploratory Data Overview

*Provide transportation for breast cancer treatment and women who need screening*

Transportation to and from treatment was a common theme in both the Provider and Key Informant Surveys. Transportation is not only a problem for poor populations or women who do not own cars, many women in treatment cannot handle the additional stress of commuting. The lack of medical facilities in many of the rural counties leaves women with little choice to drive long distances to treatment, take public transportation when that is available, or possibly miss an appointment if a friend or family member cannot drive them.

Central Georgia Radiation Oncology explains that “There have always been transportation issues with our patient’s under treatment. Many patients miss their treatments because they do not have physical transportation to treatments or do not have

the money to pay friends/family for gas or a cab fare. Most of the time, these are patients who have no insurance or Medicare only. Transportation has ALWAYS been an issue for low-income or elderly patients.”

#### *Address barriers to breast cancer screening*

Survey respondents identified a broad range of community barriers that cause some women not to receive annual mammograms. The most common answer was financial hardship. Additional community barriers are that some women are scared of the procedure and others are scared of what the results might be. Some women under 40 think that they are too young to get breast cancer although they can still be at risk. Some Providers responded that some women are simply not told by their doctors to get a mammogram, which can prevent women from following through on her own. Providers also listed that women forgo mammograms because they forget, they think mammograms are unnecessary or they think the mammogram is going to be painful.

Beverly Stanley is the director of the Coliseum Cancer Center and recommends that the best way to reach people is by “Providing transportation, and continued survivor support. Allowing survivors to serve as spokespersons to increase awareness and to let others know that breast cancer can be cured if caught in the early stages.”

Dr. Sandra Gangstead is a breast cancer survivor who believes that barriers could be reduced if providers “Extend hours of operations of Clinics”.

#### *Offer a variety of culturally sensitive education*

87.5% of the providers surveyed provide education materials. Providers obtain education materials through many different sources including doctors’ offices, Susan G. Komen for the Cure headquarters, Central Georgia Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure, American Cancer Society, and pharmaceutical companies. Very few education materials are created by the Providers themselves.

Of the Key Informants surveyed, the most common response from non medical professional breast cancer survivors was that they did not know where women sought medical information, what clinics provided free or low cost services and they did not know where women obtained breast health education materials. Breast cancer survivors who are active in breast cancer support group can be an invaluable resource spread through the community. The Affiliate should work on educating and updating breast cancer survivors about current and new breast cancer services in the Service Area.

Key Informants and Providers both requested that Spanish speaking volunteers and health professionals to volunteer their services.

#### *Accommodating women with physical challenges*

All of the Providers that were surveyed that offer mammograms can accommodate women in wheelchairs for their mammograms.

### *Advertise clinical trials*

75% of the Providers surveyed said that they are aware of clinical trials in the Central Georgia area while 25% of the Providers are not aware of the clinical trials. None of the Providers surveyed provide access to trials. Only 12.5 % of these same Providers are interested in receiving information about refereeing their patients to clinical trials. 62.5% were not interested in informing their patients about the clinical trials. 25% did not respond to the questions. This information is important to the Central Georgia Affiliate so that health care providers can continue to be educated about the benefits of clinical trials and their local availability.

### *Provide information regarding support groups*

The surveys reported that support groups are primarily attended by women in the age brackets of 40-49, 50-64, and older than 65. African American, Caucasian, and Hispanic women are all specifically targeted for support group attendance. Most of the women who attend the support groups are employed either full or part time although many of the women are retired.

50% of the Providers surveyed say that they target women of all ages for breast health.

### *Inform rural areas on early detection, screening, and where free or reduced cost services are available*

A great need to break down breast cancer education barriers in African American Community still exists in the Service Area. Much of the Komen Grant Program's focus has been on the rural African American Community, but, at the same time, the Central Georgia Affiliate cannot neglect the large numbers of Caucasian women in Bibb and Houston Counties. The Affiliate must continue to focus on education in rural communities in the Service Area while not abandoning existing projects in Bibb and Houston, since the numbers of breast cancer diagnosis and deaths are so much higher in those two counties.

Nicole Rinehart is a breast cancer survivor and feels the best way to reach people is to "Put real people out there to tell their stories and motivate those who need to move forward."

50% of the organizations surveyed did not know which organizations in the community can offer financial assistance for breast health services in the community.

Janet Freeman, a nurse manger in Monroe County, wants to see more TV ads to help spread breast cancer awareness.

## **Exploratory Data Findings**

An area that arose as a gap in services during the survey review process relates to Hispanic women. There are very little data about how many Hispanic women live in Central Georgia. Provider surveys listed that the Hispanic population is specifically targeted by them and 75% of the providers surveyed noted that there was a need for Spanish language translators. Many, but not all of the providers, already provide breast education literature in Spanish although this service needs to be expanded.

## **Conclusions**

### **Target Area Findings**

Data that were collected showed the highest incidence of breast cancer detected in the Service Area is among Caucasian women in Houston County followed closely by Caucasian women in Bibb County. The documented incidence rate for Hispanic women and other women, including but not limited to Asian and Pacific Islander, is extremely low.

There are no documented breast cancer deaths for Hispanic women or other women for any of the eight counties in the Central Georgia service area. The mortality rate is highest among African American women in Bibb County. The mortality rate is slightly lower or about equal for Caucasian women in Houston and Bibb Counties.

The incidence rate and mortality rate are both low in the other six counties in the Central Georgia Affiliate. This can be due to several factors including but not limited to their lower populations and limited medical service providers.

### **Putting the Data Together**

The findings from the Key Informant and Provider surveys were not unexpected. Many of the gaps and needs were the same as outlined in the 2006 Community Profile. Since the 2006 Community Profile was completed however, the number of grantees has doubled, allowing the Komen Central Georgia Affiliate to have a stronger presence throughout the Service Area. There are several new free or low cost clinics that offer services to women seeking breast health information and screening. There will always be a need for free or low cost mammography. These clinics are small and do require grant funding to accomplish the number of mammograms and clinical breast exams that they perform. There are many more breast health education projects, especially ones that are culturally sensitive to African American women. The surveys did call for the need of transportation assistance for women in treatment. There really are no established programs for this and it is an area that needs to be addressed. Caucasian women and African American women are the mostly likely to be diagnosed with breast cancer, both in Central Georgia and the US but the Key Informant and Provider surveys provided very little information about Hispanic women. While many Providers agreed on the need for translators, most Spanish speaking, there was very little information about what percentage of their patients are Hispanic women. The Community Profile committee agreed that while many but certainly not all of the Hispanic women in Central Georgia are primary Spanish speaking, there is a need to specifically reach out to the Spanish Speaking Hispanic Community with breast health education and encourage people to use the health care resources already set in place to receive annual mammograms.

## **GAPS/NEEDS**

According to the Key Informant Survey and Provider Surveys, the Central Georgia Affiliate target population includes Caucasian, African Americans, Hispanic, low income, rural, and uninsured/underinsured. The areas of screening, treatment, education, prevention, diagnosis and support can all be expanded to improve the Affiliate's impact in the Central Georgia community.

### *Screening*

- Increase screening rates among underserved women
- Continue to fund programs that offer complimentary and low cost mammograms

### *Treatment*

- Seek to improve transportation to/from rural and underserved communities for treatment care
- Increase funding for treatment to include post-mastectomy supplies for our target population
- Encourage survivors to continue treatment by joining a support group

### *Education*

- Increase breast health knowledge among young women, African American, Hispanic, uninsured/underinsured, rural, and low income women with culturally sensitive material
- Increase community awareness of available breast health services including education, treatment, support groups

### *Prevention*

- Educate women about breast cancer risk factors and encourage healthy lifestyles
- Encourage women to talk with their doctors about their personal risk for breast cancer and possibly consider genetic testing for BRCA1 or BRCA2

### *Diagnosis*

- Encourage earlier screening/diagnosis among the medical community
- Increase the awareness of complimentary diagnostic services to our target population and health professionals

### *Support*

- Educate/inform local physicians and health professionals of their responsibility to refer their patients to local support programs
- Increase the awareness of breast cancer support groups and services offered in our service area

## **Affiliate Action Plan**

### **Priorities and Objectives**

#### **Priority 1 – Provide free and/or low-cost breast screening**

*Objective 1:* Continue to fund grants that meet the needs of those women who fall through the crack because they are too young for the BCCCP, uninsured, underinsured, etc. Seek additional partnerships through 501(c) (3) organizations.

*Objective 2:* Increase available funding for breast health services to those counties within the Central Georgia Service Area that currently possess the most limited resources, where many women are uninsured or underinsured and do not seek healthcare as a result.

#### **Priority 2 – Provide Breast Health Education**

*Objective 1:* Educate the public about breast health. Education is needed throughout the Komen Central Georgia Affiliate’s Service Area among women of all ages. It is important to get the information to the public in a non-threatening and accessible manner.

*Objective 2:* Communicate the importance of breast health education and screening to primary care physicians through volunteers, presentations, and forums to arm physicians with the newest breast health information so they can share with their patients.

*Objective 3:* Raise awareness among county breast health providers about Komen Grants and other state programs that provide free /low-cost screening.

#### **Priority 3 - Maintain a strong community presence throughout the Service Area**

*Objective 1:* Increase the Central Georgia Affiliate’s presence in the community through public policy, fund raising, and targeted education efforts.

*Objective 2:* Strengthen and build relationships with local, state and federal elected officials to serve as a trusted resource for breast-related legislation, with an emphasis on the state BCCEDP programs.

#### **Priority 4 - Offer support to breast cancer survivors during and after treatment**

*Objective 1:* Encourage breast cancer survivor involvement with support groups, fund projects that directly target breast cancer survivors improvement in quality of life

*Objective 2:* Provide access to transportation for women seeking breast health services. Transportation is a major obstacle for women in the rural areas. For many there is no public transportation and the closest health care facility is many miles away, sometimes in another county.

## **Opportunities for Affiliate Growth**

### *Marketing/ Fund Raising*

The Central Georgia Race for the Cure is the Affiliate's signature fundraiser. It has always taken place in Macon. Most of the sponsorship, funding and participants are from Bibb County as well. Other areas of fundraising and marketing opportunities can be developed throughout the Service Area. Third party events frequently occur throughout the Service Area. While there are five grant projects in and around Houston County, there is still a need for a stronger Affiliate presence and marketing in Houston County. A stronger Houston County presence could lead to additional fund raising and sponsorships.

### *Public Policy Efforts*

The Public Policy Committee is a new addition to the Central Georgia Affiliate. The chair of the Public Policy committee has attended the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Lobby Day for the past three years. In 2008, each of the three Georgia Affiliates gathered to coordinate a state wide public policy platform. There has been little to no participation from the grantees in the public policy efforts of the Komen Central Georgia Affiliate. Grantees can be contacted about upcoming public policy efforts being conducted by the Affiliate and encouraged to participate in the committee's grassroots efforts.

### *Education and Outreach*

The Central Georgia Affiliate has spent several years successfully reaching out to different areas throughout Bibb and parts of Houston County. While most residents of the eight county Service Area come to Bibb and Houston County for their medical care, there is still a need for greater grantee and Affiliate efforts in the outlying counties in the areas of education and outreach. There are several grant projects that specifically target outlying counties. With continued support of these projects and a greater Affiliate focus on the outlying counties, the entire Central Georgia Service Area will be well covered with breast health education and outreach.

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