

In 1980, Nancy G. Brinker watched helplessly as her sister, Susan G. Komen, died after a three-year battle with breast cancer. Before Susan died, Nancy made a promise that would change the world: to end breast cancer forever.

In 1982, that promise launched Susan G. Komen for the Cure®, which, in 29 years, has become the global leader of the breast cancer movement, creating the world's largest grassroots network of cancer survivors and activists, investing millions of dollars each year for research, education, screening and treatment, and encouraging global governments to make cancer a priority.

The stakes are enormous: In the United States, more than 200,000 women and men will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year alone. More than 40,000 will die. Around the world, more than 1.3 million new breast cancer cases will be diagnosed this year, and almost 460,000 will die. Every 69 seconds, somewhere in the world, a woman dies from breast cancer – the most prevalent cancer among women today. These numbers are, quite simply, unacceptable.

Our plan is straightforward: We fund cutting-edge research to find the cures—more than \$610 million since we began. More than \$900 million since inception has helped pay for mammograms, cancer education, treatment and other forms of direct help in thousands of communities. All together, Komen has invested more than \$1.9 billion in its mission; this number represents our total investment since 1982 in research, community programs and advocacy programs for our Komen family members in need, as of the end of FY10.

Our impact is huge: A Susan G. Komen for the Cure grant has touched every major breast cancer breakthrough and major scientists of the past 29 years—including three Nobel Prize winners. Funding for discoveries in genetics and biology has evolved into personalized, less invasive treatments for what was once a “one-treatment-fits-all” disease.

We operate around the world: With relationships in 50 countries and Affiliates in Germany, Italy and Puerto Rico, Komen is determined to end cancer on a global scale. Our founder, the Goodwill Ambassador for Cancer Control for the U.N.'s World Health Organization, has called for world governments to “Include Cancer” in global health programs.

...And close to home: Komen Affiliates operate in more than 120 U.S. communities, annually helping to fund more than 600,000 breast cancer screenings and paying for financial, emotional and social support programs for more than 100,000 women and men. Today, there are more than 2.5 million breast cancer survivors in the U.S., the largest group of cancer survivors in the country.

Economists tell us that Komen-funded research and programs saved 4,500 American lives in 2007, with an economic impact of almost \$300 million.

In 29 years, Komen has become the world's largest source of nonprofit funds for breast cancer. To date, we have invested more than \$1.9 billion in breast cancer research and community screening, treatment and advocacy programs.