



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Susan G. Komen Northern and Central California and Life Saving Images
Join Forces to Reduce Breast Cancer Deaths by 25% in 5 years**

Sacramento, California – Susan G. Komen Northern and Central California (Komen NCCA) has formed an exclusive partnership with mobile mammography provider Life Saving Images (LSI) to achieve the “Bold Goal” of reducing breast cancer disparities among African American women and the uninsured and underinsured in Northern and Central California by 25% in five years. This mission is part of Komen’s National efforts to reduce overall breast cancer deaths 50% by 2026.

In October of this year alone, in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Komen NCCA and LSI collaborated to screen a total of 316 women. This achievement is unprecedented and exceeds the 305 women than Komen NCCA helped get screened during the entire year of 2016. When found in its earliest stages, the breast cancer 5-year relative survival rate is 99 percent.

The success of the October screening was also due to partnerships with community-based organizations and local employers to bring the mobile clinic to their job sites. The additional partners for the screening events included Cargill, Century 21, Chick-fil-A, Jackson Rancheria, Mack Road Valley Community Center, North Valley Indian Health, Oak Park Community Center, Simon Premium Outlets, and United Health Centers.

“Through the use of mobile mammography, we can decrease waiting times and offer convenience, quality, compassion, professionalism, privacy, and increased access,” says Kelly MacMillan, Executive Director, Komen NCCA. “Our mobile coach is equipped with state-of-the-art technology and is certified by the Food and Drug Administration, the American College of Radiology and complies with the Mammography Quality Standards Act. All mammograms are performed by experienced and caring mammography technologists specifically trained to work in the field of mammography,” says Jim Drury, CEO of LSI.

It is estimated that one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. For African American women, it is one in nine. While the diagnosis rate is somewhat comparable, the death rate for African American women diagnosed with breast cancer is 41% higher than most other women. In some parts of California, that death rate is 70% higher. This disparity is a result of barriers that exist at the individual, community, and system level.



The Komen NCCA and LSI partnership aims to eliminate the barriers to breast healthcare services, and in turn increase access and utilization of the appropriate screening, diagnostic, treatment, and navigation services that otherwise are not available in communities of most need across Northern and Central California. To learn more about this partnership, go to (<https://komennccalifornia.org/news/>).

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About Susan G. Komen® and Komen Northern and Central California

Susan G. Komen is the world's largest breast cancer organization, funding more breast cancer research than any other nonprofit while providing real-time help to those facing the disease. Komen has set a Bold Goal to reduce the current number of breast cancer deaths by 50 percent in the U.S. by 2026. Komen was founded in 1982 by Nancy G. Brinker, who promised her sister, Susan G. Komen, that she would end the disease that claimed Suzy's life. Komen Northern and Central California is working to better the lives of those facing breast cancer in the local community. Through events like the Komen Central Valley Race for the Cure® and the Komen Sacramento Valley Race for the Cure®, Komen Northern and Central California has invested \$22 million in community breast health programs in 29 counties and has helped contribute to the more than \$956 million invested globally in research. For more information, call our Sacramento office at 916.231.3148, Fresno office at 559.229.4255, or visit KomenNCCalifornia.org.