

SPEAKER REMARKS
2019 SUSAN G. KOMEN MISSOURI IMPACT CELEBRATION

JENNIFER KINGSTON:

- Thank you so much for being here. You all are very important members of the Komen Missouri family – our most generous sponsors, donors and volunteers
- Tonight is our opportunity thank you for your support and to celebrate the impact your generosity makes in our mission to save lives and end breast cancer forever.
 - Your generosity ensures that Komen Missouri exists as a source support for hundreds of people who call on us when they need information on resources for breast health education and care.
 - You enable us to collaborate with like-minded organizations in our community through the Breast Cancer Community Partnership, working to reduce disparities in breast cancer outcomes in the African American community.
 - You support our efforts to advocate to lawmakers in support of policies that improve access to life-saving health care and ensure continued funding for research.
 - Through your support, in the last fiscal year Komen Missouri invested more than \$140,000 to advance breakthroughs in breast cancer research.
 - You also enabled us to direct more than \$425,000 in funds to provide life-saving screenings and care.
- Our grantee organizations are putting Komen Missouri funding to work -- delivering breast health services directly to people in our community. They include
 - The *Start Now* program through the Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation
 - The *Breast Health Care for At-Risk Communities* program through Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Siteman Cancer Center
 - The *Breast Cancer Screening and Education at Mercy East Communities* program through Mercy
 - The *SSM Breast Care: Empowering and Engaging Women* program with SSM Health
 - And *The MBMC Breast HealthCare Center Reaching the Underserved* programs through Missouri Baptist Medical Center.
- Tanya English is the program manager for clinical operations in oncology at Missouri Baptist Medical Center. We're pleased to have her with us to share how your support of Komen Missouri makes an impact on people in our region throughout the year.

TANYA SPEAKS – 5 minutes

- Thank you, Tanya and all our grantees for their passion and dedication – ensuring Komen funding is used to help as many people in need as possible. (LEAD APPLAUSE)
- In addition to educating and caring for people in the community, breast cancer research is also a key priority for Susan G. Komen. 25% of our net proceeds are directed to support research projects all over the world. It is not uncommon for that funding and more to come back to the St. Louis region to fund research here in our back yard. Tonight we're honored to have a brilliant scientist as our guest to share how Komen funding has influenced his work. Join me in welcoming Dr. Ron Bose.

DR. BOSE SPEAKS – 5 minutes

- Thank Dr. Bose
- It takes tremendous support for our grantees to provide breast health services to this community and for researchers to better understand and treat this disease. It's my pleasure to introduce Suzanne Fontaine, Executive Director of Komen Missouri, to tell you more about that.

SUZANNE FONTAINE:

- Thank you all for being here to celebrate our progress in the fight against breast cancer.
- As you may know, Komen is fighting this disease on four fronts – research, care, community and action. These are our mission pillars, and we believe it's vital to work hard in all 4 of these areas to make the fastest progress toward achieving our shared vision of a world without breast cancer. To make an impact on all 4 of these fronts, it takes a tremendous amount of support.
- Our new MORE THAN PINK Walk is our largest source of funds to fuel our mission. I can't overstate the importance of your support of this event. This year's walk generated nearly \$600,000, and we're here to celebrate those of you here this evening who helped us get there.
- First of all, I'd like to recognize our event partners – these companies collectively provided more than \$226,000 in cash contributions and well over \$100,000 worth of products, services and media placement in kind. If you are here representing any of our Walk partners, please raise your hands up high. (LEAD APPLAUSE)
- And now I'd like to recognize those individuals and teams from the Walk who went above and beyond. These people answered our call to help us raise more money to fuel our fight against breast cancer. Each of the teams I'll mention raised \$2,500 or more for the Walk, and each of the individuals raised at least \$1,000. Collectively, this relatively small number of people and teams were responsible for raising more than **65%** of the funds from the Walk.
- We have a number of these people in the room this evening, so if you're a member of one of the teams I mention or I call your name as a VIP fundraiser, please raise your hand and give us a big wave. Please hold your applause until the end:

READ INDIVIDUAL NAMES/TEAM NAMES

- And of course, we could never do what we do without the generous gift of time and talent from our volunteers. There's no one better to celebrate that than Dawna Currigan who, before she joined the Komen Missouri staff, was a volunteer with Komen for 19 years!

DAWNA CURRIGAN:

- When I was a 10 years old, I lost my mom to breast cancer. So when Komen established a presence in Missouri, I decided to volunteer my time to help eliminate this disease that has devastated so many people and families. For 20 years now, I've had the honor to work alongside some of the most hardworking, dedicated, loving and talented people who also give their hearts to this cause.
- If you have volunteered with Komen Missouri even one hour in the past year, please raise your hands up high and keep them up.

- You – with your hands in the air – *each and every hour* you give to this organization creates additional capacity for us to fight breast cancer. YOU are the lifeblood of this organization. Thank you all for answering ‘yes’ when we’ve invited you to join in taking action to advance our mission.
- Please join me in celebrating the tremendous gift of time these people have given to help us end breast cancer forever. *(LEAD APPLAUSE)*
- And now, we are excited to highlight one volunteer we feel is deserving of special recognition – our Volunteer of the Year – Renee Hall *(LEAD APPLAUSE, INVITE RENEE TO STAND BESIDE YOU)*
 - Renee could actually be considered “Volunteer of the Past 20 Years.” Her drive and passion are the reason we are standing here today.
 - In 1999, Renee led a group of people to establish the Race for the Cure in the St. Louis area, then jumped through numerous hoops to complete the process of establishing an official Komen affiliate in St. Louis.
 - She has been a loyal, tireless volunteer and champion of the organization ever since, serving numerous years on the board of directors, including terms as board chair and currently is the board treasurer.
 - She has helped lead the organization through many challenging situations and transitions. She has recruited an untold number of volunteers. And she has raised *millions* of dollars through sponsorships, Walk team fundraising and personal contributions.
 - And since the early part of this year, Renee has voluntarily come to the Komen office at least twice a week to help with our finance, accounting and other administrative needs – vital services that keep us running and that we’d otherwise have to pay to have help with.
 - For all these reasons and too many others to mention, Komen Missouri is honored to present this award to you, Renee. *(LEAD MORE APPLAUSE)*
- Now, let’s hear from someone for whom Komen’s work is especially personal – I’m pleased to introduce you to our good friend, Sheila McGlown.

SHEILA SPEAKS – 5 minutes

SUZANNE FONTAINE:

- Thank you, Sheila – your story reminds us our work is far from over and inspires us to keep working hard to support research, fund care, motivate our community and take action to end breast cancer once and for all.
- I hope this evening has created in each of you a real sense of pride to be part of an organization that is doing so much for so many. I’d also like to remind you about some opportunities coming up to continue your support throughout the year.
 - If you’re interested in engaging as a volunteer, we have several volunteer info sessions scheduled this month – as you head out, pick up a sweet treat attached to a flyer with more info
 - BCAM is next month and we have lots going on:

- BigWigs campaign – 1st through 31st
- Ola Style Survivor Fashion Show – October 17
- Dine Out for a Cure – October 24
- Visit komenmissouri.org for all the details!
- Mark your calendar for our 2nd Annual MORE THAN PINK Walk on Saturday, June 13
- That concludes our program – everyone, please feel free to stick around a while to visit, and have a safe drive home!