

## St. Charles granted funds for breast cancer program

*by Bend\_Weekly\_News\_Sources*

BEND, Ore. – The St. Charles Foundation recently received two grants from the Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Oregon and SW Washington Affiliate. Both grants will benefit programs within the Sara Fisher Breast Cancer Project.

The first grant for \$25,000 will help to grow the Sara Fisher Breast Cancer Project initiative to take breast health education on the road to women in rural and frontier areas. The goal is for women in these regions to learn how, why and when they should use the three key screening methods for breast cancer: self exams, clinical exams and mammograms. Peggy Carey, director of the St. Charles Regional Cancer Treatment Center in Bend says that in 2008-2009, the program will test whether a free transportation van service to screening services will encourage women to have their mammogram.

–“Ultimately our goal with any program associated with the Sara Fisher Project is to decrease morbidity rates from breast cancer among Central and Eastern Oregon women,” said Carey. –“The best way to do that is through early detection and by reaching women in rural areas we are providing a service that they may have otherwise felt was unavailable. We hope this service closes the gap for them.”

The second grant from Susan G. Komen for the Cure for \$15,000 will be used to help rural women with their travel expenses to the treatment center in Bend. Included are gas coupons, lodging vouchers and Safeway coupons.

–“It is amazing to think that just by providing transportation assistance with this generous grant from Susan G. Komen for the Cure we are possibly saving a life,” said Carey. –“We feel like that ties in perfectly with the grassroots efforts we have seen from Susan G. Komen.”

For more information on the Sara Fisher Breast Cancer Project, please visit [www.cascadehealthcare.org](http://www.cascadehealthcare.org).

About the St. Charles Foundation - As the philanthropic arm of St. Charles Bend and St. Charles Redmond, the Foundation works to support and improve health care in Central and Eastern Oregon. Private donations raised by the Foundation allow St. Charles to build new medical facilities, purchase state-of-the-art medical equipment, keep pace with the latest technological advances and deliver exceptional patient care in a healing environment. The Foundation does more than just raise money for bricks and mortar. The organization also raises money to support many programs that benefit low-income and uninsured patients.

About the St. Charles Regional Cancer Treatment Center - The St. Charles Regional Cancer Treatment Center serves as the primary resource and referral center for cancer patients in Central and Eastern Oregon. This

facility offers cutting-edge cancer treatments and technology, along with a wide range of education and support services for cancer patients. The goal is simply to provide the best care available anywhere. Only one in four hospitals that treat cancer patients receive accreditation as a Comprehensive Cancer Center by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer. St. Charles Regional Cancer Treatment Center is one of them.

About the Sara Fisher Breast Cancer Project - Sara Fisher Project is a community-based program led by St. Charles Cancer Treatment Services at St. Charles Medical Center in Bend. Established in 1991, the Sara Fisher Breast Cancer Project began as an education and outreach program to promote early detection of breast cancer and promote research.

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