

# Women's Cancer Resource Center

May 2006

Dear Friend of the Women's Cancer Resource Center,

You don't have to be uninsured to know that our country's health care system is profoundly broken. A catastrophic illness like cancer threatens financial ruin for most people.

Consider some facts:

- Overwhelming evidence indicates that most people in America receive neither the most appropriate care when faced with a cancer diagnosis nor adequate cancer prevention and detection services.
- Although significant medical advances have improved health and quality of life for many Americans, poor and underserved people do not share these benefits. People of color and immigrants are hardest hit.
- African American and Latina women have higher death rates than white women for most cancers, because they are often diagnosed at an advanced stage when cancer is harder to treat and cure.
- For breast cancer - the leading cancer among all women - death rates are highest among African American women, and they also have the highest incidence rates among all women for colon, rectal, lung and bronchus cancer.

The Women's Cancer Resource Center provides culturally sensitive information and personal support for all women with cancer and their supporters, including English and Spanish help lines, support groups, practical in-home support, community outreach and education and participation in community-based research projects and collaborations. All of our services are free.

Our clients tell us:

- At WCRC, I could release all the fear and anxiety that cancer brought into my life. I could see that I wasn't alone in this fight, and that there was hope!
- The services that the WCRC offers helps women daily who do not have insurance, family or friends to help them through such a critical time in their lives. From the bottom of my heart I thank you!
- At the time of my diagnosis, it was important to express my emotions in my own language - Spanish.
- After worrying for many days, I called Molly at WCRC and she was here to support me while I found out if my cancer was metastatic or just in my breast. When the doctor came into the office, I was holding Molly's hands. I found out the cancer had recurred only in my right breast.

Please donate so that our staff and volunteers can continue to provide empowerment, education, community and advocacy for women with cancer and their supporters.

Your gift will change lives:

- \$250 funds advocates to accompany non-English speaking Latinas to doctor visits
- \$500 funds emergency financial assistance to women with breast cancer - rent, utilities and groceries
- \$1,000 funds healing arts and cultural programs: writing, yoga, tai chi, mixed media art, knitting, cooking
- \$2,500 funds an annual weekend retreat for African American women with cancer
- \$5,000 funds essential training for staff and volunteers to provide culturally sensitive services

Thank you for your generosity!

Sincerely,

Merle Weiner  
Board President

Peggy McGuire  
Executive Director



## Advocacy



## Education



## Community



## Empowerment

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