

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July XX, 2017

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Georgia's Breast Cancer License Tag Fund Awards \$300,000 to statewide programs for uninsured

ATLANTA –Thanks to citizens purchasing Georgia's Breast Cancer License Tags (BCLT), six organizations across the state have been awarded grants totaling \$300,000, for breast cancer education and screening, and treatment for underserved Georgians. Twenty-two dollars (\$22) of each tag purchased or thirty-five (\$35) of each tag renewed funds the \$300,000 in awards, administered by the Georgia Center for Oncology Research and Education (Georgia CORE) on behalf of the State Office of Rural Health in the Department of Community Health.

Awardees across the state include:

- *Albany:* Horizons Community Solutions
- *Athens:* The East Georgia Cancer Coalition
- *Atlanta:* The Center for Black Women's Wellness; YWCA of Greater Atlanta
- *Columbus:* The West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition
- *Vidalia:* Meadows Regional Medical Center

"While Georgia has increased breast cancer screening rates, not all women – particularly those without health insurance – receive appropriate screening or treatment," says Angie Patterson, Vice President of Georgia CORE and a 16-year breast cancer survivor. "The work this grant money supports will help identify breast cancer at an earlier stage, making treatment more effective."

Grant reviewers included Karen Beard, Georgia Society of Clinical Oncology; Lanell Bellury, Mercer University; Melissa Dilmon, Harbin Clinic; Diane Fletcher, Horizons Community Solutions; Sheryl Gabram-Mendola, Grady Memorial Hospital and Winship Cancer Institute at Emory University; Mia Gaudet, American Cancer Society; Kim Goff, It's the Journey; Cecilia Hammond, Genomic Health; Erin Hernandez, Northwest Regional Georgia Cancer Coalition; Amy Mattingly, Pink Ribbon Story; Tamara Mason, Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University; Susan McLendon, Meadows Regional Medical Center; Adrienne Mims, Alliant Quality; Amy Moore, Georgia Research Alliance; Winifred Thompson, Rollins School of Public Health, Grady Memorial Hospital; Nanette Tuner, Mercy University; Christine Wiggins, Georgia Department of Public Health; Phyllis Youngblood, Herzog University, and Amelia Zelnak, Atlanta Cancer Care

For information on the Georgia BCLT program, go to www.georgiacancerinfo.org/breastcancertag or to purchase a BCLT [click here.](#)

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The State Office of Rural Health (SORH), a part of the Department of Community Health, works to improve access to health care in rural and underserved areas and to reduce health status disparities. SORH provides funding for institutional framework that links small rural communities with State and Federal resources to help develop long-term solutions to rural health problems.

Georgia CORE is a public-private partnership designed to bring higher quality, better organized and more cost-effective care to cancer patients and survivors. The organization's Board of Directors is composed of cancer experts from leading cancer centers and academic institutions. CORE's network develops innovative tools and resources for cancer patients, survivors, caregivers, healthcare providers and researchers. Our collective vision is to contribute to the state's distinction as a national leader in cancer care and research and a higher caliber of health care for all Georgians. CORE's flagship resource, www.GeorgiaCancerInfo.org is the only statewide online information center of its kind, where details can be found on oncologists, clinical trials and treatment centers throughout the state.

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