



This letter appeared on the Susan G. Komen website in 2011. After SGK announced, on 1/31/2012, that it was abandoning its funding of BrCa screenings through Planned Parenthood, the letter was no longer available at that site. It was recovered from <http://www.komenie.org/assets/controversial-issues-and-komen/planned-parenthood-2011.pdf> through a Google search.

June 2011

Regarding Susan G. Komen for the Cure® and Planned Parenthood

Some have asked questions about Susan G. Komen for the Cure funding a handful of breast health programs sponsored by Planned Parenthood. We'd like to explain our position.

Komen for the Cure has more than 120 Affiliates in the United States, and each Affiliate is responsible for assessing its community and determining local breast health needs. Komen Affiliates provide grants to local organizations that educate, screen, treat and support residents in their area. Our Affiliate network funds nearly 2,000 local organizations annually.

Nineteen Komen Affiliates fund breast health services through Planned Parenthood programs that have provided breast health education and breast screenings for hundreds of thousands of low-income, uninsured or medically under-served women. In some areas, Planned Parenthood may be the only local source of breast health care.

Decisions to fund Planned Parenthood programs are based on a thorough assessment of breast health needs and resources in the communities served by our Affiliates.

In addition to education, women served at Planned Parenthood may receive a clinical breast exam, and when further screening is needed, a referral to either a state program or a private mammogram provider. In the latter case, the mammogram may be paid for by the Komen-Planned Parenthood grant. It is important to note that Komen only gives grants to nonprofit organizations, and many mammography providers are for-profit.

Affiliate funding to Planned Parenthood is reviewed twice-yearly to ensure that it is being used only for breast health services. If reviews showed the funds being used for any other purpose, the funds would be withdrawn.

Komen does NOT fund abortions.

During the past five years, Komen Affiliate grants to Planned Parenthood have paid for the following:

- Breast cancer and breast health education for nearly 160,000 women
- 139,000 clinical breast exams
- 4,866 mammograms
- Detection of 177 breast cancers

As long as there is a need for health care for vulnerable populations, Komen Affiliates will continue to fund the facilities that meet that need.

More detailed information is on our website at www.komen.org/plannedparenthood. We invite you to review the documents there, and we thank you for taking time to investigate our position.

Sincerely,
Susan G. Komen for the Cure®