Fifteen years ago, the Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition began as a small organization, committed to acting as the voice for the needs of breast cancer survivors in the state and representing their interests both in the halls of Harrisburg and in communities in every corner of the state. The power of a few committed individuals that ignited the spark that became the strongest breast cancer advocacy organization in Pennsylvania.

This year, in recognition of the progress that the PBCC has made throughout its history, the Annual Conference focused on the ‘power of one’. The four awardees - Pink Ribbon Awardee, PA Secretary of Public Welfare Estelle Richman and Pennsylvania Association of Community Bankers President Frank Pinto; Shining Light Awardee, PBCC Lehigh Valley Vice President Sandy Cray; and Potamkin Awardee Dr. Timothy Rebbeck - highlighted how the power of one individual can be an instrumental part of breast cancer policy, fundraising, advocacy, and research. Pink Ribbon Awardee Frank Pinto spoke about what inspired him to work with the PBCC to organize a first-of-its-kind statewide homerun derby fundraiser this past summer, and Secretary Estelle Richman spoke about the Breast and Cervical Cancer Free Treatment Program and her efforts to raise awareness of the program in hospitals by writing letters to inform them of the program.

Conference attendees were able to demonstrate their individual power and wisdom to “Have Their Say” in a video booth new to the conference this year. Their statements will be used on the PBCC webpage and for future projects, including the PBCC’s e-newsletter, Pink Link™.

The luncheon featured remarks by the 2008 Pink Ribbon Awardees as well as PBCC President & Founder Pat Halpin-Murphy. Giant Foods donated the centerpieces, which were reusable pink tote bags in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month that were filled with products from their organic food line and some lotions and bath gels.

The PBCC would like to thank all of the awardees, speakers, workshop presenters, conference volunteers, vendors and attendees for making the 2008 Annual Conference a success!
President’s Corner

Pat Halpin-Murphy

Resolve to Make Sure Your Medical Information is Current in the New Year

With a new year quickly approaching, it is a time to start thinking about ways to get 2009 off to a good start. For many of us, it is a time to make resolutions to engage in healthier behaviors or finally get around to something we’ve been putting off. It is also a perfect time to ensure that your personal and health information is correct and up to date.

Think back to the past few visits to your doctors’ offices. Have you been consistent in using your full legal name as it appears on your driver’s license or social security card? Have you moved in the past few months, or have you married or divorced in the past year?

These are questions that you may want to consider when verifying that the information you’ve supplied to your health care providers is accurate and current. Particularly if you are seeing more than one doctor, it is crucial to be sure that your name is listed with the correct spelling to ensure that your records are complete.

Integration of electronic health records has underscored the importance of accurate medical records and patient information (as well as the importance of safeguards to ensure the preservation of patient privacy).

Using electronic medical records, your medical and surgical history, drug allergies, and current medications taken would be readily available at all times. However, it is important to note that your record is only as useful as the data that is part of it. You should verify that your address and birth date are correct and ensure that you use the same variation of your name on each visit to ensure that your records are all maintained as one file.

Taking just a few minutes to verify that your medical records are in order will certainly give you peace of mind in the coming year and beyond.

Got questions on how to battle breast cancer while navigating insurance issues?

We can help.

The Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition’s insurance guidebook, Breast Cancer: Covered or Not? provides an inside look into the often-complicated world of the insurance industry in an easy to read resource.

While our print edition is currently sold-out, we are preparing a 2nd edition. The entire guidebook is available online at: www.pabreastcancer.org/insurance_book.html
Survivor Spotlight

Illuminating the lives of breast cancer survivors

Christine Shur
Bucks County

Christine represents Bucks County in the PBCC’s traveling photo exhibit. She has a 17 year old son Richard from her first marriage. Christine and her husband, Dr. Brian Shapiro, have an 8 year old daughter Sophie.

Her Diagnosis & Treatment

I was 45 years old when I found the lump on November 11, 2005. I felt this nagging twinge on my left side. After a few days of discomfort, I felt around my left breast. Maybe the new bra was not well made. Maybe I bumped into a door and forgot about it. This can’t be breast cancer because breast cancer doesn’t hurt, right? When I felt the mass of tissue beneath my skin though, I knew. I felt my stomach move to my throat. I knew.

My husband and children were asleep. I drifted on air down the stairs to lie awake on the sofa, numb, fearing the unknown. I felt as if I was in a freefall, losing my footing on reality. Was my life to become a question mark? As a wife, mother, and career woman, I was used to being in charge and having the answers. Now I would have to rely on others to give me advice and guide my decisions.

Two weeks after I found the lump, I had gone through all the tests needed. I had to keep it together for my daughter and son. I told my husband that adults can handle it but not the children. I was wrong. Adults can’t handle it either. I decided though that I had to find the courage to know about my health, understand my treatments and prognosis, make the hard decisions, and face the truth … no matter how good or bad the news might be.

I had four sessions of chemotherapy prior to surgery, then a mastectomy and breast reduction on the opposite side to create balance.*

Sources of Support

The PBCC website became the one source of general fact-driven information for me. I ordered a Friends Like Me™ care package and, once my job ended, I became more actively involved, representing Bucks County in the photo exhibit.

Dr. Kristin Brill saved my life. She always says it was my attitude, but I say I wouldn’t have that attitude without her. She made me feel that I was important to her and that gave me confidence.

I became a social butterfly at work, with everyone stopping by to ask about my well-being. I felt as if I was in charge of my health, and I was. At the time I was Assistant Vice President at J.P. Morgan Chase. My co-workers were amazing, treating me normally as if life is going to go on and there will be a tomorrow and a next year. Their humor, generosity, and willingness to accept me were a huge help in getting me through. I did a lot of laughing. I still do.

Taking Breast Cancer Head On

I approached breast cancer head on, getting all of it done with laughter over my tears, and determination over my fears. Humor played an important part in my survival. As good as I thought I looked in my wigs, they looked even better on my son and daughter when they turned up to dinner dressed in them! They even tried to get my husband, whose hair loss had nothing to do with chemo, to wear one.

When my pathology reports came back, I was elated. All of the lymph nodes that were removed were negative. At that moment I started to really live for the first time again. Now I remember the fear of not being here for my then 5 year old daughter and 14 year old son. Children need their mothers. That is the one thought that helped me the most to move forward and that still keeps me aware of how valuable I am to those around me.

I hope other women will step out of their comfort zones and do something to help find a cure, whether that is to donate time, create an avenue to raise funds, write a story, or spread the word. Don’t worry about losing your breast or your hair. You are not the physical. The spirit of the woman is the important thing. It’s important to laugh, and to remember who you are.

“I approached breast cancer head on, getting all of it done with laughter over my tears, and determination over my fears. Humor played an important part in my survival.”

- Christine Shur

* The PBCC was responsible for the legislation that made insurance coverage of opposite breast reconstruction for symmetry mandatory.
T he 2008 PA Breast Cancer Coalition Annual Conference featured outstanding speakers, workshops, and opportunities for all those who participated. Health care professionals, corporate leaders, survivors, and advocates had their choice of a multitude of workshops to attend that were targeted to their interests. Awardees demonstrated their leadership advancing breast cancer issues. The conference continued to live up to its reputation as the one Pennsylvania annual breast cancer event that you don’t want to miss.

Conference Highlights:

☑ Fantastic speakers
☑ Exciting and educational workshops
☑ Networking opportunities
☑ Empowerment to make a difference

“Loved it. It’s my first time and first year being diagnosed. Informative — fun — great sisterhood atmosphere! Keep up the great work!”

- Margie C., Lancaster

“If just one other person came out of there with the education, inspiration, hope and drive to get out there and help, that I did, all your hard work is worth it!”

- Karen D., Palmyra

Mark your calendar for 2009! October 14
Reducing Treatment Time for Radiation Therapy in Breast Cancer

by Gary M. Freedman, M.D.
Member, Radiation Oncology
Director, Radiation Oncology Residency and Fellowship
Fox Chase Cancer Center

When lumpectomy, now the standard alternative to mastectomy for eligible patients with early stage breast cancer, and radiation therapy are used together, survival rates in breast cancer patients match those obtained with mastectomy. The use of radiation after lumpectomy also significantly reduces the risk of a tumor recurrence in the breast and may improve chances for survival as well.

Radiation therapy in the United States has traditionally been given to breast cancer patients once each day Monday through Friday over a 6-7 week period. The whole breast is first treated for 4 ½ to 5 weeks, followed by a more focused “boost” to the area of the tumor bed for an additional 1 to 1½ weeks. Modern radiation techniques have improved in recent years as a result of 3-dimensional treatment planning, advanced computerization, and machines that are capable of delivering advanced treatment plans. But we may still be able to shorten treatment time and retain the same benefits of current therapy.

A reduction in the number of days a patient needs to undergo treatment could provide her greater convenience, more likely use of postoperative radiation if she is eligible, decreased treatment costs, and increased utilization of existing radiation therapy resources. However, before we move away from a conventional radiation schedule to an accelerated schedule, patients and their physicians need to be reassured that the long-term cure rates and risks of side effects are comparable. There are two active strategies for reducing overall treatment time in early stage breast cancer: partial breast irradiation and hypofractionated whole breast irradiation.

Partial Breast Irradiation: Partial breast irradiation (PBI) is radiation therapy directed to the tumor bed and a small margin, as opposed to the entire breast. There are several methods of PBI. Brachytherapy uses plastic catheters or tubes implanted temporarily into the breast as a means of delivering radiation in a very targeted fashion to the area around the lumpectomy site. 3D conformal radiation is a noninvasive way of using external beams of radiation to target the area around the lumpectomy site without implanted devices. Each technique has its advantages and disadvantages. PBI is given 2 times a day, 6 hours apart, for only 1 week.

Although preliminary studies have demonstrated promising results with very low recurrence rates using PBI, the method’s long-term effectiveness and side effects, as well as who the best patients for this form of treatment are, are now being studied. Not all patients may be eligible; those most often considered candidates in these early studies have been women with small tumors, the absence of involved lymph nodes, and more favorable types of breast cancer.

Hypofractionated Whole Breast Irradiation: Hypofractionation, the delivery of greater than the standard 1.8 - 2 Gy fraction sizes of radiation per day used for decades, is another method of shortening the treatment schedule. With this method, radiation is given in higher daily doses so that fewer days of treatment are needed. Schedules of only 3-4 weeks have been extensively studied in well-designed clinical trials in Canada and the United Kingdom. Results have been excellent, with the same tumor control and side effects as conventional radiation after periods of 5 and 10 years. In fact, these shorter courses of radiation are commonly used in these countries today. At Fox Chase Cancer Center, we have used a unique schedule of radiation that builds on this experience. We use a more advanced form of radiation, intensity modulated radiation therapy, and a simultaneous boost to the tumor bed to deliver the radiation in only 4 weeks instead of the usual 6-7 weeks.

Until now, there has been little interest in changing standard radiation treatment in the United States, largely because of a lack of well performed clinical studies, lack of long-term results, and a medical system that reimburses providers based on the number of treatments, encouraging the longer treatment schedules. Now that there are well designed clinical trials underway for partial breast irradiation, and excellent results of hypofractionation with long-term 10-12 year follow-up, it is time we offer these shortened treatment schedules to women more widely.

“A reduction in the number of days a patient needs to undergo treatment could provide her greater convenience, more likely use of postoperative radiation if she is eligible, decreased treatment costs, and increased utilization of existing radiation therapy resources.”

-- Gary M. Freedman, M.D.
The third time was truly a charm for those participating in the 3rd Annual Ride the Trail to a Cure horse ride in Mont Alto. Breast cancer survivor Linda Golden turned her passion for horses and her breast cancer survivorship experience into a hugely successful fundraising effort. She chose the PBCC as the recipient of the proceeds. At first tally, the ride raised over $6,974 with donations still coming in. Many thanks to Linda Golden for putting together another wonderful event and to all the riders (and the horses) for taking part!

The 5th Annual Pink Ribbon Challenge took place in Hanover at the South Hills Golf Course. This annual event is organized each year in memory of Joyce Hoffman. A portion of the proceeds from the event are given to the PBCC. Much appreciation is extended to the family and friends of Joyce Hoffman for thinking of the PBCC and to event organizer Cindy Staub for putting together such an excellent event each year.

Dance for Life was inspired by a breast cancer survivor’s passion for dancing and her desire to make a difference in the lives of fellow breast cancer survivors. In its second year, the event was a spectacular celebration of survivorship and hope. Held outside of Pittsburgh at the Churchill Valley Country Club, those who attended enjoyed an evening filled with music, great food, and of course - dancing. Many thanks to Diane McCarthy and all those who worked to make the second Dance for Life event a night to remember!

Walkers at Green Ridge Village hit the road for breast cancer awareness this fall. Participants took in the beautiful scenery and raised money for the PBCC in the process. Special thanks to Grace Orther, Christine Chubb, and everyone who participated for putting on their walking shoes for the PBCC!

The ladies of DT Hair & Nails Company showed the beauty of giving by donating 25% of their regular prices on all salon services - plus their tips - to the PBCC for one day in October. Proceeds are still being tallied. Once again, thanks and appreciation to Donna and Tracy and the employees and patrons of the salon for their generosity.

The 4 B Restaurant & Tavern was the place to be for bikers in Emigsville! A poker run to raise breast cancer awareness and funds for the PBCC was held there, and a good time was had by all who attended. Many prizes were given out to participants. Three cheers for Mar Jones and all those who participated in this fun event!

Something good was cooking in the kitchen for the PBCC at the Giant Foods in Camp Hill and Willow Grove. A cooking class was held at each location with the proceeds from the class to benefit the PBCC -- and in Willow Grove, two of the Philadelphia Eagles cheerleaders came out to serve as assistants to the chef. Giant also sold pink reusable totes in its stores with proceeds from the sale slated to go to the PBCC. Proceeds are still being tallied, but the PBCC wants to thank Tracy Pawelski and all of the folks at Giant for thinking pink by going green!
The Indiana University of Pennsylvania Women’s Soccer Team invited the PBCC to be the recipient of proceeds from their Think Pink efforts. The Crimson Hawks sold t-shirts and wore pink game jerseys in a few games this fall. Proceeds from their efforts are still being tallied. Special thanks to Coach Adel Heder, Assistant Coach Howard Magee, and all of the players and attendees for their support of the PBCC!

The Philadelphia Phantoms held a breast cancer awareness night in October and asked the PBCC to take part. Through raffles and donations, the event raised $221 for the PBCC — as well as priceless awareness among the fans in the stands.

Bikers in Lehighton revved their engines to benefit the PBCC as part of the Beaver Run Rod & Gun Club 2nd Annual Poker Run. $500 was raised for the PBCC. Special thanks to Jim Allesch for a royal flush of an event!

Golfers joined forces to “Take a Swing At Breast and Prostate Cancer” at Susquehanna Valley Country Club and chipped in nearly $10,000 for the PBCC in this first-ever tournament. Event organizers Mel Purdy and Hank Truslow put their skills to work to put together an exceptional event enjoyed by all who participated. The tournament featured valuable auction items in addition to a great day of golf.

New Orleans jazz filled the air of the Delaware Institute of Science as the band Loose Marbles performed a benefit concert for the PBCC. Their smooth sounds raised $1300. Many thanks to the band members and the attendees for a great night of music!

Runners and walkers filled the streets of Luritz for the 14th Anniversary 5 Mile Fresh Burst Listerine Run and 5K Walk. The PBCC was chosen to be the recipient of 100% of the registration fees from this well organized event once again this year, thanks to the generosity of local companies and sponsors. Special thanks and much appreciation to Johnson & Johnson for their support of this annual event and for selecting the PBCC as the beneficiary for the second year in a row. We also would like to thank all of those runners, walkers, or neighbors and friends who lined the streets for the run!
Many thanks to the following sponsors of the 2008 Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition Annual Conference

Exclusive Sponsors

AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals, LP
Penn State Hershey Medical Center/College of Medicine

Gold

Geisinger Breast Cancer Multi-Disciplinary Clinic
Leslie Anne Miller, Esq.

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Bronze

abc27 - Adams County Breast Cancer Coalition - Allegheny General Hospital - Andrews & Patel Associates, PC - APSCUF - Capital BlueCross - The Center for Women’s Health, Ephrata Cancer Center, Ephrata Community OB/GYN and Lancaster County Center for Plastic Surgery at Ephrata Community Hospital - Diagnostic Imaging, Inc. - Feinberg Shopp Associates - Fox Chase Cancer Center - Genomic Health, Inc. - Graystone Bank - Guthrie Breast Care Center - The Hershey Company - Joan Karnell Cancer Center at Pennsylvania Hospital - Joyce Murtha Breast Care Center of Windber Medical Center - Lehigh Valley Hospital and Health Network - Lutron Electronics Co., Inc. - Novinger Group, Inc. - OakWood Breast Care Center - Pennsylvania Medical Society - Pennsylvania State Education Association - Philadelphia Federation of Teachers - PinnacleHealth System - The Regional Cancer Center - The Rosenfeld Cancer Center at Abington Memorial Hospital - Suzanne H. Arnold Center for Breast Health at Lancaster General - Waste Management - The Wistar Institute - WPMT Fox43

Pink Ribbon

Aegis Security Insurance Company - Johnson & Johnson MERCK - Squires Consulting - Cumberland Valley Breast Care Alliance - Ephrata National Bank - Lehigh Magnetic Imaging Center

Donor
2008 Leadership Training

The Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition offered a Leadership Training seminar to train and empower those who want to be breast cancer advocates in their communities. This year, the seminar featured workshops for those looking to volunteer their time for the PBCC, and those seeking to gain insight into successful Grassroots Partners events. Presenters for the “Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Volunteering But Were Afraid to Ask” workshop included Karen Byers, Cumberland County Captain for the PBCC, Dennis Eubanks, a weekly PBCC volunteer who has logged over 1000 volunteer hours, Honi Grasing, Monroe County Captain for the PBCC, and Sandy Cray, Lehigh Valley Vice-President for the PBCC Board of Directors. Those presenting for the “Put the FUN in FUNdraising” workshop included PBCC Grassroots Partners Robin Smith, Jo Ann Lightman, Kristine Warner, and Crystal Stine.

Jeanne Schmedlen, PBCC Board Member and Director of Special Projects and Chief of Protocol for the Speaker of the House Dennis O’Brien, was the luncheon speaker.

Many leadership training graduates have gone on to be strong volunteers and Grassroots Partners for the PBCC. We thank them for their commitment to breast cancer outreach and advocacy, and look forward to celebrating the 2008 graduates’ achievements in the near future!

Leadership Training Graduates

Roseanne Bair
Lynn Cramer
Linda Dean
Tanika Durham
Karen Dwyer-Jones
Marty Eubanks
Jenn James
Eileen Jessick
Mary Jo Joyce
Beverly Leisey
Karen Moss
Abimbola Opaleye-Oluwo
Sondra Ott
Kathy Powers
Rachel Rito
Alice Sanders
Pat Stewart
Liz Yarnell

15 Years...

The Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition is proud of its 15 year history representing, supporting and serving breast cancer survivors and their families in Pennsylvania through educational programming, legislative advocacy and breast cancer research grants.

In recognition and celebration of our 15 years of service to Pennsylvania, we ask that you consider making a contribution to help us in our efforts. Please use the enclosed envelope, or donate online at www.pabreastcancer.org. Every donation makes a difference.

Thank you for your help in assisting the PBCC as we create the hope of a brighter tomorrow by providing action and information to women with breast cancer today.

Finding a cure now...so our daughters won’t have to.
The PBCC was invited by Leslie Stiles, the Executive Director of the PA Commission for Women, to join the commission once again in turning Pennsylvania’s fountains pink in celebration of breast cancer awareness month. In October, the fountain behind the Capitol Building in Harrisburg, Point State Park in Pittsburgh, and a fountain in Erie were turned pink to serve as a visible reminder of breast cancer awareness month to all those who live, work, and visit those cities. Stiles, who serves as the PBCC Honorary Chair and is a breast cancer survivor herself, dreamt up the pink fountain idea a few years ago and it has since been an awesome sight to see each year.

Special thanks to Leslie and the PA Commission for Women for including the PBCC in these special events and for all they continue to do for the women of Pennsylvania.

Bonnie Harr, Southwestern Vice President of the PBCC Board, speaks with the pink Point State Park fountain in the background.

Traveling Photo Exhibit Makes Three Stops on Fall Tour
Venango, Montgomery, and Allegheny Counties Host the Display

Many communities request the traveling photo exhibit, “67 Women, 67 Counties: Facing Breast Cancer in Pennsylvania” to serve as an educational and inspiring work of art honoring breast cancer survivors and those currently battling the disease as well as reminding women to schedule their mammograms. This fall, the PBCC brought the exhibit to three of those communities for breast cancer awareness month.

In Venango County, the exhibit was hosted by the Cranberry Mall. Northwest Vice President of the PBCC Board, Denise Robison, served as emcee while Doug Frankenburg, VP of Ancillary Services for the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center; Kathy Bailey, committee chair and general manager of Cranberry Mall; and committee member and local survivor Nicole Phillips spoke to those in attendance at the opening reception.

The exhibit also visited Abington Memorial Hospital in Montgomery County, where survivor and owner of Faith & Hope Boutique, Jeannette Caligiuri; Bucks County exhibit participant Christine Shur; Linda Griska, MD, the Director of Breast Health and Medical Director of the Mary T. Sachs Breast Center; and John Redmond, III, MD, Director of the Rosenfeld Cancer Center, addressed opening reception guests.

Carlow University in Allegheny County also displayed the exhibit. Participants in the opening reception included Carlow University President Mary Hines, PhD; Southwest Vice President of the PBCC Board of Directors Bonnie Harr, MSN, MS, RN; University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute, Magee-Women’s Hospital Professor of Medicine and Epidemiology Victor G. Vogel, MD, MHS, FACP; breast cancer survivor and committee chair Diane Matthews, PhD, CPA, CFE; and Anet Moran, an Allegheny County exhibit participant.

Pat Halpin-Murphy, PA Department of General Services Secretary James Creedon, Speaker of the PA House and 2007 Pink Ribbon Awardee Dennis O’Brien, Executive Director of the PA Commission for Women, PBCC Honorary Chair and 2007 Pink Ribbon Awardee Leslie Stiles display a proclamation from Lt. Governor Catherine Baker Knoll. Lt. Governor Knoll regularly attends the event, but has recently been receiving treatment for cancer. We wish her all the best for a complete and speedy recovery.

Bonnie Harr, Southwestern Vice President of the PBCC Board, speaks with the pink Point State Park fountain in the background.

Allegheny County Committee chairperson and breast cancer survivor Diane Matthews speaks about her battle with breast cancer.

Doug Frankenburg, Denise Robison, Kathy Bailey, and Nicole Phillips were speakers at the opening reception for the Venango exhibit.

John Redmond, III, MD, Director of the Rosenfeld Cancer Center; Committee Member Meredith Kessler; Pat Halpin-Murphy; and PA State Representative Josh Shapiro took part in the opening reception.
Penn State Lady Lions Host Breast Cancer Fundraiser

On February 15, 2009, Lady Lion basketball will host the 2009 WBCA Pink Zone™ at Penn State, proudly supported by Mimi Barash Coppersmith. This event is part of a global, unified effort for the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association’s (WBCA) coaches to assist in aiding breast cancer awareness on the court, across campuses, in communities and beyond. It also is the third annual pink event hosted by the Lady Lions, with previous events raising more than $50,000 toward breast cancer outreach.

The Lady Lions will play the University of Iowa beginning at 3 p.m. and will host a number of other activities that will raise money for the Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition, Penn State Hershey Cancer Institute, and the Kay Yow Foundation.

Join the Lady Lions at the Bryce Jordan Center on February 15 as we strive to beat breast cancer.

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Get a head start on your holiday shopping without leaving your home.
Visit the PBCC Marketplace www.pabreastcancer.org/store for original gift ideas!

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Be a driving force in the fight against breast cancer

Order your PA license plate today for just $34!
www.pabreastcancer.org/license.html
Thousands of Pennsylvanians will check yes on their PA 40 form in 2009 to donate all or part of their state income tax refund to breast and cervical cancer research, and the PBCC hopes that you’ll be one of them!

The Income Tax Check-Off for Breast and Cervical Cancer Research has raised over $2 million awarded as grants to researchers in Pennsylvania, providing much needed start-up funds or supplemental grants for important research.

This year, a change in the program administration allows researchers to submit their applications directly to the PBCC rather than the PA Department of Health.

“This award is not only a great honor,” said Marius Sudol, PhD, a scientist with the Geisinger Health System’s Weis Center for Research and a 2008 grant recipient, “it also provides me the opportunity to focus my research on breast cancer, allowing me to contribute to the understanding of the progression and staging of the disease.”

You can play a part in groundbreaking research being done right here in Pennsylvania just by checking yes on your state income tax form and donating your refund through the Income Tax Check-Off for Breast and Cervical Cancer Research.

You can make a difference by donating all or part of your state income tax return to fund breast cancer research!

Check Yes to Fund Breast Cancer Research
Researchers Apply for Grants Directly from the PBCC

Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition
www.pabreastcancer.org

Toll Free 800.377.8828

Trout Run Business Center
344 North Reading Road
Ephrata, PA 17522

Address Service Requested

PA Secretary of Revenue Tom Wolf provides strong support for the Income Tax Check-Off for Breast & Cervical Cancer Research program each year. Secretary Wolf and PBCC President Pat Halpin-Murphy discussed plans for 2009 ITCO grants.

AT TAX TIME, DON’T FORGET:

**Check Yes**

for Breast Cancer Research

Donate your state income tax refund on line 35 of your state tax form. YOU can help find a cure for breast cancer!

Look for the **PA Breast Cancer Coalition’s Income Tax Check-Off for Breast Cancer Research** on line 35 of your state income tax form, then donate all or part of your refund. Every penny of your donation goes to cancer researchers in Pennsylvania and so far over $2 million dollars has been raised!

For more information visit www.pabreastcancer.org/tax or call 1-800-377-8828 x101

You can make a difference by donating all or part of your state income tax return to fund breast cancer research!