



**Connecticut Affiliate**  
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**POLICE OFFICERS, CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS, FIRE FIGHTERS  
AMONG THOSE WHO BENCH PRESSED FOR BREAST CANCER**

**MIDDLETOWN – September 1, 2009** – Members of the Middletown police and fire departments, along with several of the State’s correctional officers, joined members of the general public this past July to “Bench Press for Breast Cancer” and raise more than \$2,100 to fight the disease.

On July 25, thirty-one men and women – including those who have never benched before – gathered at The Refuge gym in Middletown to lift weights and raise money for the Connecticut Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure®. Supporters pledged five cents a pound to sponsor a lifter, or turned in a flat donation in support. The event was also educational, as breast cancer statistics were broadcasted over the sound system throughout the day. This is the first event of its kind that the gym has organized.

Some of the strongest power lifters in Connecticut participated in the event, including state, American, and world record holders. One of those record holders, Brian LaPila, was also the event coordinator. “The support from the community has been incredible,” LaPila said. “The DJ and tee shirts were donated after the Middletown Press wrote about the event in the paper – and now people are coming up to me and emailing wanting to know when the next event will be!”

LaPila has already begun planning a second fundraiser, hoping it will be even more successful than this year’s. “I’m serious about this cause and thank everyone for their support.”

The Komen Connecticut Affiliate will invest seventy five percent of the money raised from the event back into the community in the form of grants to fund breast cancer education, screening and treatment programs. The remaining twenty five percent will fund national and local clinical research initiatives.

For information about how to get involved in next year’s event, contact Brian LaPila at [brianlapila@yahoo.com](mailto:brianlapila@yahoo.com).

**About Susan G. Komen for the Cure® and the Komen Connecticut Affiliate** Nancy G. Brinker promised her dying sister, Susan G. Komen, she would do everything in her power to end breast cancer forever. In 1982, that promise became Susan G. Komen for the Cure

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**Early detection is the key to survival.**

*Bench Press for Breast Cancer, Add 1*

and launched the global breast cancer movement. The Connecticut Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure was established in 1993 to fund research and better the lives of those facing breast cancer in the local community by supporting local organizations that focus on breast health issues and access to care. Seventy-five percent of net proceeds from the Affiliate stay in the community to fund local breast health programs, and in 2009 alone, the Affiliate granted \$871,000 to fund 22 local breast health programs at organizations throughout Connecticut. Combined with national research dollars, Komen Connecticut has made a \$19 million impact on Connecticut's breast health and the breast cancer movement. For more information, call 860-728-4955 or visit [komenct.org](http://komenct.org).

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