



Komen Connecticut
Keeping It Local.

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PHYSICAL THERAPY PROFESSOR INVOLVES STUDENTS IN A CAUSE

WEST HARTFORD- November 19, 2010- Janet Gangaway lost her mother three and a half years ago to Stage 4 breast cancer. Eager to contribute to the local fight against breast cancer, Janet, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physical Therapy at the University of Hartford and advisor of the program's Physical Therapy Student Association (PTSA), wanted to contribute to the cause in a way that was meaningful to her and involved others. This past October, in their fourth consecutive year fundraising, Janet and the students of the PTSA raised \$1,000 for the Connecticut Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure®.

The students in the Association were quick to come together in support of a cause that was important to their professor, advisor and friend. The group chose to raise money for breast cancer through pink t-shirt and gift basket sales.

"Janet's inspiration and personal story has meant a lot to our group, and she really got the ball rolling with getting us involved with this cause," said Cortney Hansen, a physical therapy graduate student President of the Physical Therapy Student Association. "My awareness [of breast cancer] has tremendously increased over the past three years."

Janet's personal connection and passion for finding a cure for breast cancer has lead her and her students to raise a total of \$3,800 for Komen Connecticut in the last four years through their on-campus fundraiser. The PTSA also participates in Komen Connecticut's annual Race for the Cure as 'Team PT for Pink,' raising more than \$3,000 in additional funds for Komen Connecticut.

Students and faculty joined together to support Janet at a recent celebration of the group's fundraising successes. At the pink-themed event, students and faculty celebrated their accomplishments, with pink desserts and décor. Anne Morris, Executive Director of Komen Connecticut was present at the PTSA's celebration. She urged those who attended to remember that early detection is the best protection

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PTSA fundraises for Komen Connecticut, Add 1

against breast cancer.

“Three thousand Connecticut women will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year alone,” said Anne. “If we focus our efforts on ensuring that all Connecticut women have access to the screenings and education necessary for early detection, we can really make a difference locally.”

It is through events like these that Komen Connecticut is able to invest locally in breast health and breast cancer programs for Connecticut women and their families. Komen Connecticut invests 75% of the net proceeds raised each year in education, screening and treatment programs throughout Connecticut. The remaining twenty-five percent supports national research initiatives. In 2010, Komen Connecticut invested \$1.02 Million locally, the single largest investment in the organization’s 17-year history.

About the Connecticut Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure® Komen for the Cure’s presence in Connecticut began in 1994 with a Race for the Cure. The local organization was incorporated as an Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure in 1999. Komen Connecticut serves local communities by providing funding for research and local life-saving programs which address education, screening and treatment for Connecticut residents. In 2010, Komen Connecticut invested \$1.02 Million locally, providing funding to 21 Connecticut breast health programs. Since 1994, Komen for the Cure has awarded more than \$20 Million to programs in our local communities. For more information, visit KomenCT.org or call 860-728-4955.

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Caption: Members of the Physical Therapy Students Association at the University of Hartford present Anne Morris, executive director of Komen Connecticut, a check for the proceeds of their October fundraiser. From left to right: Sarah Cochran, PTSA undergraduate president; Cortney Hansen, PTSA graduate president; Anne Morris, executive director of Komen Connecticut; Janet Gangaway, PTSA faculty advisor.