SUSAN G. KOMEN® ORANGE COUNTY RAISES MORE THAN $570,000 AT ANNUAL PINK TIE BALL ON MAY 11

Proceeds from the Annual Gala will Support Local Programs Dedicated to the Breast Health Needs of the Orange County Community and Fund Cutting-Edge Breast Cancer Research

IRVINE, Calif., (May 15, 2019) – Susan G. Komen Orange County, the second largest Susan G. Komen affiliate in the nation, recently held its annual Pink Tie Ball on May 11 at City National Grove of Anaheim. Over 450 guests gathered at the annual gala, themed “Be the One,” and raised more than $570,000 funds for Komen OC’s programs that support early detection, resources for men and women at every stage of their breast cancer diagnoses, and groundbreaking research. 75 percent of funds raised will support programs dedicated to the breast health needs of the local community and 25 percent support cutting-edge breast-cancer research nationwide.

This year’s gala featured a cocktail reception, silent and live auction, dinner and dancing, while recognizing community leaders and Susan G. Komen supporters. Event chairs, Dr. Lisa E. Guerra and husband Aaron Stapf, lead the way along with the Pink Tie Ball committee comprised of long-time supporters, donors and survivors.

Susan G. Komen President and CEO Paula Schneider also joined Komen OC CEO Megan Klink to share the world’s largest breast cancer organization’s bold goal of reducing breast cancer deaths by half by 2026. Leading up to Mothers’ Day, Schneider, a survivor herself who lost her mother to breast cancer, has made it her mission to ensure fewer children lose their mothers to breast cancer through Komen’s research, outreach, advocacy and life-saving programs.

“We are so grateful to our community and supporters who walk alongside us as we go beyond raising awareness and raise critical funds for lifesaving programs, advocacy, outreach, and breakthrough research,” said Megan Klink, CEO of Susan G. Komen Orange County. “Every day in Orange County, five women are diagnosed with breast cancer. It’s an unacceptable number and we are so appreciative of all of our supporters who are helping us get one step closer to ending breast cancer once and for all.”

During this annual event, Komen Orange County recognized individuals as “Pink Tie Partners.” These are men and women in the community who have gone above and beyond in the fight against breast cancer. This year, Komen Orange County selected five individuals, representing the five women who will be diagnosed with breast cancer today in the county, to be honored for their dedication to the cause using their personal and corporate resources and talents to aid Komen on their mission to save lives.

This year’s Pink Tie Partners included:

Bruce Fischer, Shareholder & Chair of West Coast Real Estate at Greenberg Traurig he has been inspired by his wife’s courage to take necessary steps to reduce her risk of breast cancer and wants to aid the community in reducing their risk. Bruce has been a key player in brokering
financial sponsorship for the Pink Tie Ball for many years and is committed to a future without breast cancer.

Amee Laxpati is Founder & COO of Alinea Medical Imaging, Komen Orange County’s key partner for the Mobile Mammography program that provides free mammograms to women in underserved communities throughout Orange County. She is an advocate and ambassador in the community, championing and supporting Komen OC’s work. She is a true strategic partner for the continuation and growth of Komen Orange County’s services within the community.

Sherri Scott, Senior VP of Community Reinvestment Act & Fair Banking at Pacific Premier Bank. Sherri is a longtime supporter of Komen Orange County, granting $100,000 per year over two years in support of Mobile Mammography and other mission programs as well as sponsorship of the Pink Tie Ball. Sherri’s passion and utilizing her community reinvestment platform has made a major impact on the OC community.

Karen Sherman is a notable Komen Orange County supporter and has realized the great impact that can be made on communities when there is a commitment to support important causes. Karen, and her husband Scott, who serves on the board of directors for Komen Orange County and has been a previous Pink Tie Partner, display a deep commitment for Komen and engage their whole family in supporting the fight to end breast cancer through Komen Orange County.

Erin Zilis, chair of the 2018 Pink Tie Ball, has been a longtime supporter and advocate for the work of Komen Orange County. The issue of breast cancer is close to Erin’s heart, as four generations of her family have fought the disease. Her mom has been bravely battling metastatic breast cancer for nine years. In 2019, she was a member of the founding committee and a volunteer at Komen’s first Metastatic Breast Cancer Conference at UCI Irvine.


About Susan G. Komen Orange County
Susan G. Komen is the world’s largest breast cancer organization, funding more breast cancer research than any other nonprofit while providing real-time help to those facing the disease. Komen has set a Bold Goal to reduce the current number of breast cancer deaths by 50 percent in the U.S. by 2026. Komen was founded in 1982 by Nancy G. Brinker, who promised her sister, Susan G. Komen, that she would end the disease that claimed Suzy’s life. Komen Orange County is working to better the lives of those that face breast cancer in the local community. Through events like the Komen Orange County MORE THAN PINK Walk®, Komen Orange County has invested more than $42 million in community breast health programs and has helped contribute to the more than $920 million invested globally in research.

###