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**LONGTIME SUSAN G. KOMEN® ORANGE COUNTY SUPPORTER AND VOLUNTEER
NAMED NATIONAL KOMEN SCHOLAR**

*With More Than 20 Years of Living With Stage 4 Metastatic Breast Cancer, Sandra Spivey Will Offer
Expertise for Komen National as Patient Advocate*

IRVINE, Calif., (April 17, 2019) – Susan G. Komen®, the world’s leading breast cancer organization, and its second largest affiliate in the nation, Susan G. Komen Orange County, announced longtime Komen Orange County supporter and volunteer living with metastatic breast cancer since 1998, Sandra Spivey as one of four new members to join Komen Scholars, an advisory group of distinguished leaders in breast cancer research and advocacy.

The 66-year-old Laguna Niguel resident, who has battled breast cancer since her early stage diagnosis in 1995, will continue her work as a patient volunteer with Susan G. Komen, acting as a liaison between researchers and those who give grants to fund research behind uncovering cancer’s unknown trait—what causes cancer cells to spread. As an Advocate in Science Steering Committee Member for the organization, Spivey will be a part of a select team that ensures the unique perspectives of those affected by breast cancer are fully integrated in Susan G. Komen’s decisions at every step of the research process.

Chosen for their knowledge, leadership and contributions to breast cancer research, Komen Scholars provide scientific expertise and guidance to a variety of Komen programs, including leading Komen’s scientific peer review process. They also serve as experts and advocates for Komen’s nationwide network of Affiliates and in communities around the globe.

“We are thrilled to have one of our own patient advocates join the Komen Scholars,” said Megan Klink, CEO of Susan G. Komen Orange County. “Sandra has been supporting our organization with a shared vision for a world without breast cancer for more than two decades, contributing to the success of our fundraisers, grant applications, community advocacy programs and much more. Her appointment to the Komen Scholars is well-deserved and her personal journey will undoubtedly provide the thousands of breast cancer survivors and patients across the country with invaluable insight and support.”

The newest members of the Komen Scholars, effective April 1, are:

- Regina Barzilay, Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology (breast cancer survivor, professor of electrical engineering and computer science, focused on bringing the power of machine learning/AI to oncology)
- Cheryl Jernigan, C.P.A., Advocates in Science Steering Committee, Kansas City, MO (survivor, research advocacy)
- Edith Perez, M.D., Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, Florida (translational research, genetic biomarkers)

- Sandra Spivey, M.B.A., Advocates in Science Steering Committee, Orange County, CA (living with metastatic breast cancer, research advocacy)

Breast cancer is currently the most common cancer among women in the U.S. and that includes Orange County. There are five women diagnosed with breast cancer and one woman will die from the disease every day in Orange County. With an exact cause still unknown and no cure at this time, Komen has invested in every major scientific breakthrough in breast cancer research. Its Orange County affiliate provides 75% of its funds raised locally back to its community to help the women, families and men impacted by this disease. The remaining 25% fund national research.

“We are excited to welcome such incredible, knowledgeable individuals to the Komen Scholars. Whether they bring experience from the laboratories, the clinic, or as patients themselves, these individuals are assets to our organization and to the work we are doing to achieve our Bold Goal of reducing the current number of breast cancer deaths in the U.S. by 50 percent by 2026,” said Victoria Wolodzko, SVP, Mission at Komen.

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.

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