
New Hampshire Breast Cancer Coalition

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Dear Friend,

The New Hampshire Breast Cancer Coalition knows there are many ways to support the fight against breast cancer. We also know the current global economic crisis affects non-profit organizations like ours as well as the New Hampshire women and families we support. Therefore, we invite you to think carefully and give wisely to help the New Hampshire Breast Cancer Coalition continue its critical work.

Your response to our annual appeal will help the New Hampshire Breast Cancer Coalition maintain strength, visibility, and continuity in our state and federal efforts to end this devastating disease.

NHBCC proudly lists these 2008 accomplishments:

- NHBCC expanded its **Support Services Fund**, a fund that helps New Hampshire women who are struggling to pay for health care and the expenses of daily living while facing breast cancer. During 2008, NHBCC allocated over \$12,800 to help twenty-one women pay for expenses such as prescriptions, utility bills, and home heating oil.
- NHBCC represented breast cancer advocates in New Hampshire's **Comprehensive Cancer Collaboration**, a statewide effort to reduce the morbidity and mortality from all forms of cancer. NHBCC joined other advocacy organizations in opposing Governor Lynch's drastic cuts in funding for New Hampshire's Cancer Plan — money that would have provided vital breast cancer screening.
- NHBCC's **Action Alert Network** continued to play a role in securing funding to maintain the highly successful **Department of Defense (DoD) Peer-Reviewed Breast Cancer Research Program**. *This year the DoD Program was funded at \$150 million for 2009, an increase of \$12 million over the 2008 appropriation. We should all celebrate this accomplishment!*
- NHBCC provided financial support for three New Hampshire Breast Cancer Coalition Steering Committee members to attend the **National Breast Cancer Coalition Annual Advocacy Training Conference and Annual Lobby Day** on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. On Lobby Day, National Breast Cancer Coalition advocates meet with members of Congress to discuss issues of breast cancer research, legislation, and public policy.
- NHBCC represented New Hampshire at the **Era of Hope**, a biennial scientific meeting where Department of Defense Breast Cancer Program research grant recipients presented the results of their work.

- NHBCC helped Laurie Thiboutot of Nashua, New Hampshire organize her *fifth annual “Laurie’s Ride,”* a motorcycle ride fundraiser dedicated to raising funds for the NHBCC Support Services Fund. This year the event raised \$2000 to help women cover critical expenses related to breast cancer.
- NHBCC collaborated with Cindy Gourgue, Training Consultant and Creative Producer for our Emmy-nominated documentary **“Caring for Mo,”** to present the film in an October training course for nurses. “Caring for Mo” stimulates thoughtful discussion about communication between patients and caregivers. Cindy will conduct another training in December 2008 and throughout 2009.
- NHBCC provided information about breast cancer to hundreds of New Hampshire residents at numerous events including National Cancer Survivor’s Day, support group meetings, “Pink Day” at the Mall of New Hampshire, and the 11th Annual New England Rural Health RoundTable Symposium on Healthcare Reform.

With your help, in 2009 the New Hampshire Breast Cancer Coalition will:

- *Continue serving low-income women who are struggling financially as they face breast cancer.*
- *Continue as New Hampshire’s major link to the National Breast Cancer Coalition, the nation’s most influential grassroots advocacy organization.*
- *Continue providing quality breast cancer information for patients, health care providers and the public by converting the New Hampshire Breast Cancer Resource Guide from a print version to a web-based version for the most up-to-date information.*
- *Continue serving as New Hampshire’s only all-volunteer, state-wide, grassroots breast cancer organization.*

The New Hampshire Breast Cancer Coalition relies entirely on your donations. Please make your contribution as generous as possible. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy A. Ryan, Chair
New Hampshire Breast Cancer Coalition