The Race for the Cure series is Komen Idaho Montana’s largest fundraiser. With 3 Races throughout Idaho and Montana there is rarely a time of year that Race is being planned or executed. On May 12, Komen Idaho Montana hosted the 20th Boise Race for the Cure with 4,698 participants, 456 survivors and forever fighters, and raised $64,178 in individual donations.

On September 17, Komen Idaho Montana hosted the 21st Coeur d’Alene Race for the Cure with 541 participants, 66 survivors and forever fighters, and raised $7,956 in individual donations.

On October 12, Komen Idaho Montana hosted the 1st Annual Missoula Race for the Cure with 458 participants, 49 survivors and forever fighters, and raised $8,779 in individual donations.

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Governor’s Proclamation in Idaho for 20th Annual Boise Race for the Cure

WHEREAS, breast cancer is the second most common type of cancer in women, and nearly 180,000 women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year; and WHEREAS, approximately 950 women in Idaho will be diagnosed with breast cancer and more than 175 families in Idaho will lose a loved one to breast cancer this year,

WHEREAS, Idaho ranks near last amongst states for women having a potentially life-saving screening mammogram; and

WHEREAS, The Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure raises significant funds for the fight against breast cancer through research, education, screening and treatment programs; and

WHEREAS, The Komen Boise Race for the Cure is one of the Treasure Valley’s most popular events and is a part of the larger Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure global series of 5K runs/walks; and

WHEREAS, citizens are able to participate in a one mile or 5K run/walk course to celebrate breast survivorship, support those Forever Fighters battling Metastatic Breast Cancer, and honors those who have lost their lives to breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, since 1999 the Idaho Montana Affiliate for Susan G. Komen has granted over $7.4 million to breast cancer treatment, education, prevention and outreach programs in Idaho and Montana and over $2.4 million to breast cancer research; and

WHEREAS, twenty years ago a group of dedicated volunteers, led by Judith Murray, established the Race for the Cure series to Boise, and

WHEREAS, for twenty years, Albertsons, Saint Alphonsus, and St. Luke’s Health System have been loyal local sponsors of the Boise Race for the Cure events,

WHEREAS, the 2018 Boise Race for the Cure marks the 20th anniversary of the event, and

THEREFORE, I, C.L. Butch Otter, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim May 12, 2018 as Susan G. Komen Boise Race for the Cure Day in Idaho.
Metastatic Breast Cancer Conference

On October 30th, 2018 Komen Idaho Montana hosted the first-ever local conference for people living with metastatic breast cancer (MBC) and their guest. The conference was made possible through a grant from Susan G. Komen, along with generous support from local partners. The conference was planned and executed by Komen Idaho Montana staff and an active planning committee consisting of individuals living with MBC, Komen advocates, and breast health professionals.

The evening before the conference, members of the MBC community attended Paint Nite where they painted a beautiful picture and had the opportunity to meet one another. Many people who attended the conference said they had never even met another person with metastatic breast cancer.

The conference featured Komen Scholar and MBC researcher, Dr. Alana Welm of the Huntsman Cancer Institute. Dr. Welm generously answered questions during both the Q&A period and over lunch. She received rave reviews from attendees. Other speakers discussed coping with MBC, communication, clinical trials, and more. Participants also rated these sessions very highly. The conference ended with a dynamic discussion panel. The day was a perfect combination of tears, laughter, and hope.

The conference was professional livestreamed via the Komen Idaho Montana website. Those videos are now accessible on Komen Idaho Montana’s YouTube channel. Those watching the conference via livestream were able to questions of the speakers in real-time.

Several conference attendees said the conference could be improved with larger print on handouts, more help and information for caregivers, and additional education on pain management and palliative care. Many people said they would like more MBC events in the future.

Future MBC events are being planned for Missoula and Boise in 2019.

Susan G. Komen announced a bold plan on September 13, 2016 to reduce the nation’s 40,000 breast cancer deaths by 50 percent in 10 years, by improving access to quality and timely cancer care for the underserved and enhancing Komen’s research focus on lethal breast cancers.
Komen Idaho Montana awarded $95,000 in community grants to 15 grantees in Idaho and Montana in April 2018. Komen Idaho Montana establishes its funding priorities by conducting a Community Profile needs assessment. The needs assessment of Komen Idaho Montana has identified the following areas for the 2017-2018 grant cycle to fund an array of breast cancer programs and services:

- Increased screening for underinsured, uninsured, and low income women/men
- Increased screening access for rural women/men
- Increased support for persons in breast cancer treatment or survivorship
- Improved communication between patients and health care providers
- Fill gaps across the continuum of care in your community

Komen Idaho Montana has awarded over $7.4 million in community grants and contributed over $2.7 million to Breast Cancer Research.

Seventy-five percent of the net funds raised by Komen Idaho Montana stays local to help men and women in need. The remaining 25 percent goes to the Komen National Breast Cancer Research Portfolio. To date Komen Idaho Montana has awarded over $7.4 million in community grants and contributed over $2.7 million to the breast cancer research.

In March Komen Idaho Montana staff members joined other Komen Affiliates in Washington DC for Komen Advocacy Days. Komen Idaho Montana staff met with members of Congress to advocate for:

- Make biomedical research an unwavering national priority by increasing the investment to the National Institutes of Health in the FY18 and FY19 budgets.
- Preserving women’s access to breast cancer screening by funding the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program at $275 million in the FY18 and FY19 budgets.
- Ensuring breast cancer patients can access the treatments they need to save their lives by limiting patients’ out-of-pocket costs and eliminating the disparity in health insurance coverage between orally and intravenously-administered anti-cancer medications.
Komen Idaho Montana celebrated National Breast Cancer Awareness Month with many great community events to raise a record number of funds for local men and women in need:

- Bingo for Breast Cancer
- Brake for Breakfast
- Fit for the Cure
- Great Falls Pink Tea
- Meridian United Methodist Church
- Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day
- Skate for the Cure

Komen Idaho Montana also hosted our fourth annual Big Wig campaign and raised $5,212. This year Big Wigs represented 6 businesses in the Treasure Valley:

Lindsay McNally
Sara White
Curt Perry

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors functions to advise, assist and aid in our efforts to support breast cancer education and outreach programs.
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Kim Morgan, North Idaho/Montana Engagement Coordinator (part-time)

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