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Susan G. Komen® Affiliates in Louisiana Join Forces to Better Serve State
New Komen Louisiana will Increase Support Across Entire State

November 15, 2018 — Monroe — Affiliates of the global Susan G. Komen organization have announced their plans to join together to form a new statewide Affiliate, called Susan G. Komen Louisiana. The unified organization will enable the breast cancer organization to operate more efficiently and to expand its ability to support the breast health needs of Louisianans across the entire state.

The new Komen Louisiana Affiliate will be the result of a merger of Komen North Louisiana and Baton Rouge, along with the strategic expansion of their combined service area to also include parishes in the Bayou region that previously were not supported by a local Komen Affiliate, as well as the 14-parish area currently supported by Komen Acadiana. Komen New Orleans will remain as a separate Komen Affiliate, and will continue to support the remaining 8 parishes (Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, and Washington).

“Our shared commitment to the women and men we serve will not change. By working together in a smart and strategic way, we strongly believe we will be able to improve our capacity to deliver on Komen’s mission to save lives,” said Blake Tolbird, Board President of the new Komen Louisiana. “We have worked together over the years and look forward to strengthening this partnership in order to best serve the people of Louisiana.”

Together, the Komen Affiliates in Louisiana are committed to helping achieve the organization’s Bold Goal to reduce current number of breast cancer deaths by 50% in the U.S. by 2026. They will do this by contributing to Komen’s effort to find breakthroughs for the deadliest breast cancers as well as working locally to ensure all people receive the care. Locally this means funding programs across the state that provide critical education and remove barriers to screening and timely, quality care.

The Affiliates believe this move has the potential to increase efficiency and stewardship. By centralizing certain functions, eliminating duplication of effort, and leveraging the volunteer leadership, grant making relationships and fundraising capacities of each organization, the new Affiliate can maximize its time, talent and resources to make a bigger difference in the lives of its neighbors.

“We are committed to maintaining our local events, such as our annual NELA/NWLA Races for the Cure, Annual Survivors/Fighters Luncheons, etc, while leveraging the efficiency of centralized administrative functions,” said Angee Nolan, of the former Komen North Louisiana Board of Directors. “The merger will strengthen Komen’s presence, ultimately serving more people across Louisiana and staff will continue to be located across the state.”



Komen Louisiana will continue to host annual Race for the Cure and/or More Than Pink Walk events in Monroe, Bossier City, Youngsville, and Baton Rouge, as well as other fundraising events across the state.

About Susan G. Komen® and Komen North Louisiana

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. Visit komen.org or call 1-877 GO KOMEN. Connect with us on social at ww5.komen.org/social.

Komen North Louisiana is working to better the lives of those facing breast cancer in the local community. Through events like the Komen Northeast Louisiana Race for the Cure®, and Komen Northwest Louisiana Race for the Cure®, Komen North Louisiana has invested over \$5 million in community breast health programs in North Louisiana since 1994 with another \$1.5 million invested globally in research. For more information, call Lacy Miletello or Angee Nolan at (318) 282-9119 or (318) 381-5298, or visit www.komennorthlouisiana.org.

Connect with Komen North Louisiana on Facebook at facebook.com/KomenNorthLa, Twitter at KomenNLA, and Instagram at [komennorthlouisiana](https://instagram.com/komennorthlouisiana).

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