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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Health Quality Partners of Southern California receives \$285,000
from Susan G. Komen® San Diego**

Funding will cover diagnostic mammograms, surgical consultations, breast biopsies, MRIs, ultrasounds and ancillary services for women and men living in San Diego county

San Diego, CA – (July 10, 2017) - Susan G. Komen® San Diego, as part of their 2017-2018 Community Grants, has awarded Health Quality Partners of Southern California \$285,000. Through Komen San Diego funding, Health Quality Partners covers the cost of diagnostic mammograms, surgical consultations, breast biopsies, MRIs, ultrasounds and ancillary services for San Diegans regardless of gender or age and up to 300% of the federal poverty level (FPL).

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States. Every day in San Diego six women are told they have breast cancer and one woman will pass away from breast cancer. However, with early detection and continuous quality care the survival rate for the most common breast cancer is 99 percent.

This year, to serve more men and women, Health Quality Partners **removed age requirement restrictions** and **expanded income eligibility**, from 200% FPL to 300%. Other eligibility requirements include: referral by a physician, must be a San Diego county resident; are not eligible for Every Woman Counts; and are not eligible for Medi-Cal. These changes will expand access to high quality breast health services for community health center patients in San Diego county.

“Insurance and government programs usually cover breast services for individuals who are 40 years old and older. However, people younger than 40 *are rarely covered* by insurance- this is where Komen and long-time grantees, like Health Quality Partners of Southern California step in,” said Lizzie Wittig, Director of Grants and Public Policy, Susan G. Komen San Diego.

To access funds for diagnostic services, individuals are referred to Health Quality Partners by their physician with an authorization request. Eligible patients are encouraged to visit a San Diego community health center for breast health services. For a list of community health centers in San Diego, please visit <http://hcpsocal.org/find-a-health-center/>.

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About Health Center Partners of Southern California:

Health Center Partners and its subsidiaries serve as the nexus for its members and partners to transform primary care through the power of innovation and collaboration. Our health policy, public affairs and advocacy efforts enhance the development of and recognition for our members who enrich the patient experience and improve the human condition through access to quality health care and related services for their diverse communities, with an emphasis on low-income and uninsured populations. www.hcpsocal.org

About Health Quality Partners of Southern California:

Health Quality Partners of Southern California, a subsidiary of Health Center Partners, supports community health centers and other safety net partners in taking the best possible care of their diverse patients by developing a broad portfolio of programs, health quality outcomes, innovative, collaborative, efficient and effective access, and quality programs which rely on real-time data analytics, research and education. HQP targets a large safety net population consisting of 827,000+ patients in 3 counties: San Diego, Riverside and Imperial. www.hqpsocal.org

About Susan G. Komen San Diego®:

Since its inception in 1995, Susan G. Komen San Diego has granted more than \$19 million to fund global research and local non-profits that provide everything from free diagnostic mammograms, meal delivery, temporary financial aid, transportation and more. Komen has set a Bold Goal to reduce the current number of breast cancer deaths by 50 percent in the U.S. by 2026. Seventy-five percent of every dollar raised in San Diego stays in San Diego County to fund breast health services for uninsured and underinsured women and their families. The remaining 25 percent funds international breast cancer research. In fact, next to the U.S. government, Susan G. Komen® is the largest funder of breast cancer research in the world. For more information, please visit www.komensandiego.org. Connect with us on Facebook and Twitter and Instagram.