

## Susan G. Komen Greater Atlanta

Atlanta, GA

\$50,000

### **Treatment Assistance Program for Economically Disadvantaged Women Currently in Breast Cancer Treatment in Metro Atlanta**

- 1) Purpose - Women in poverty are often unable to receive life-saving breast cancer treatment. Even with support for direct treatment services through government benefits and other means, financial hardship in securing medication, transportation, and childcare often cause barriers to treatment for the economically disadvantaged in Metro Atlanta.
  
- 2) Target Population - TAP is targeted to support up to 250 economically disadvantaged, African American and other minority women in active breast cancer treatment.
  
- 3) Key Activities - To reduce financial barriers to care, Komen utilizes TAP to help qualified patients currently in breast cancer treatment by providing 1) financial assistance; 2) breast cancer education; 3) psychological support; and 4) information about additional resources for low-income residents. Prospective patients call Komen's Hotline and are screened for eligibility. Through the intake process, eligible participants are connected to a licensed oncology social worker who conducts an assessment, explains and works with patients on the program application process, and provides breast cancer education. The oncology social worker also connects patients to support groups and local resources, as needed.
  
- 4) Evaluation Method Summary - Evaluation of TAP includes a client satisfaction survey and the collection of data points associated with how the assistance was used and how the assistance affected the continuation of treatment. A logic model is utilized to evaluate program impact.
  
- 5) Program Impact - TAP improves breast cancer health outcomes by keeping women in the continuum of care by providing financial assistance for out-of-pocket costs associated with the following: transportation; oral chemotherapy; hormone therapy; child and elder care; lymphedema care and supplies; oral pain and anti-nausea medication; and, durable medical equipment.