



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MLK Health Center & Pharmacy on Olive Receives \$30,000 Grant from Avon Breast Health Outreach Program for Breast Cancer Awareness Program

Local Organization Recognized With Support from National Program

{Shreveport, La, January 4, 2017} – The Avon Breast Health Outreach Program has awarded a \$30,000 one-year grant to MLK Health Center & Pharmacy to increase awareness of the life-saving benefits of early detection of breast cancer and advance the mission of our Women’s Health Program to provide screenings for uninsured and underinsured women across the region. It is the sixth year that the program has received funding from the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade to support its work on this important health issue, and in recognition of the program’s excellence.

The Women’s Health Program at MLK Health Center & Pharmacy educates women in Northwest Louisiana and refers them to low-cost or free mammograms and clinical breast exams in their own communities.

Annually, the Women’s Health Program at MLK Health Center & Pharmacy reaches thousands of women with information about the importance of early detection of breast cancer and provides access for over 350 medically disadvantaged women to receive mammograms and clinical breast exams.

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women in the United States. According to the American Cancer Society, 3,400 new cases of breast cancer will be detected in Louisiana this year and 630 lives will be lost. While advances have been made in prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure, early detection still affords the best opportunity for successful treatment. Programs such as MLK’s Women’s Health Program helps ensure that all women have access to early detection information and options, even poor and medically underserved women.

“We are proud of the continued partnership and support we have with Avon Breast Cancer Crusade”, said Janet Mentesane, MLK Executive Director. “With these funds we will be able to help even more women have access to information and screening that could save their life.”



Since 1993, the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade has awarded more than 1,800 grants to community-based breast health programs across the United States, including Women's Health Program at MLK Health Center & Pharmacy. The Avon Breast Cancer Crusade awards funding to beneficiaries ranging from leading cancer centers to community-based grassroots breast health programs to support breast cancer research and access to care. Many programs are dedicated to educating underserved women about breast cancer and linking them to early detection screening services. Visit avonbhop.org for more information.

The Avon Breast Health Outreach Program is administered by Cicatelli Associates Inc. to support community-based, non-profit breast health programs across the country. The Fund's National Advisory Board selected Women's Health Program at MLK Health Center & Pharmacy as one of 56 new grant recipients nationwide in the 2016 cycle of Avon Breast Health Outreach Program grants. These organizations were chosen based on their ability to effectively reach women, particularly minority, low-income, and older women, who are often medically underserved.

For more information on the Women's Health Program at MLK Health Center & Pharmacy, please call Janet Mentasane at (318) 227-2912 ext.1. To learn more about the Avon Breast Health Outreach Program, visit www.avonbhop.org

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