



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY HEALTH

NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD

GEORGIA CENTER FOR ONCOLOGY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

BREAST CANCER GRANT PROGRAM

**POSTING DATE: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2013
INQUIRY CLOSING DATE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2013**

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DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION

BREAST CANCER GRANT PROGRAM

AGENCY BACKGROUND

The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) was created in 1999 by Senate Bill 241 to serve as the lead agency for health care planning and purchasing issues in Georgia. DCH is the single state agency for Medicaid and insures over two million people in the State of Georgia, maximizing the State's health care purchasing power, coordinating health planning for State agencies and proposing cost-effective solutions for reducing the number of uninsured.

In Georgia, breast cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed and the second leading cause of cancer death among women in Georgia. Currently it accounts for 1 in 4 cancers diagnosed in U.S. women. To combat this growing trend the Georgia Department of community Health (DCH), State Office of Rural Health (SORH) has selected breast cancer as a focus area in an effort to reduce breast cancer related health disparities.

Within DCH, the State Office of Rural Health (SORH) serves Georgians by improving access to health care in rural and underserved areas to improve health status and reduce health disparities.

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

The Indigent Care Trust Fund (ICTF) was established in 1990 to expand Medicaid eligibility and services, support rural and other health care providers, primarily hospitals, which serve the medically indigent, and fund primary health care programs for medically indigent Georgians. The ICTF is an umbrella program which contains the Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) program, nursing home provider fees, Care Management Organization (CMO) Quality Assessment Fees; **Breast Cancer Tag Fees**, ambulance rates and other uninsured/indigent initiatives.

The Georgia CORE through the Georgia Research Alliance (GRA – Formerly Georgia Cancer Coalition) GRA has been the recipient of funding from the Breast Cancer License Plate Tag Program since 2010.

The Georgia Center for Oncology Research and Education (Georgia CORE) is a non-profit agency that was established in 2003 to serve as a catalyst to increase access to clinical trials, research and education to cancer care. It is the only organization of its kind in the state. Georgia CORE marshals several cancer-focused entities into a single force to help Georgians fight the disease.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Georgia CORE's Statewide Initiatives include:

- (1) Research Network is designed to enhance community oncology practice and scientific research by promoting and conducting clinical trials;
- (2) Clinical Trials: investigators conduct industry-sponsored, investigator-initiated and cooperative group trials that are not available from other sources in the state;
- (3) Cancer Patient Navigators of Georgia: a statewide multi-disciplinary organization that connects people who guide individuals and their families throughout the cancer care continuum; and
- (4) GeorgiaCancerInfo.org: a comprehensive web site for cancer patients, survivors, caregivers and healthcare professionals providing current information on cancer treatments, doctors, centers and resources throughout the state.

As a part of its mission to improve the quality of cancer care throughout the state this initiative will expand and develop programs focused on targeting medically indigent women in an attempt to promote access, education, early detection, provide mammography and other clinical examinations and to provide a treatment option for breast cancer.

AWARD JUSTIFICATION	<p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award The Georgia Center for Oncology Research and Education (Georgia CORE) in the amount \$750,000 to increase access to clinical trials, research and education to cancer care.</p> <p>DCH presents this funding as a direct award in that the Georgia General Assembly has appropriated funds through the sale of special license plates (Breast Cancer Awareness Plates) Georgia CORE that meets the federal grant requirements.</p>
AWARD(S)	TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$750,000
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION</u></p> <p>Arnita E. Watson, Grant Manager at awatson@dch.ga.gov no later than 2:00 PM on Friday, October 11, 2013.</p>	