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**Jazz District Chief presented with Breast Cancer Advocacy Award**

**KANSAS CITY, MO: May 14, 2014** – Denise E. Gilmore was presented with the 2014 Susan G. Komen Legacy Promise Award at the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Pink Promise Brunch on May 10. Gilmore, the President & CEO of the Jazz District Redevelopment Corporation, is a four-year breast cancer survivor who took a potentially life-threatening diagnosis and turned it in to a passion for a cause. More than 1,000 women and men attended the annual breast cancer event raising nearly \$170,000 to support the programs and services funded by the agency.

Gilmore, who lost her mother to breast cancer in 2000 and a sister to the disease earlier this year, received the award from the Komen Kansas City's Board President Laurie Roberts. "Denise is especially dedicated to encouraging women of color to get screened," Roberts commented. "As minority women are more likely to get diagnosed at a later stage and to die from breast cancer."

Gilmore, who serves as the Vice President of the Komen Kansas City Board of Director's, was also a key contributor in the creation of the newly-formed Wyandotte County Breast Cancer Task Force. A group of area agencies and supporters dedicated to leveling the playing field when it comes to breast health awareness, education and screenings for minorities throughout the county.

"I accept this award in loving memory of my mother, Charlotte White and my sister Lynetta White, who both fought brave battles and lived their lives with hope until the very end. To think that only two years ago, Lynetta and I both stood before you to share our story, and today I feel their presence," she noted in her remarks following receipt of the honor.

The Legacy Promise Award was started at Komen Kansas City in 2011 to honor those who have moved the organizations' mission forward. It is Gilmore's "deep commitment to making a difference in the lives of all women who are touched by breast cancer that earned her this award," Roberts added.

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**About Susan G. Komen for the Cure® and the Komen Kansas City Affiliate**

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. Since its founding in 1982, Komen has funded more than \$800 million in research and provided more than \$1.7 billion in funding to screening, education, treatment and psychosocial support programs serving millions of people in more than 30 countries worldwide. Komen was founded by Nancy G. Brinker, who promised her sister, Susan G. Komen, that she would end the disease that claimed Suzy's life.

Through events like the Komen Kansas City Pink Promise Brunch and Race for the Cure®, the Kansas City Affiliate has invested more than \$10 million in community breast health programs in a 17-county area. Up to 75% of net proceeds generated by the Affiliate stay in the Kansas City region. The remaining income (25%) goes to the national Susan G. Komen Grants Program to fund research. For more information visit [KomenKansasCity.org](http://KomenKansasCity.org).