



formerly known as Y-ME National Breast Cancer Organization

Breast Cancer Network of Strength™ Announces Recipients of Annual Awards

Chicago, October 31, 2008—Breast Cancer Network of Strength™, formerly Y-ME National Breast Cancer Organization®, is pleased to announce the recipients of its annual awards. The award ceremony followed the organization's annual board of directors meeting held Thursday, October 30, 2008.

The Chicago-based national nonprofit organization's mission is to ensure, through information, empowerment and peer support, that no one faces breast cancer alone.

The **Sharon Rose Miller Spirit Award** is in honor of Sharon, a metastatic breast cancer patient who worked tirelessly on Breast Cancer Network of Strength's front lines, sharing her personal story to help others traveling the same path. The award was presented to **Donna Pelletier**, quality assurance manager of YourShoes™, Network of Strength's 24/7 breast cancer support center. Initially diagnosed with stage IV breast cancer, Donna has faced two recurrences since she has been employed by Breast Cancer Network of Strength.

Given in memory of a doctor who left an enormous legacy of hope, compassion and dignity, the **Arthur G. Michel, M.D., Award for Excellence in Breast Cancer** went to **Dr. David Song**, chief of plastic and reconstructive breast surgery at the University of Chicago.

Each year, Breast Cancer Network of Strength's **Award of Distinction** is given to the organization or individual who made the largest financial contribution to Breast Cancer Network of Strength in the past year. This year the award went to the **National Philanthropic Trust** for its donation of nearly \$3.5 million, truly a transformational grant that will help Network of Strength reach the medically underserved by expanding the "A Day For You" program to new markets.

Eli Lilly was the recipient of Network of Strength's **Media Award** for its efforts to bring the message of earlier detection and breast cancer awareness to the public through the "Strength in Knowing" program.

Breast Cancer Network of Strength's **Cause Partnership Award** was awarded to **Bumble Bee Foods** who put Network of Strength's information on 10 million tuna cans, allowing Bumble Bee consumers to be a part of the Bumble Bee BeeWellMiles Program.

The Breast Cancer Network of Strength **Mother's Day Team Achievement Award** went to companies that created fundraising teams with their employees throughout the country: **McDonald's, Grant Thornton, sanofi-aventis, United Airlines, Walgreens, Bumble Bee and Pfizer. Nordstrom, Hu-Friedy, Hyatt, Genentech, Gavina, Brassica, Naked Juice and Minute Rice** were honored as regional sponsors.

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Each year, a Breast Cancer Network of Strength employee is given the **Every Day Every Way Award** to recognize and reward individuals who demonstrate the organization's five core values: *Integrity, Diversity, Quality, Empowerment, Communication, and Compassion*. This year's winner, voted for by her peers, was Kendra Eiermann, IT support technician

In addition, the organization honored three board members whose tenure has ended: **Linda Bammann, Katie Harman** and **Dr. Larry Norton**.

The Leadership Award is given to an individual whose initiative and leadership have made a significant and lasting impact on Breast Cancer Network of Strength. The recipient this year was outgoing Board President, **Pat Harris**, who passed her gavel along to the organization's new Board President, **Frank Jakosz**.

Breast Cancer Network of Strength's Chief Executive Officer Margaret C. Kirk also recognized the 30th Anniversary **Gala Committee**, who worked tirelessly to create an outstanding evening for the event on October 17th that raised \$1 million: **Gloria Suardiaz Alvarez, Maureen Durack, Pat Harris, Linda House, Janis Robinson**, and **Katie Harman**.

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