Mr. Hall shared, "Fighting cancer is my mission right now. This

research and development project seeks to join a shared community,

local and globally, to find a cure to support the defeat and elimination

Mr. Asato continued, "Thanks

to the support of organizations

like Legacy Health, we have a

successful breast health education

program in the faith-based com-

munity, called Worship in Pink.

Now, it is time to move beyond

education and do what we can to

A new effort to address breast

cancer disparities in Portland's

African American community is

led by Cindy Fletcher, director

of programs for the Susan G.

Washington foundation; Dr.

Komen Oregon and Southwest

Angela Owusu-Ansah, professor

of doctoral studies at Concordia

University; Bridget Jamieson,

manager; D. Bora Harris.

community advocate.

Komen's community programs

diversity consultant; and Kelvin

Hall, doctoral candidate and

of this disease."

encourage action."

Breast Cancer Disparities Study Begins

Community team leads Komen effort

In the United States, black women die more often and are often diagnosed younger with more aggressive forms of breast cancer than white women. The Susan G. Komen Oregon and Southwest Washington foundation is taking aim at reversing those unwanted

As the first step in developing a multi-year initiative to address breast cancer disparities, Komen has partnered with a team of independent contractors who are actively involved with the Portland-metro area's African American community. The project, funded in part by a grant Komen received from the OHSU Knight Cancer Institute Community Partnership Program, was to be outlined on Wednesday during a scheduled news conference at the Portland NAACP office.

The research team reflects the community for its diversity and includes Angela Owusu-Ansah, PhD, professor of doctoral studies at Concordia University in northeast Portland; D. Bora Harris, MPA, diversity consultant; and Kelvin Hall, doctoral candidate and community advocate.

Data around demographics, breast cancer screening habits, and barriers to breast cancer screening and treatment will be collected as they look to inform Komen's work in reducing breast cancer mortality in Portland's African American community.

"The disparities are shocking. African American women, in the US, die from breast cancer nearly 40 percent more than white women. We need to address this!" stated Andrew Asato, CEO of Susan G. Komen Oregon & SW Washington. "We're looking forward to Dr. Owusu-Ansah and her team, whose incredible talents exactly fit our needs, collecting the data that will inform our future efforts, and helping us to create the community advisory group that will guide the formation of a multiyear Komen African American Initiative."



Dr. Owusu-Ansah commented, 'We, as independent agents, are thrilled to work in tandem with Komen Oregon & SW Washington, to serve our community with warmth and humility. Reminded of our shared goals, we value the partnership and collaboration towards a better and common future of dignity, respect, and lived lives. We believe we will rediscover the resilience, determination, energy, and infinite diversity of African American women. And together, we will initiate new approaches for progress and health, for humanity as a whole."

Ms. Harris added, "It is refreshing to interact and participate in meaningful dialogue, where the outcome is beneficial to the community as a whole. In addition to health disparities within our underserved and underrepresented communities, as African American women, we have historically been taught to 'hush' concerning many things. This tradition of silence may have negatively impacted several phases of our quality of life in respect to our health."

Vancouver NAACP Voter Drive

Elections matter. From school ator to president, our elected ofequality of our law enforcement, public education system, and so much more. But our representaif we do not do our civic duty.

The message about voting superintendent to sheriff to sen- comes from the Vancouver branch of the NAACP which is inviting ficials determine the quality and the community to join them on Saturday, July 21 for a voter registration drive, community meeting and potluck. The event will tives can hardly be representative be held from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at of our communities or tour needs the Vancouver Housing Authority, 2500 Main St.

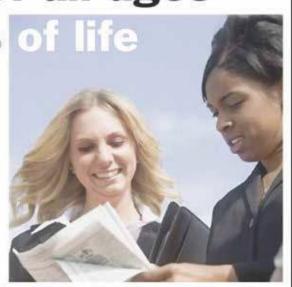
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and all walks of life

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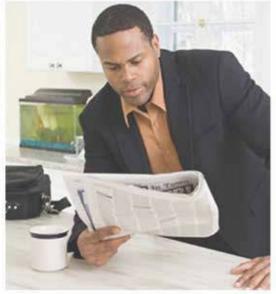
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