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Samaritan House Receives \$30,000 Grant from Avon Breast Health Outreach Program for Samaritan House Breast Care Clinic

Local Organization Recognized With Support from National Program

San Mateo, CA / February 1, 2016 – The Avon Breast Health Outreach Program has awarded a \$30,000 one-year grant to Samaritan House to increase awareness of the life-saving benefits of early the detection of breast cancer, prevention and risk-reduction strategies. It is the second 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 Samaritan House Breast Care Clinic at Samaritan House will educate low-income women in San Mateo County about the importance of breast health and breast care and refer them to free mammograms, clinical breast exams and other imaging services in their own communities. The vital program also provides yearly follow-up.

Since 1999, the Breast Care Clinic at Samaritan House has reached more than 5,800 women with information about the importance of early detection of breast cancer and has referred these women for free mammograms, clinical breast exams and other services.

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women in the United States. According to the American Cancer Society, 25,270 new cases of breast cancer will be detected in California this year and 4,320 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 the Samaritan House Breast Care Clinic help ensure that all women have access to early detection information and options, even poor and medically underserved women.

"We are proud that the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade shares our mission and has chosen to support our program. Many of our clients are unaware of the risks they face and the importance of regular self-examination, clinical breast exams, and early



detection. The cultural sensitivity of our program is particularly important in encouraging clients to change their attitudes, beliefs and behaviors about regularly performing a breast self exam and ensuring they receive regular screening mammograms,” said Bart Charlow, Chief Executive Officer.

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 the Breast Care Clinic at Samaritan House. 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 the Breast Care Clinic at Samaritan House as one of 56 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 Breast Care Clinic at Samaritan House, please call Rebecca Kleinsmith at 650-523-0820. To learn more about the Avon Breast Health Outreach Program, visit www.avonbhop.org.

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