

**TEN YEARS OF PROGRESS
TOWARD ELIMINATING BREAST CANCER**

The mission of the California Breast Cancer Research Program is to eliminate breast cancer by leading innovation in research, communication, and collaboration in the California scientific and lay communities.

The California Breast Cancer Research Program's purpose is to push breast cancer research in new directions. We fund innovation, inclusive dialogues, and breakthrough science. We work with other breast cancer agencies to fill gaps in ongoing research. We seek ways to eliminate breast cancer, improve treatment, and enhance the care of those who are living with the disease by supporting some of the most innovative breast cancer research in the world. Here's what we have accomplished during our first ten years.

"Whenever I am involved in discussions about medical research programs, someone brings up as a model the California Breast Cancer Research Program. When I spoke at the CBCRP symposium, I, too, was overwhelmed by the breadth of this groundbreaking state-funded program."

—Gwen Darien
Editor-in-Chief
MAMM Magazine

"Californians should be proud of the California Breast Cancer Research Program, which has been on the forefront of innovation in the process of funding and doing breast cancer research. It has been a model of inclusiveness and the model for the rest of the nation of how breast cancer research should be done."

—Susan Love, M.D., M.B.A.
Susan Love MD Breast Cancer Research Foundation
Former CBCRP Council Member



Through our research...A non-invasive, non-toxic, low-cost innovative method (optical spectroscopy, using a handheld laser-based scanner) has been developed to detect breast cancer.

**The California Breast Cancer
Research Program**

**Pushing Breast Cancer Research
In New Directions**

In the early 1990s, breast cancer advocates and researchers in California saw a need for a new approach to breast cancer research, one that would enhance collaboration among scientists and communities and advance new ideas and breakthrough science.

To meet this need, a coalition of breast cancer advocates, scientists, and legislators worked together to develop The Breast Cancer Act, which passed in the California state legislature in 1993. This groundbreaking legislation created a first-of-its-kind organization, the California Breast Cancer Research Program. This brochure highlights what we've accomplished during our first ten years.

**Without pioneering research,
that's a world we'll never know.**

**« A world without
breast cancer.**

**About the California Breast Cancer
Research Program**

Created in 1993 by the California state legislature, the California Breast Cancer Research Program is the largest state-funded breast cancer research program in the nation. Its mission is to eliminate breast cancer by leading innovation in research, communication, and collaboration in the California scientific and lay communities. The program is funded through the voluntary tax check-off program on personal income tax form 540, a portion of the state tobacco tax, and individual contributions.

As of December 2003, the California Breast Cancer Research Program has awarded 569 grants to 62 scientific institutions and community organizations, totaling close to \$150 million, for California-based research into new ways to prevent, treat, and cure breast cancer.



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Imagine

Through our research...Tumor markers can now be used to predict response to specific chemotherapy and help tailor therapy to an individual woman's cancer.

- Advocates and researchers realize the need for a new collaborative-based approach to breast cancer research, one that would involve scientists and communities and advance new ideas. Coalition of breast cancer advocates, scientists, and legislators worked together to develop The Breast Cancer Act.

- The Breast Cancer Act is passed and signed into law on October 1st. This groundbreaking legislation created a first-of-its-kind organization, the California Breast Cancer Research Program.

Through our research...Essiac tea, an herbal remedy many women have used as an alternative breast cancer preventive, was found to promote the growth of tumors in rats.

Through our research...A snake venom protein has been shown to be a potent inhibitor of growth and spontaneous metastasis of human breast cancer in animals.

- First research grants awarded: 78 grants to 22 institutions, totaling \$19.3 million.

Through our research...Chinese and Tibetan herbal medicines are being rigorously tested to evaluate their effectiveness in treating breast cancer.

- Research grants awarded in 1997: 66 grants to 24 institutions, totaling \$14.9 million

- First statewide CBCRP Symposium brings together 700 attendees to discuss research results and opportunities and foster interaction between advocates and scientists.

- First Breast Cancer Funders Meeting brings together, for the very first time, all the major funding agencies for breast cancer research in the U.S. and Canada.

- The California state legislature transfers the breast cancer Tax Check-off Program to the California Breast Cancer Research Program, at the request of advocacy organizations, to give Californians an easy opportunity to support innovative breast cancer research.

Through our research...We learned that drugs used for diabetes and other safe agents might help the body mount its own immune response to breast cancer.

Through our research...We learned that centralizing mammogram interpretation could save money, increase cancer detection, and reduce biopsy rates.

- Research grants awarded in 1999: 66 grants to 26 institutions, totaling \$16 million

- Second statewide Symposium in Los Angeles draws more than 600 attendees.

Through our research...We understand that bovine leukemia virus (a cancer-causing virus in cattle) needs to be further investigated as a possible cause for some breast cancers.

- Research grants awarded in 2001: 66 grants to 28 institutions, totaling \$18.8 million.

- To attract scientists into critical areas of breast cancer research, the Breast Cancer Research Council establishes Primary and Complementary priority issues and award types.

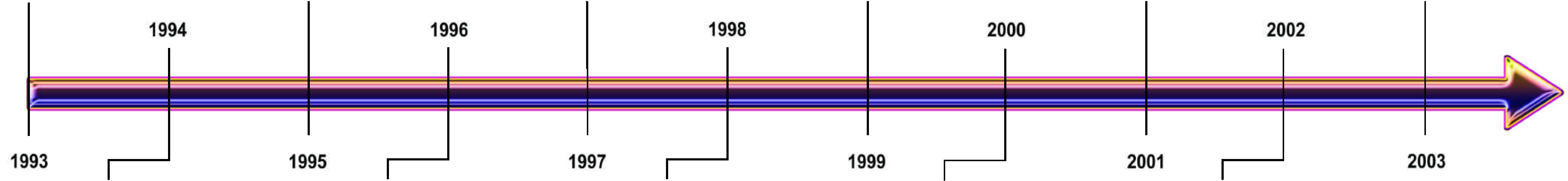
- CBCRP initiates evaluation of its career development awards.

- Statewide Symposium cancelled just days before the event because of the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

Through our research...Researchers are making progress in developing gene therapy for invasive and metastatic breast cancer.

- Research grants in 2003: 50 grants to 18 institutions, totaling \$11.5 million.

- The California Breast Cancer Research Program marks its ten-year anniversary. With almost \$150 million in grants in support of innovative research during its first decade, the California Breast Cancer Research Program has made a significant contribution to breast cancer research and to improving the treatment and care of those who are living with the disease. Our research will continue until we can celebrate a real end to breast cancer.



- The California Breast Cancer Research Program's administrative offices are set up at the University of California, Office of the President, Division of Health Affairs, in Oakland, California.

- The Breast Cancer Research Council is formed to track trends and opportunities for progress that arise in the breast cancer community, make funding recommendations, and plan future directions for the California Breast Cancer Research Program. Currently the Council is made up of 15 people selected to represent those affected by breast cancer and the institutions working to eliminate it.

- First Call for Applications are distributed by the California Breast Cancer Research Program to the California scientific community.

- The IDEA (Innovation, Developmental Exploratory Award) approach is born, to encourage breakthrough, high-risk, high-reward research. The approach has been so successful, other funding agencies have adopted similar approaches.

- Research grants awarded in 1996: 60 grants to 23 institutions, totaling \$14.2 million.

- Community Research Collaboration (CRC) awards are created to support research partnerships between community organizations and traditional researchers. Advocacy representation increased on review committees from one advocate per committee to a minimum of three per committee.

Through our research...Certain fish oils have been proven to decrease metastasizing of breast tumors by preventing tumor blood vessel formation and decreasing certain crucial proteins.

- Research grants awarded in 1998: 58 grants to 27 institutions, totaling \$17.3 million

- A new peer review evaluation system is adopted to rate innovation, impact, and translation qualities for better grant funding decision-making.

Through our research...We have learned that soy products eaten early in life may help prevent breast cancer. Asian women who ate tofu at least four times a week as teenagers had a 35% lower breast cancer risk than those who ate it less than once a month.

- Research grants awarded in 2000: 71 grants to 28 institutions, totaling \$16.1 million.

- In partnership with National Cancer Institute, Department of Defense, American Cancer Society and others, the California Breast Cancer Research Program creates common grant categories, known as the Common Scientific Outline, to help reduce overlap and identify gaps in breast cancer research for the California Breast Cancer Research Program to fill.

Through our research...We know that women in California are not being offered breast-conserving therapy as often as they should, but this is steadily improving.

- Research grants awarded in 2002: 67 grants to 22 institutions, totaling \$15 million.

- Third statewide Symposium in Oakland draws more than 600 attendees.

- Community Partners Executive Team is formed, chaired by Sherry Lansing, chief executive officer of Paramount Studios.

Through our research...A non-invasive, non-toxic, low-cost innovative method (optical spectroscopy, using a handheld laser-based scanner) to detect breast cancer has been brought from a risky concept to clinical trials.

