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**HERITAGE CENTERS AWARDED GRANT FROM THE WNY AFFILIATE OF THE
SUSAN G. KOMEN BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION**

(BUFFALO, NY, March 2, 2007) – The WNY Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, one of over 100 Affiliates nationwide dedicated to putting an end to breast cancer, recently awarded Heritage Centers a community grant totaling \$29,035.20.

This grant will allow Heritage Centers to expand a project started in 2004 that provides breast health education and outreach for women with disabilities. Phase III involves collaboration with eight health and human service agencies within Erie and Niagara Counties. The project will utilize a “train the trainer” format to increase the number of women served.

“In order to ensure our funds are making the greatest impact, the Komen Western New York Affiliate works with local medical experts and community leaders to conduct comprehensive community needs assessments,” said Jackie Mordaunt, Komen Western New York Affiliate Executive Director. “The project planned by Heritage Centers will help ‘fill the gaps,’ delivering the life-saving message of early detection and providing assistance to medically-underserved breast cancer patients and their families.”

“We are very excited to be partnered with the Susan G. Komen Foundation,” said Michael Gross, Heritage Centers Executive Director. “They are a great organization doing great work. We are so happy to have been chosen again to continue helping them and their cause while reaching a severely underserved population.”

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation was established in 1982 by Nancy Brinker to honor the memory of her sister, Susan G. Komen, who died from breast cancer at the age of 36. Today the Foundation is an international organization with a network of more than 75,000 volunteers working through local Affiliates and events like the Komen Race for the Cure to eradicate breast cancer as a life-threatening disease.

Heritage Centers is a local non-profit that employs over 900 people and serves more than 3,000 individuals with disabilities (and their families) each year. Individualized services include, but are not limited to: early intervention, education, residential, vocational, service coordination, legal and advocacy programming.

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