

upcoming events

February 9, 2008

The Promise of Stem Cells in Human Health

9:30 am – 2:30 pm

Dominican University of California

Cost: Free

RSVP to Zero Breast Cancer: info@zerobreastcancer.org

For info call 415-507-1949

March 1, 2008

3rd Annual Town Hall Meeting

Bay Area Breast Cancer and the Environment Research Center
Preservation Park, Oakland, CA

RSVP to Jo Ann Johnson, at: joannj@zerobreastcancer.org

For info call 415-507-1949 ext. 103

May 8, 2008

Honor Thy Healer

Annual Awards Dinner

6:00 pm

Mill Valley Community Center

Cost: \$130 per person

To request an invitation, email: info@zerobreastcancer.org

For info call 415-507-1949 ext. 102

September 6, 2008

Dipsea Hike/Run

Annual fundraiser held in honor of Annie Fox

9:00 am

Old Mill Park, Mill Valley, CA

Cost: \$50 per person

To be added to the brochure mailing list,
please email: info@zerobreastcancer.org



4340 Redwood Highway, #C400
San Rafael, CA 94903

www.zerobreastcancer.org

HONOR THY HEALER

Thursday, May 8, 2008

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Do you have a story of a healthcare professional or any special individual who has played a pivotal role in helping someone in their battle against breast cancer?

We want to hear from you!

Your nominee for our

HONOR THY HEALER AWARDS

could be chosen for recognition at our annual celebration and serve as inspiration to countless others!

There are two community-nominated categories:

HEALING PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Nominees can range from physicians and nurses to social workers, hospice workers, or alternative medicine practitioners. We are interested in healers of every sense of the word.

HEALING PARTNER AWARD

Nominees can be anyone who has helped a loved one through their fight against this disease.

Just write a brief description of the nominee's endeavors, accomplishments and attributes and deliver no later than
January 31, 2008

(Please limit your narrative to 250 words or less)

Please send your nominations to:

Zero Breast Cancer

4340 Redwood Hwy, Ste. C400

San Rafael, CA 94903

sharond@zerobreastcancer.org • Fax: 415.507.1645

Questions? Call 415.507.1949

www.zerobreastcancer.org

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Formerly Marin Breast Cancer Watch

Fall 2007

Do Rogue Stem-Like Cells Cause Breast Cancer?

Janice Marie Barlow, Executive Director

Mohammed El Majdoubi, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology, Dominican University of California

Research into stem cells has been fueled by their abilities to renew themselves indefinitely and generate all the cell types of the organ from which they originate, potentially regenerating the entire organ from a few cells.

Stem cells have been of great interest to science and medicine because of their potential use as a tool to grow and replace damaged tissues in regenerative therapies for spinal cord injuries, diabetes, Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases, and so forth.

Now, researchers are discovering that stem cells also have a dark side. In addition to their role in the normal reparative and regenerative processes, stem cells have the potential to turn malignant and may be at the origin of many tumors affecting the organs in which they reside.

While the idea that a small population of malignant stem cells could cause cancer is not new, it might be a surprise to those of us who associate stem cells mostly with their potential in regenerative medicine. However, what cancer researchers are increasingly finding is that some of the cancer cells in tumors share many of the same characteristics associated with stem cells.

These characteristics are:

- ▶ An unlimited life span. Stem cells are capable of dividing and renewing themselves for long periods of time.
- ▶ The ability to generate a diverse range of specialized cell types.

Other similarities between stem cells and cancer cells include their ability to invade neighboring tissues and to migrate to distant sites in the body.

The stem cell theory of cancer proposes that cancers of a given tissue arise from the stem cells of that tissue. Stated in its simplest form, stem cells, which normally drive the formation and maintenance of an organ, transform into malignant stem cells, which drive the formation and maintenance of a tumor.

Although only a theory, it is plausible based on the following:

- ▶ Stem cells and cancer cells share similar characteristics as noted above.
- ▶ There is data suggesting that only a small population of malignant cells within tumors drive tumor formation. Many tumors contain different types of cells in varying states of differentiation and with varying proliferation potential.
- ▶ A long time is required for a cell to acquire the multiple mutations or epigenetic changes necessary to become malignant; only stem cells are long-lived enough for such a series of cancer-producing events to take place.

In regard to breast cancer, this theory suggests that breast epithelial stem-like cells might be the best candidates for driving breast carcinogenesis. Such stem-like cells would be present in early development as well as in adults (where they drive the expansion of breasts during puberty and pregnancy), have proliferation potential and have longevity to acquire the mutations and/or epigenetic changes that would place them on the path toward becoming more malignant later in the life of the individual.

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Mission Statement

Our mission is to find the causes of breast cancer through community participation in the research process. We focus on identifying environmental factors and the role they play in the development of breast cancer at all stages of life.

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Francine Levien
(1926 – 2001)

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2007 Donor Acknowledgments

Zero Breast Cancer is grateful to all of our supporters, volunteers and donors. The Spring 2008 newsletter will have the complete list of donors, honorariums and memorials. In the meantime, please visit our website to see the full list. Thank you!

Do Rogue Stem-Like Cells Cause Breast Cancer?

... continued from page 1

The most effective approach would be to create a drug that is capable of targeting and switching off breast cancer stem cells. For instance, chemotherapy which is designed to target rapidly dividing cancer cells may not be able to wipe out any of the cancer stem cells of the breast as they divide more slowly. So while chemotherapy can eliminate the bulk of cancer cells, the tumor factory (i.e., a breast cancer stem cell) may survive for a long time and become responsible for the recurrence of the cancer several years down the road.

The most effective approach would be to create a drug that is capable of specifically target and switch off breast cancer stem cells. True eradication of cancer will, therefore, require a deeper understanding of the biology of stem cells, including the mechanisms that underlie their ability to either keep proliferating or differentiate into a specific cell lineage at different stages of development.

Scientists are excited about the long-term potential of stem cell research to understand, diagnose and treat an array of diseases, including breast cancer. By most accounts, any clinical applications for humans, however tantalizing, are still a long way off. Understanding the role of stem cells will not be fast or easy, but it is achievable.

A Fond Farewell ...

Zero Breast Cancer bids a fond farewell to the following people who have completed their terms on the Board of Directors in 2007:

Jason Glazier joined the Board of Directors in 2005. A Sonoma County resident active on a number of community boards and committees, Jason brought energy and enthusiasm to his role as a member of the board for the last two years.

Sandra Cross has been a member of the ZBC Board of Directors for five years, serving as the Board President from 2003 to 2006. She regularly wrote the *Eye on Research* section of the bi-annual newsletter and served on various community committees as a member of Zero Breast Cancer.

Linda Spence has served on the Board of Directors almost ten years. She played an integral role in developing Zero Breast Cancer's first research study, *The Adolescent Risk Factors Study* and has participated in countless events over the years.

We gratefully acknowledge their contributions and years of dedication to Zero Breast Cancer.

Gail Paradise Art

Gail Paradise, a world-renowned professional artist, sculptor and member of the Zero Breast Cancer Board of Directors, passed away on August 11, 2005. Gail believed in the healing force of art and strived to create a world without breast cancer and a more hopeful future for her children and grandchildren. A collection of her work is on display at the Zero Breast Cancer office, including original landscapes and human figure "monoprints." These works are for sale and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to ZBC. To make an appointment to view Ms. Paradise's fine art, please contact our office.

Special Thanks for events benefiting Zero Breast Cancer

With gratitude to these special friends who raised funds for Zero Breast Cancer in October

- ▶ Radio station Alice @ 97.3 FM selected Zero Breast Cancer as one of the beneficiaries of this year's **Alice Music 11**, the annual compilation CD which raises funds for local breast cancer nonprofits. The CD is on sale at Bay Area Starbucks through the end of December.
- ▶ **Susan Z** celebrated her ninth year of benefit concerts in support of local breast cancer causes with two concerts: **Wine, Women & Song**, October 20th at the Larkspur Café Theater and **Breast of Broadway**, November 4th at the Throckmorton Theatre in Mill Valley.
- ▶ Tamalpais High School Breast Cancer Awareness Club presented **ONE DAY, ONE COMMUNITY, ZERO BREAST CANCER** on October 24th. Several events were planned by the students throughout the day, which culminated with a five-course dinner at the Parkside Café in Stinson Beach.
- ▶ A holiday sneak-preview shopping event was held on Sunday, October 28th at Anthropologie at The Village in Corte Madera. Ten percent of the proceeds of the evening were donated to Zero Breast Cancer.

Zero Breast Cancer is grateful to these organizations and to all of our loyal supporters in the community. Thank you!

**Alice
@ 97.3**
Hear us anywhere at
radioalice.com



5th Annual Dipsea Hike/Run

Saturday, September 8, 2007, was a beautiful day for the 5th annual Dipsea Hike/Run on Mt. Tamalpais. Over 250 runners and hikers participated in this year's event, raising over \$25,000 to support breast cancer research. The trail was the best ever, the weather was perfect and the post-hike picnic in Old Mill Park was fun with plenty of food, the music of Jazz for Sale and complimentary massages and chiropractic treatments.

ZBC's version of the Dipsea Hike/Run was established in 2002 by Annie Fox, a former ZBC Board member, Marin County employee, avid trail runner and breast cancer awareness advocate who courageously fought the disease until her untimely death at the age of 35. Zero Breast Cancer's Dipsea Hike/Run continues to be held in Annie's honor. This year's event was also designed to highlight the reintroduction of the Annie Fox Act by Representative Lynn Woolsey (D-Petaluma). Passage of this bill would provide \$9 million annually to fund breast cancer research in women under age 40. For more information on the Annie Fox Act, please visit our website WWW.ZEROBREASTCANCER.ORG.

Avon Walk for Breast Cancer

The 2007 Avon Walk for Breast Cancer in San Francisco on July 7th and 8th was another big success. This year's walk raised over \$5.6 million for Bay Area breast cancer organizations. Zero Breast Cancer is pleased to be the recipient of Avon funding for the fifth



year. ZBC's grant from the Avon Foundation helps support our adolescent breast cancer education program and the work of our environmental research consultant.

Ways You can Support Zero Breast Cancer

- ▶ Making a contribution using the enclosed envelope.
- ▶ Workplace giving. If your employer has a workplace giving campaign, you can designate Zero Breast Cancer as the recipient of your payroll deductions. Please include the following information on your form:

ZERO BREAST CANCER
4340 Redwood Highway Suite C400
San Rafael, CA 94903
Nonprofit tax ID #68-0386016

- ▶ Matching Gifts. Check to see if your company has a Matching Gift Program. Many companies will donate a percentage or even double the amount of your gift.
- ▶ Stock or a vehicle donation. Please go to WWW.ZEROBREASTCANCER.ORG for details.
- ▶ Purchase an 18 karat gold or sterling silver Zero Breast Cancer pendant or pin in our Zero logo as a holiday gift. Visit our website for details. The pieces are made to order so please allow three weeks for delivery.



Special Thanks for Foundation Grants

Zero Breast Cancer gratefully acknowledges receipt of grants in 2007 from the **Avon Foundation**, the **To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation**, **Safeway Foundation** and the **Marin County Board of Supervisors**.
Our work would not be possible without this support.

Honor Thy Healer



Cindi Cantril and associates from the Marin Cancer Institute



Kathy Koblick, Larry Meredith, Mark Powell, Le Ann Prebil and Rochelle Eremán



Mary Jane Burke, Marin County Superintendent of Schools; Michael Scurich, Jim and Terry Nevin, and Jane Scurich of Brayton Purcell

The Mill Valley Community Center was again the setting for ZBC's 8th annual Honor Thy Healer awards ceremony and dinner. On May 3, 2007, family, friends and supporters gathered to celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of this group of special individuals.

Our 2007 honorees were: **Cindi Cantril, RN, OCN, MPH**, breast health program coordinator and nurse navigator at Marin Cancer Institute; **Gordon Manashil, MD**, Physician-in-Chief, The Permanente Medical Group in San Rafael and Chief of Staff, Kaiser Permanente San Rafael Medical Center; **Larry Meredith, PhD, and the Community Epidemiology Team** of the Marin County Department of Health and Human Services; **Larry Kushi, ScD**, Principal Investigator of the CYGNET Study, Kaiser Division of Research; **Daliah Neuberger**, sister of breast cancer survivor Orah Sholin; and **Stephen Joseph, Esq.**, founder of BanTransFats.com. Former Marin County Supervisor and President and CEO of the North Bay Leadership Council **Cynthia Murray** presided over the festivities.



Larry Kushi



Gordon and Carol Manashil



Ray Kaliski, Harborpoint Charitable Foundation and Renee Rymer Bank of Marin



Assembly Member Jared Huffman and Stephen Joseph



Carol Harris and Carl Campbell, Kaiser Permanente



Daliah Neuberger and Orah Sholin



Merrill Camilleri and Erin O'Neill of Autodesk

DONOR PROFILE: *Caroline (Kit) Everts*



Many years ago, Kit Everts and Marin Breast Cancer Watch founder Francine Levien met through their mutual association with the Marin Interfaith Task Force on Central America. The two women became friends, long before Francine was diagnosed with breast cancer.

In the early years of the organization, Francine turned to her friend for fundraising advice. Kit suggested that MBCW set up a brokerage account to facilitate the transfer of stocks. She told her that this allows a donor the opportunity to make a contribution of stock from their own account directly to the nonprofit's. Francine took her advice and set up an account at Charles Schwab. A gift of securities, including stocks and mutual funds, is an excellent way to make a donation to a nonprofit. The tax benefits to the donor make it a win/win.

A Boston native, Kit and her husband made Mill Valley their home over 50 years ago. She has been a generous friend and supporter of Zero Breast Cancer from the beginning, making an annual gift of stock. She said that Francine would be amazed to see how Zero Breast Cancer has evolved from a grassroots group of women with breast cancer to the organization that it has become today.

Zero Breast Cancer is honored by Kit's commitment to supporting our mission.

YOU'RE INVITED

Dominican University of California and the Bay Area-based organization Zero Breast Cancer are hosting a community forum on stem cell research. The forum, *The Promise of Stem Cells in Human Health*, will be held on Saturday, February 9 from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at Dominican University of California and will be open to the public.

This forum will present a unique opportunity to involve the community in an ongoing dialogue about a new frontier of medicine that has the potential to greatly advance our understanding of the biological processes that keep our bodies healthy.

"Our goal is to bring together internationally renowned stem cell researchers, public health professionals, public policy leaders, university students and community members for an interactive exchange of information about the current art and science of stem cell research, social ethics and policy," said Dr. Sibdas Ghosh, chair of Dominican's Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

The forum will highlight the wide range of stem cell research currently being conducted throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. The potential benefits of stem cell research as applied to diseases of wide community concern, such as cancer, particularly breast cancer, diabetes, heart failure and others associated with aging, will be discussed.

"Throughout the forum there will be opportunities for meaningful dialogue and reflection among all those present," said Janice Barlow, executive director of Zero Breast Cancer.

"The goal of a participatory approach to research is to build community capacity to contribute, comprehend, and most importantly, to use research findings to inform future personal and scientific decision-making and public policy," said Barlow.

Added Dr. Ghosh: "Both Dominican University of California and Zero Breast Cancer, through our own research and educational programs, have experienced firsthand the tremendous benefits that come from involving students, community members, and different scientific disciplines early and often in the process."

Speakers attending the event include:

Dr. Mary Helen Barcellos-Hoff, head of the Department of Cancer Biology Life Sciences Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory; Dr. Warren Hoeffler, founder, XGene Corporation; Dr. Xianmin Zeng, assistant professor, Buck Institute for Age Research; Dr. Mary Devereaux, director, Biomedical Ethics, University of California, San Diego; and Dr. Mohammed El Majdoubi, assistant professor, Dominican University of California.

For more information, please call **Janice Barlow, Executive Director, Zero Breast Cancer, at 415-507-1949 or email info@zerobreastcancer.org.**

Alcohol and Breast Cancer

The results of most epidemiological studies that examine links between alcohol and breast cancer indicate that, controlling for other known breast cancer risk factors, there is a positive association between alcohol consumption and breast cancer incidence. In fact, several studies have demonstrated a "dose response", i.e., the risk of breast cancer increases as the amount of alcohol increases. The risk does not appear to be related to the time at which one starts drinking, the timing of imbibing (e.g., one drink per day over 7 days is the same as 7 drinks in one day) or the type of alcohol consumed (beer vs. wine vs. hard liquor). Rather, the risk seems related to moderate consumption over the course of one's life.

The mechanism by which alcohol can induce risk is uncertain; however, several pathways have been proposed and are under study, including interference with the cellular oxidative process or synthesis, repair and methylation of DNA, and fueling the development of new blood vessels ("angiogenesis"). Alcohol and breast cancer risk also appears to be elevated for women with low body mass index (BMI) and for those diagnosed with estrogen receptor positive tumors or with invasive, rather than in situ, disease. In fact, moderate alcohol intake of one to two drinks per day throughout life has consistently been associated with a 30% - 50% increase in breast cancer.

Family history of breast cancer has long been demonstrated to be a significant risk factor, and there has also been considerable interest in the association of diet with risk of breast cancer. Because diet is potentially modifiable, it represents a potential avenue for possible preventive approaches. For example, it has been found that high levels of folate (vitamin B 9) intake appear to have a protective effect.

At this point, the interaction between alcohol and folate has been reported in a number of studies, and these studies jointly suggest that folate supplementation may attenuate the risks of breast cancer associated with consumption of alcoholic beverages.

Bottom line: ensure that your diet has adequate folate/vitamin B content and limit your consumption of alcohol.

The Bay Area Breast Cancer & the Environment Research Center
3rd Annual Town Hall Meeting
Save the Date!!

Join Us
March 1, 2008
Oakland, California

You're invited to discuss with researchers and community members environmental factors that may increase a girl's risk of early puberty and future risk of breast cancer.

To RSVP or for more information, please contact Jo Ann Johnson: joannj@zerobreastcancer.org ► 415-507-1949 x 103

The Bay Area Breast Cancer & the Environment Research Center
Community Outreach and Translation Core is led by Zero Breast Cancer.
Zero Breast Cancer is dedicated to finding the causes of breast cancer through community participation in the research process.



Research in Action - "Toxic Toys Bill" (AB1108) Interview with San Francisco Assembly Member Fiona Ma

Recently, Zero Breast Cancer interviewed California State Assembly Member and Majority Whip Fiona Ma, co-author with Assembly Member Jared Huffman of AB1108, "The Toxic Toys Bill". Ma shared her experiences of growing up as a first-generation Chinese in San Francisco, how she has become a champion of legislation to limit environmental exposures to toxic chemicals, and what legislation she hopes to pioneer in the future.

ZERO BREAST CANCER INTERVIEW:

Question: You were born and raised in New York. What brought you to the San Francisco Bay Area?

Answer: Both my parents were born in China. My mother's parents moved to SF from New York in the 1980s. My grandfather was a minister in one of the churches in the Sunset District. My mother was an only child and wanted to be close to her parents. Both my parents loved the diversity of SF and wanted to move to SF, and all of us kids followed after college.

Question: As a CPA, there were many career paths you could have chosen. Why did you focus your efforts on public office and public service?

Answer: My parents wanted me to focus on one of the big professions, i.e., lawyer, engineer, accountant or doctor. I was good at math, so my parents thought accounting was best for me. I got my bachelor's degree in accounting from Rochester Institute of Technology in New York, a master's degree in Taxation from Golden Gate University and an MBA from Pepperdine University. In 1995 I got involved in a White House conference on small businesses. I began to understand that politicians are the ones that can really affect policy and make direct change. Instead of just complaining... you can actually affect the public's well-being by changing the law.

Question: Of all your accomplishments, what are you most proud of? What has been the most rewarding part of your job as Assembly Member?

Answer: I think my work on toxic chemicals is one of my greatest achievements. AB1108 is an extension of the work I did as a member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. When Assembly Member Wilma Chan's bill failed to pass at the state level, I thought we should pass a similar bill at the local level, start grass roots and build momentum. When I was growing up I did not know any kids who were on medications for problems such as attention deficit disorder (ADD) or autism. Something we're eating or drinking or breathing is causing all of these problems in our kids. This is a problem and I am very passionate about it.

Question: Why do you think AB1108 was able to pass through the Assembly and Senate, and now has been signed by the governor this year? What has changed?

Answer: We narrowed the bill. We took out Bisphenol A, one of the more controversial chemicals. The science is very clear on phthalates. Fourteen countries in the European Union have already banned the use of phthalates. In addition, less toxic replacement products already exist. The recent recall of toys containing toxic lead has raised awareness among elected officials and consumers about the importance of having safe toys.

Question: How will the bill be enforced?

Answer: The current bill does not include funding for enforcement. Down the road if we find that the legislation is not being adhered to we will have to add teeth to it.

What are phthalates?

Phthalates are a family of man-made chemical compounds developed in the last century to be added to PVC (vinyl) products to soften and make more flexible and to personal care products to help fragrances last longer. Phthalates are the "everywhere chemical".

Who is most at risk?

Children are more at risk from phthalates because of their intake per pound. Not only are young children the most vulnerable because of their size, but also because they are still developing. Young children use their mouths to explore, and consequently, can be exposed to higher levels by sucking on products made of phthalates.

What can I do?

- ▶ Educate yourself
- ▶ Read labels
- ▶ Avoid using products that contain phthalates
- ▶ Support companies committed to producing phthalate-free products
- ▶ Avoid purchasing plastic products with the number 3 inside the recycling symbol

Further information on phthalates can be found at:

WWW.ZEROBREASTCANCER.ORG

Continued on page 5

Research in Action - "Toxic Toys Bill" (AB1108) ... continued from page 4

Already, several toy companies including Gerber, Disney, and Mattel have agreed to voluntarily take phthalates out of their products. Even Wal-Mart has decided to take phthalates off their shelves. The chemical industry and toy manufacturers were opposed to

"One of the problems is that the US has become a dumping ground. A lot of the products being produced overseas are banned for sale in the European Union, Canada, and Mexico because the standards in those countries are much higher. It means we are becoming the dumping ground for lots of these toxic chemicals, toys and products that no other country will take because we don't have safe guidelines or regulations."

the bill because it's a slippery slope. Once California passes a bill, other states look to follow our lead. Passage of AB 1108 has established a national precedent.

Question: Is there other environmental legislation on the upcoming agenda that we should be aware of?

Answer: There are two toxic chemical bills currently proposed. Assemblyman Leno has introduced **AB 706** addressing the toxic effects of brominated fire retardants (BFCs) and chlorinated fire retardants (CFRs). Assemblyman Lieber's **AB 514**, if passed, will prohibit the manufacturing, packaging, mixing or blending of diacetyl (2, 3 butanedione) or products that contain diacetyl in any amount or concentration. The chemical industry is concerned because they are worried that California will start banning every chemical, one by one.

Question: How do you and other legislators use research findings to bring about changes in policy?

Answer: We look to good organizations like Zero Breast Cancer who are doing research with reputable, independently funded institutions such as UCSF and Kaiser. We look closely at who has done the studies, where they have been published and who is and is not supporting the bill. All of your work and advocacy are important.

Assembly Member Fiona Ma represents the 12th Assembly District. She was elected to the California State Assembly in November 2006 and shortly after was appointed "Majority Whip," making her the highest ranking Asian American woman in the California Legislature. Assembly Member Ma serves on the Appropriations, Health, Revenue and Taxation, Public Safety and Joint Legislative Audit Assembly Committees.

Her legislation, the "Toxic Toys Bill" (AB1108), passed the State Senate and was sent on September 5th, 2007 to the governor for his signature. The governor signed the bill on October 14, 2007, banning the manufacture, sale and distribution of toys and child care products for use by children under the age of three containing phthalates.

Zero Breast Cancer is a proud supporter of AB1108.

ZBC's Adolescent Peer Education Tool Kit Reaches Wider Audience Susan Schwartz, Education Coordinator

The *Breast Cancer and Environment Peer Education Tool Kit*, an adolescent breast cancer education resource developed by Zero Breast Cancer, is reaching broader groups of teens, educators, and schools in the Bay Area and beyond. With renewed funding in 2007 from the Avon Foundation and the *To Celebrate Life Breast Cancer Foundation*, ZBC's *Tool Kit* curriculum (lesson module, teaching tools and teen brochure) reached 1,000 students in Marin County in Spring 2007. Education Director Susan Schwartz credits ZBC's Peer Resource partners at Sir Francis Drake High School with effectively presenting the *Tool Kit* lesson module at Drake High (for a second year) and at Davidson Middle School in San Rafael. According to Schwartz, "Teachers and school nurses in Marin County and beyond are expressing interest in using Zero Breast Cancer's *Tool Kit* as part of their health and wellness programs."

Visitors to the ZBC web site report that the *Breast Cancer and Environment Peer Education Tool Kit* addresses a previously unmet need. High schools from Canada and the Great Lakes states are adapting the *Tool Kit* for teen breast cancer awareness events. Locally, ZBC has provided leaders of the Marin City Health and Wellness Clinic with the *Teens Talk About Breast Cancer* video to use at their health events for parents and teens. This video is one of several instructional resources that can be used with ZBC's *Tool Kit* module. Additionally, ZBC has begun work with Spanish Language students at Drake High to translate selected *Tool Kit* materials for easier access by Latina adolescents.

Look for future updates on our manuscript, "Results of an Adolescent Peer Education Project on Breast Cancer Risk and Environmental Factors," recently submitted by ZBC to the *Journal of School Health*. Our goal with this future publication is to report on the outcomes of ZBC's 2006 peer education pilot project with Drake High School peer educators, and to encourage health educators nationwide to use the *Breast Cancer and Environment Peer Education Tool Kit* in their school communities.

The support of our grant funding organizations and community donors is helping Zero Breast Cancer to disseminate breast cancer prevention, risk reduction and education messages to adolescents, and to motivate adolescent girls to reduce future breast cancer risk. Please contact Susan Schwartz, Education Director, for information on this project.

