

## NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



**By: Bethany Bourgeois**

October is National Breast Cancer Awareness month. The world is celebrating twenty five years of breast cancer awareness. National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (NBCAM) is an annual international health campaign organized by major breast cancer charities every October to increase awareness of the disease and to raise funds for research into its cause, prevention and cure. The campaign also offers information and support to those affected by breast cancer.

Susan G. Komen Fund For the Cure is the world's largest breast cancer charity. It has raised near \$1.5 billion for cancer research since its inception in 1982. During Breast Cancer Awareness Month each October, people raise money by organizing activities such as theme parties or a "pink day" around the world. The money raised is donated to the organizers' choice of breast cancer care or research programs.

According to the American Cancer Society, except for skin cancers, breast cancer is the most common cancer among American women, except for skin cancers. The chance of developing breast cancer at some time in a woman's life is about 1 in 8. In 2010, an estimated 207,090 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed among women in the United States. Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in women, exceeded only by lung cancer. The good news is that breast cancer is a disease that can be treated and cured. Even though breast cancer awareness month is over, doesn't mean we don't have to stop doesn't mean you can't support this worthy cause throughout the year.