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April 2, 2010

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BREAST CANCER TASK FORCE NAMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND RECEIVES NEW \$500,000 GRANT

The Susan G .Komen for the Cure Foundation Grant Will Help Tackle Breast Cancer Mortality Disparity

Chicago, IL, April 1, 2010. The Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer Task Force, an organization dedicated to eliminating the disparity in breast cancer mortality between white and minority women, announced the appointment of Anne Marie Murphy, Ph.D. as its Executive Director.

Dr. Murphy has extensive experience in the area of healthcare system reform and expansion of access to high quality healthcare for all. She is the former State of Illinois' Medicaid Director and served as the Director of Healthcare Programs in the Illinois' Governor's office. Dr. Murphy has a long history in advocacy, in particular for those who need access to healthcare and other social services. While Medicaid Director she oversaw the expansion of the program to cover all children, the first such program in the nation. With a Ph.D. from the Johns Hopkins University in Molecular Genetics she brings a strong analytical and research background to this position.

“Racial health disparities in breast health are symptomatic of overall failures in our healthcare system and these inequities have been with us a long time and are growing. Effective solutions come from within communities, built by community members as a grassroots effort. Dr. Murphy will provide the Task Force with the kind of leadership we need to tackle such an intractable and unjust disparity,” said David Ansell, MD, MPH, President of the Task Force board of directors.

Dr. Murphy joined the Task Force in April 2009 as its first Director of the Chicago Breast Cancer Quality Consortium – a project of the Task Force funded by a \$ 1,000,000 grant from the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation. The Consortium brings healthcare institutions across Metropolitan Chicago together to share breast cancer screening and treatment quality data as a means to improve breast cancer outcomes for all women. Susan G. Komen for the Cure announced on March 31, 2010 that it is awarding the Task Force an additional \$500,000 to improve the breast cancer quality infrastructure across the region.

The Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer Task Force (MCBCTF) is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to eliminate the disparity in breast cancer mortality in Chicago. For more information on the MCBCTF go to www.chicagobreastcancer.org.

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