

News Release

For Immediate Release
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Women's Council Presents Check for Breast Cancer Screening Services

JEFFERSON CITY __ Annual proceeds from the state's pink breast cancer awareness license plates were presented to the Show-Me Healthy Women Program on Friday in an ongoing effort by the Missouri Women's Council to provide funds for early breast cancer detection services for uninsured or under-insured women in Missouri.

Mary Cottom, executive director of the Missouri Women's Council, presented a \$14,000 check to Bruce Jenkins, manager of the state health department's Show Me Healthy Women program, at the group's advisory board meeting in Columbia.

Show-Me Healthy Women, formerly the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Project, collaborates with the Department of Health and Family Support Division to provide free breast and cervical screening services to eligible low-income, underinsured or uninsured Missouri women aged 35-64.

Since the pink breast cancer awareness license plates became available in October 2002, hundreds of license plates have been sold and new applications are processed daily. Funds raised through the sales of the license plates are used solely to provide breast cancer services to eligible Missouri women between the ages of 40 and 49.

Proceeds from the sale of these special license plates continue to grow each year. Sales have nearly tripled since the first check for \$5,227 was presented in 2003.

Individuals that wish to support this effort can participate by making a tax-deductible donation of \$25 or more to the Friends of the Missouri Women's Council by sending a check to: Pink Plate, PO Box 1684, Jefferson City, MO 65102, along with a completed application, which is available online. For an application or more information about the license plate program, contact the Missouri Women's Council at 573-751-0810 or log onto their Web site at www.womenscouncil.org.

The Missouri Women's Council works closely with other agencies and community based organizations to promote the well being of women in Missouri. Located within the Department of Economic Development, the Council was created by statute in 1985 to identify issues affecting the economic and employment status of Missouri women. The Missouri Women's Council has 15 members, including two members of the Senate, two from the House, and 11 appointed by the Governor.

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