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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Susan G. Komen Northwest Ohio Affiliate Appoints New Executive Director**

January 12, 2009 – Toledo, OH – The Northwest Ohio Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen for the Cure, an organization committed to a world without breast cancer, announced today that Mary J. Westphal has been appointed to serve as its new Executive Director.

“As part of a national nonprofit organization committed to saving lives and ending breast cancer, the Susan G. Komen Northwest Ohio Affiliate requires a combination of vision, compassion and management expertise in its executive director,” said Cindy Taylor, the Northwest Ohio Affiliate Board president. “Mary has just this combination. Her blend of private and community experience, solid record of management success and commitment to women’s issues will be valued assets.”

Ms. Westphal joins the Komen team with more than 25 years of nonprofit management and communications experience. Most recently, she served as director of development for the Toledo Symphony.

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Currently she serves as an appointed member of Sylvania City Council and a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and the National Planned Giving Council. She brings a broad range of volunteer experience, including having served as a past president of the Junior League of Toledo.

A native of the Toledo area, Ms. Westphal holds a Bachelor’s degree in Journalism from Bowling Green State University.

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**Northwest Ohio Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure**

Nancy G. Brinker promised her dying sister, Susan G. Komen, that she would do everything in her power to end breast cancer forever. In 1982, this promise became Susan G. Komen for the Cure and launched a global breast cancer movement. Since 1993, the Northwest Ohio Affiliate and its Race for the Cure have raised more than \$7,000,000 in an 18 county service area. This has allowed the Northwest Ohio Affiliate to accumulatively fund \$4,300,000 in local grants for breast health education, screening and treatment. In addition, more than \$1,300,000 has been allocated to Komen National for grant research funding.