

## BREAKING NEWS

**Federal judge blocks Indiana abortion law****VIM clinic receives \$21,275 grant to provide breast cancer screenings to at-risk patients**

By Dann Denny  
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The Volunteers in Medicine Clinic of Monroe County has been awarded a grant of \$21,275 it will use to provide at-risk patients with breast cancer screenings through Southern Indiana Radiological Associates.

The grant, given by the Wabash Valley Affiliate of Susan G. Komen Foundation in Terre Haute, represents the clinic's largest source of funding for mammogram screenings.

The clinic also receives mammogram funding from the Indiana Breast Cancer Awareness Trust Fund and the local Breast Cancer Awareness Walk, said Elizabeth Thompson, the VIM clinic's executive director.

She said VIM also participates in the state of Indiana's Breast and Cervical Cancer Program, which provides funding for mammograms for women over 40 who are under 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

"BCCP funds have been decreasing steadily over the last few years, so this grant is extremely valuable to the patients of the clinic in providing the screenings," Thompson said.

Over the past four years, the VIM clinic has relied on funding from the Wabash Valley Affiliate of Komen for the Cure to administer its breast cancer screening program to nearly 400 individuals.

"Specifically, the funding has been used to defray the expenses of early detection procedures incurred by the following population groups: low-income, uninsured women 40 years of age and older, high-risk women 35 years of age and over, and men who present with clinically palpable breast masses," she said. "None of these individuals have been eligible for the BCCP program and would otherwise fall through the cracks of the health care system."

Thompson said last year the VIM clinic provided breast cancer screenings to more than 400 women, three of whom were found to have breast cancer.

"It is so gratifying to have the resources to help save lives through the funding we receive," she said.

Thompson said those who want to support local breast cancer services should make sure the Susan G. Komen fundraising events they support are sponsored by the Wabash Valley Affiliate.

"Otherwise, they may be providing support to affiliates that don't actually provide funding for services in our community," she said.

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