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## Fresh Start, Breast Cancer Early Detection Program

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By Ruth Justis  
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Ridgecrest, Calif. –

There are not many things in life any scarier than having a doctor tell you that you have cancer. Early detection is key to survival in most cases.

With funding provided by The W.H.O. Foundation (Women Helping Others), and a group of concerned private donors, Creating Healthy Lives, in collaboration with Ridgecrest Regional Hospital and Ridgecrest Community Health Center, will offer the Fresh Start, Breast Cancer Early Detection Program to low-income women in the Ridgecrest area of East Kern County. The program begins Oct. 1 and runs through Dec. 31, 2008.

“If you have a family history of breast cancer, or are concerned about your own health, this program offers you the opportunity to detect problems early and prolong the quality of your life,” said Margarita Chapman, director of Creating Healthy Lives. “Beginning Oct. 1, you can call us or come by the office at 139 N. Balsam St., Suite 1200, for a referral coupon for a free mammogram and doctor’s visit.”

All information will be kept strictly confidential and mammogram results will be mailed directly to you and your physician.

“If you need follow-up care, contact Creating Healthy Lives at 375-1192, or call Link to Life (women under 40) at 661-322-5601. Women over 40 should call Every Woman Counts at 800-511-2300,” Chapman said.