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Gynecological Oncology Program Gets Knight Funding

A program for gynecological cancer survivors and caregivers at Asante Rogue Regional Medical Center Cancer Services is one of the initial grant recipients of the Oregon Health & Science University's Knight Cancer Institute Community Partnership Program.



The grant to Asante is for \$22,574, and will help create a program called, "Survivorship: Optimizing Survivors' Quality of Life." It will benefit gynecological cancer survivors and caregivers in Coos, Curry, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath and Lake counties. The survivorship project is among this year's program goals for Asante Rogue Regional's Cancer Committee.

The grant money will pay for additional staff time to create educational materials and care plans, to initiate a support group and to collect data that will be used to monitor the program's impact.

The program will be administered by the gynecologic oncology practice of Dr. Tanja Pejovic at Asante Rogue Regional Cancer Services.

Dr. Pejovic completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the Yale University School of Medicine in 2000, and remained at Yale for a three-year fellowship in gynecologic oncology. She has advanced training in treating all cancers of the female reproductive organs, and her research has focused on how ovarian cancer develops in the body's cells. She also is interested in holistic approaches to cancer care.

The OHSU Knight Cancer Institute Community Partnership Program awarded a total of \$462,656 to [17 projects statewide](#) in its first round of funding. The program's goal is to address community-identified needs to ultimately decrease the impact of cancer on Oregonians.

Projects chosen in the program's initial round will benefit 23 Oregon counties. Some of the other projects that received funding will focus on preventing tobacco use among youth; providing transportation to patients in cancer treatment; increasing consumption of fruits and vegetables through a community-supported agriculture prescription plan; developing a rural clinic for cancer survivors; implementing culturally appropriate strategies to increase colorectal cancer screening among medically underserved Oregonians; and developing skin cancer prevention programs for adolescents.

The Community Partnership Program provides grants and other resources to community-identified projects addressing cancer prevention, early detection, treatment and survivorship. The initial round of funding resulted in 44 competitive proposals being submitted.