



A collaboration between Women's College Hospital, St. Michael's Hospital & Community-Based Agencies in the Toronto Central LHIN

This health promotion project aims to develop community/hospital partnerships by coordinating outreach, educational and screening activities for women who have rarely or never been screened for breast and/or cervical cancer. This initiative has been designed specifically for women from groups who are known to be underscreened: newcomers, refugees, immigrants, homeless, under-housed or low-income. A woman-centered approach is embraced in every aspect of this initiative.

A team of multi-lingual peer leaders have been trained to co-facilitate information sessions on breast and cervical cancer in the communities where women live, work, worship, or access services. Sessions are available in more than twenty languages and have been developed with cultural sensitivity. The CARES team arranges appointments for Pap tests and mammograms and offers supportive accompaniment to screening for those who are interested.

CARES was officially launched in May 2012 and will continue through to December 2013. Almost 800 women have participated in CARES information sessions to date.

Program goals include:

- Increasing breast and cervical screening rates among marginalized women
- Addressing known barriers to screening by providing transportation costs, translation & child care services whenever possible
- Increasing the degree of support available during the screening process and discussion of test results
- Providing education and follow up (in-person/telephone) to encourage and support lifelong screening
- Developing a repository of multi-lingual resource tools
- Evaluating the effectiveness of the program through data collection at all phases of the project

This project has generously been funded by

Cancer Care Ontario
Action Cancer Ontario



WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL
Health care for women | **REVOLUTIONIZED**

St. Michael's

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SOME PARTICIPATING SITES

Adelaide Resource Centre for Women
Access Alliance Multicultural Health & Community Services
Accommodation, Information and Support Inc.
Central Neighbourhood House
Christie Refugee Welcome Centre
416 Community Support for Women
Crescent Town Seniors
St Jamestown Community Corner
Daniel's Learning for Centre
Evangaline House
Flemingdon Health Centre
Harmony Hall Centre for Seniors
Oakridge Community & Recreation Centre
Regent Park Community Health Centre
Scadding Court Community Centre
Sistering
South Asian Women's Rights Organization
Tesco Multicultural Settlement Centre
Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Office
University Settlement
Warden Woods Community Centre
Women's Residence
Working Women's Community Centre
YWCA – Woodlawn Residence

Leah Sultan-Khan
Community Outreach Coordinator
(416) 323-6400 Ext 3059
Leah.Sultan-Khan@wchospital.ca