

NEWS RELEASE:

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On-Call Media Beeper: (828) 444-1149

Pardee Receives Duke Endowment Grant for Nurse Navigator Program

(Hendersonville, N.C.) On Nov. 12, 2007, Pardee Hospital and Pardee Foundation received notification of a grant award in the amount of \$45,000 to support the costs of the mammography and nurse navigator program at the Elizabeth Reilly Breast Center, a division of the Comprehensive Cancer Center at Pardee.

According to Myra Grant, executive director of the Pardee Foundation, the nurse navigator concept is a service to breast cancer patients at Pardee and is a pilot model that is being tested in several hospitals in North Carolina and across the country.

The nurse navigator provides on-going support to patients diagnosed with breast cancer by following their care from the initial diagnosis through treatment and recovery. The navigator works in coordination with physicians and staff to provide education, access to financial support, if needed, and explanation of care program for the patient. On average, the nurse navigator provides personal visits and telephone contact support to an average of 20 patients per month.

As a function of the Comprehensive Cancer Center at Pardee, the nurse navigator participates in the cancer conferences that are conducted on a weekly basis to outline the standard of care for cancer patients.

The Duke Endowment provided an \$85,000 grant in 2007 to support the program and this second year grant of \$45,000 continues the program. Additional funds are provided by Pardee Hospital.

The Duke Endowment, located in Charlotte, N.C., seeks to fulfill the legacy of James B. Duke by improving lives and communities in the Carolinas through higher education, health care, rural churches and children's services. With assets of over \$3 billion, the Endowment has awarded more than \$2.2 billion in grants since its inception in 1924.

The Elizabeth Reilly Breast Center is a division of the Comprehensive Cancer Center at Pardee, Henderson County's only Comprehensive Cancer Program accredited by the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer. The center offers a full range of advanced treatment and diagnostic services, close to home, performed by highly qualified cancer specialists. Services include surgery, medical oncology, radiation oncology, high-tech radiology and laboratory diagnostic support and clinical treatment trials. Community education programs, cancer screenings, support groups and holistic patient and family support are also available.

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