

## AZ Insider: Pretty Important in Pink for Awards Breakfast

Written by Written by Kathy Shayna Shocket

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Kathy Shayna Shocket has the stories on the people who make a difference.



### The power of the Promise at the benefit for Susan G. Komen Arizona.

It's the fundraising breakfast at which half of the guests proudly donned pink dresses and suits. And a pink **Kate Spade** handbag was one of the most popular items in the auction. That's because this was the Promise Breakfast, benefitting **Susan G Koman** Arizona.

It was an emotionally meaningful morning. Breast cancer survivor **Vicky Smith** spoke and **Virginia Warren** received the **Joyce Gooding** Spirit of Komen Award.



Survivor **Vicky Smith**, pictured above, shared her personal journey and the importance of receiving the care and funds needed from Susan G. Komen Arizona. Pictured below are **Elmer Gooding**, **Denise McClain**, **Heather Roberts** (Komen Arizona Executive Director), **Virginia Warren** (2016 Joyce Gooding Spirit of Komen Award recipient) and **Carolyn Evani** (2016 Promise Breakfast Chair.)



Award recipient **Virginia Warren** is the Office Chief of the Cancer Prevention and Control Programs at the Arizona Department of Health Services. She's responsible for providing Arizona's communities with services in the areas of breast, cervical and colorectal cancer screening and executing collaborative statewide planning to reduce Arizona's cancer burden.



Pictured above are the Board of Directors: **Angie Morton**, **Tonsa Price Edwards**, **Erika Coombs**, **Katherine Yu**, **Daniele Chilton**, **Dr. Richard Averitte, Jr.**, **Tracey Walker Banks**, **Dr. Edgardo Rivera**, **Xavier Banks (Walker)**, **Pearle Merriner**, **Chris Pings**, **Jill Bray**, **Brenda Blunt**, and **Dr. Michele Ley**.

Monies raised from the breakfast helps the organization fund the community grants program and education and outreach. Seventy-five percent of all funds raised stay in Arizona to fund local breast cancer education, screening and treatment programs. The remaining twenty-five percent is contributed to Komen's leading international breast cancer research program.



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**Kathy Shayna Shocket** is a freelance Writer, and TV- Field Producer based in Phoenix, AZ. She's a former TV-Reporter who's written for publications such as **TIME Magazine**, **Money Magazine**, **PEOPLE Magazine**, **The Hollywood Reporter** and **The NEW YORK TIMES**. You can reach her at [redcarpetgirl@aol.com](mailto:redcarpetgirl@aol.com)