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YOUNG SURVIVAL COALITION AND BREAST CANCER FACT SHEET

About the Young Survival Coalition

- The Young Survival Coalition (YSC) is the only international, non-profit network of breast cancer survivors and supporters dedicated to the concerns and issues that are unique to young women and breast cancer.
- Through action, advocacy and awareness, the YSC seeks to educate the medical, research, breast cancer and legislative communities and to persuade them to address breast cancer in women ages 40 and under.
- The organization was founded in 1998 by three breast cancer survivors who were all under the age of 35 when diagnosed. Discouraged by the lack of information and available resources, and concerned about the under-representation of young women in breast cancer studies, the YSC was born.
- The Young Survival Coalition is based in New York City and has 16 volunteer groups throughout the United States.

Breast Cancer Statistics

- There are over 250,000 women in the United States who were diagnosed with breast cancer at or before the age of 40 and between 11,000 and 14,000 will be diagnosed this year.
- One in every 229 women between the ages of 30 and 39 will be diagnosed with breast cancer within the next 10 years*.
- Breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in young women ages 15-54**.
- The five-year survival rate for young women with breast cancer is 82 percent, which is lower than their post-menopausal counterparts***.

**NCI, SEER data updated 4/05*

***National Cancer Institute 2005 Fact Book*

****American Cancer Society, Breast Cancer Facts and Figures 2005-2006*