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**Volunteers Needed for Pilot Study Exploring How the Healthy Breast Works,
May Hold Answer to Ending Breast Cancer**

*The Avon Foundation and S. Mark Taper Foundation Are Supporting This Groundbreaking
Study with \$450,000 in Grants to the Dr. Susan Love Research Foundation*

LOS ANGELES, CA, September 28, 2006 – The Dr. Susan Love Research Foundation is currently conducting a landmark study examining the inner workings of the non-cancerous, healthy breast. This study—called the Normal Breast Study—will shed light on how the healthy breast works and will determine some of the physiological components that may contribute to the development of breast cancer.

The Dr. Susan Love Research Foundation is currently looking for volunteers in the Los Angeles area interested in participating in the Normal Breast Study. The study was made possible by a \$300,000 grant from The Avon Foundation and a \$150,000 grant from the S. Mark Taper Foundation.

“All breast cancers start in the milk duct,” said Dr. Susan Love, the Foundation’s president and medical director. “Yet we know virtually nothing about what happens inside the breast duct when it’s not making milk. If we can describe what is normal, we will have a better chance at understanding how things can go wrong and how to fix them—which would bring us to the beginning of the end of breast cancer.”

The Dr. Susan Love Research Foundation began enrolling volunteers for the study in November 2005. To date, more than 50 of women have taken part in the Normal Breast Study. Women who participate undergo a painless procedure called ductal lavage to remove fluid from the breast ducts.

To participate, women must live in the Los Angeles area and be 18 years of age or older. Volunteers must be available for a follow-up visit in six months, have had a normal breast exam, and have had a mammogram in the last 12 months if over 50 year of age. Participants cannot be pregnant or lactating currently or within the last 12 months. Volunteers must not have received chemotherapy within the last 12 months. In addition, participants cannot have ever taken a selective estrogen receptor modulator (SERM) such as tamoxifen, or an aromatase inhibitor (AI), such as anastrozole. Lastly, participants cannot be currently taking or have taken in the last four weeks hormones such as hormone replacement therapy, oral contraceptive pills, or fertility drugs.

To find out more about the research project or enroll to participate, contact the Dr. Susan Love Research Foundation at 310-230-1712 or visit www.drussanloveresearchfoundation.org.

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About The Avon Foundation

The Avon Foundation is an accredited 501(c)(3) public charity founded in 1955 to improve the lives of women and their families. Now celebrating its 50th anniversary, the Avon Foundation brings this mission to life through two key areas: breast cancer and women's empowerment, including economic advancement and the issue of domestic violence. In the fight against breast cancer, the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade has raised more than \$350 million worldwide for access to care and finding a cure. For the issue of domestic violence, the Avon Foundation launched the new Speak Out Against Domestic Violence initiative in 2004 to support awareness, education, direct services and prevention programs. For more information on the Avon Foundation visit www.avonfoundation.org.

About S. Mark Taper Foundation

The S. Mark Taper Foundation, founded in 1989, is a private family foundation dedicated to enhancing the quality of people's lives by supporting nonprofit organizations and their work in the community. Although it traditionally has provided approximately \$6 million per year to nonprofit organizations in the areas of social services, environment, arts, education, health and civic affairs, in recent years the S. Mark Taper Foundation has been emphasizing programmatic and capital grants that address health-related issues. The National Institute of Transplantation, Cedar-Sinai Medical Center, Planned Parenthood and a variety of Community Health Clinics top a long list of health-related organizations that are recipients of S. Mark Taper Foundation grants.

About the Dr. Susan Love Research Foundation

The Dr. Susan Love Research Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of breast cancer. Otto W. Sartorius, MD, a breast cancer surgeon and researcher, began the Foundation as The Santa Barbara Breast Cancer Institute in 1983. The Institute's name was changed to 2000 to more clearly define the Foundation and its mission. Since then, Dr. Love has expanded the Foundation nationally, established a National Scientific Advisory Board and created the International Symposium on the Intraductal Approach to Breast Cancer. This symposium has provided a forum for researchers from around the world to share their work and move science forward. To date, the Foundation has awarded more than \$800,000 in research grants.

About Dr. Susan Love

Dr. Susan M. Love is a pioneer in the field of women's health and breast cancer. Currently she is President and Medical Director of the Dr. Susan Love Research Foundation. A former member of the National Cancer Advisory Board, she serves on the boards of the National Breast Cancer Coalition, Y-ME and the Young Survival Coalition. Dr. Love authored *Dr. Susan Love's Breast Book*, termed "the Bible for women with breast cancer" by *The New York Times*; a fully revised fourth edition was released in October 2005. *Dr. Susan Love's Menopause and Hormone Book*, first published in 1998 and revised in 2003, was one of the first to sound the alarm against the widespread use of postmenopausal hormones. In her ongoing quest to eradicate breast cancer, she has used every avenue from founding the national advocacy movement to starting companies, engaging in research and education. To read more about Dr. Love and her work, visit www.drsusanloveresearchfoundation.org.

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