

Gabrielle Brett Wins Regional Award from the Cancer Information Service

CLEVELAND -- Gabrielle Brett, of Cleveland Heights, has been awarded the Spirit of the Cancer Information Service (CIS) Award for the Midwest Region.

The Spirit of CIS Award is a national award that is given to one person from each CIS regional office. The award is given to the individual who best personifies the CIS spirit of caring and commitment and routinely demonstrates this dedication through their attitude, contributions to the program, and relations with other members of the staff.

Brett is Partnership Program Coordinator for CIS. She works in connection with Case Comprehensive Cancer Center and Ireland Cancer Center at University Hospitals in Cleveland.

Brett, who joined CIS in 2003, was selected in recognition of the dedication she shows working with organizations and individuals to of people with concerns about cancer, especially those who are medically underserved.

The nomination reads: "As Partnership Program Coordinator for Northern Ohio, Gabrielle Brett has done an outstanding job representing the CIS as an Executive member of Ohio's Comprehensive Cancer Control efforts. She has displayed an uncommon commitment and dedication to her work, along with a quick wit and great sense of humor."

Ms. Brett's passion for her work began when she was 19 and her mother was diagnosed with breast cancer. Brett was a sophomore at Ohio University but drove home four hours to be with her mother during chemotherapy treatments.

Brett graduated from O.U. with a degree in interpersonal communications and a minor in women studies and African American studies. Since her mother's diagnosis nearly 10 years ago, she has been an active voice speaking out about the need for cancer information and education focusing primarily on healthy behaviors, early detection, access to care, and cancer clinical trials.

She is president of the Ohio Breast and Cervical Cancer Coalition. She was also named a scholar for the Ohio Public Health Leadership Institute for a colorectal cancer screening project and worked on a Colorectal Cancer Summit to increase awareness about the need for colorectal cancer screening among Cuyahoga County residents age 50 and older.

The Cancer Information Service is a program of the National Cancer Institute providing the most accurate and up to date information about cancer to patients, their families and health professionals. The Midwest Region serves Indiana, Michigan and Ohio.

For more information about NCI, visit the web site at www.cancer.gov [<http://www.cancer.gov/>](http://www.cancer.gov) or call 1-800-4-CANCER.