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**U.S. POSTAL SERVICE RAISES OVER
\$50 MILLION FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH**

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Postal Service announced today that the *Breast Cancer Research* semipostal stamp has raised over \$50.3 million for research. With Mother's Day just around the corner, the Postal Service encourages consumers to use this stamp on Mother's Day cards to further increase funding for research.

The U.S. Postal Service's *Breast Cancer Research* stamp was first issued in 1998 pursuant to legislation enacted by Congress and over 695 million stamps have been sold. As a "semipostal" stamp, the U.S. Postal Service's *Breast Cancer Research* stamp sells for 45-cents and is valid for postage at the prevailing 39-cent First-Class Mail® letter rate. Seventy percent of the net difference is paid to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and 30 percent is paid to the Department of Defense (DoD). The NIH and DoD, which both conduct breast cancer research, were identified as recipients of the funds by the legislation enacted in 1997.



The self-adhesive *Breast Cancer Research* semipostal is a nondenominational stamp, bearing the words "USA" and "First-Class." The background of the vertically formatted stamp design features overlapping areas of pastel blue, yellow, orange and green. Along the top are the words "BREAST CANCER." A line drawing of a female figure, suggesting a "goddess of the hunt or fight" is the main element, while the phrase "FUND THE FIGHT. FIND A CURE®," appears flowing left to right across the stamp in a clockwise, circular pattern, outlining where the figure's right breast would be.

The stamp was designed by breast cancer survivor Ethel Kessler of Bethesda, MD, and illustrated by Whitney Sherman of Baltimore.

For more information on the United States Breast Cancer Research semipostal, other stamps and stamp-related products, or to purchase them, visit usps.com/shop.

Since 1775, the Postal Service and its predecessor, the Post Office Department, has connected friends, families, neighbors and businesses by mail. It is an independent federal agency that visits 144 million homes and businesses every day, six days a week and is the only service provider delivering to every address in the nation. The Postal Service receives no taxpayer dollars for routine operations, but derives its operating revenues solely from the sale of postage, products and services. With annual revenues of more than \$69 billion, it is the world's leading provider of mailing and delivery services, offering some of the most affordable postage rates in the world. The Postal Service delivers more than half of the world's mail volume — some 212 billion letters, advertisements, periodicals and packages a year — and serves seven and a half million customers each day at its 37,000 retail locations nationwide. Its website, usps.com, attracts more than 21 million visitors each month.

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