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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**THE FRANKLIN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT CELEBRATES
HOMETOWN HEALTH HERO**

FRANKLIN COUNTY – In honor of National Women’s Health Week, the Franklin County Health Department (CHD) recognizes Elaine Kozlowsky, a retired teacher who co-founded Franklin Needs, Inc. – Breast Cancer Advocates.

Two years ago, a group of women in the Panhandle Players theatrical group were discussing breast cancer at a post theatre party. Many of the women had recently seen the movie “Calendar Girls” and thought that creating their own calendar would be a great way to build a breast cancer fund for local residents. Elaine Kozlowsky took the discussion to heart and organized a group of women to pose in the 2009 Franklin Needs, Inc. calendar.

Elaine and the members of Franklin Needs, Inc. sold the calendars at every possible local event and have now raised \$44,000 to fund a Franklin County Breast Cancer Early Detection Program. Franklin Needs, Inc. is working with local health partners to provide access to mammograms for Franklin County women between the ages of 35-49 that meet certain requirements.

National Women's Health Week will begin on Mother's Day, May 10, 2009. This annual celebration empowers women to make their health a top priority. With the theme “It’s Your Time,” the nationwide initiative encourages women to take time for themselves for a longer, healthier and happier life.

For more information about National Women’s Health Week or National Women’s Check-Up Day, visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office on Women’s Health website at www.womenshealth.gov.

DOH promotes, protects and improves the health of all people in Florida. For more information about the Franklin CHD, visit www.doh.state.fl.us/chdFranklin/index.html.

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