*Instructions: Please find below recommended text for a letter to your family members. Please read through this template, fill in appropriate information, and make any additional changes you feel appropriate. Additionally, it is recommended that* ***you attach your genetic screening results*** *or informational sheet on your particular mutation. This document will be important for any relatives when they speak with their healthcare provider. This document is only relevant to blood relatives and not “in-laws”. This includes parents, grandparents, children, siblings, aunts, uncles, and cousins.*

Dear [xx],

I recently had genetic testing to help me understand my risk of developing breast and ovarian cancer. I was tested for inherited mutations (or changes) in the *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* genes. Mutations in these genes cause most cases of hereditary breast and ovarian cancer. My test identified amutation that runs in our family (relatives related by blood). As one of my relatives, you may have the same *BRCA1/BRCA2* mutation and could benefit from genetic counseling and possibly genetic testing for this mutation. If you find out that you have the mutation, you can take steps to reduce your risk of cancer.

Women who inherit a mutation in the *BRCA1* and/or *BRCA2* genes have an increased risk of being diagnosed with breast cancer and ovarian cancer. Although ovarian cancer is less common than breast cancer, it is more often fatal. In general, women with a harmful *BRCA* mutation are more likely than non‐carriers to be diagnosed with cancer before age 50. Men with harmful *BRCA1* and/or *BRCA2* mutations also have an increased risk of breast cancer.

It is possible that someone in our family besides me may have the samemutation. I am writing to all of the relatives who may be at risk and recommending that they speak to a doctor. *BRCA1* and *BRCA2* mutations can be passed from parents to their children—women can inherit the mutation from their mother or father. Since I have the mutation, my children, sisters, and brothers have a 50% chance of having it. My other blood relatives (aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins) also are more likely to have the mutation.

Finding out that I have a *BRCA* mutation can help me take steps to reduce my risk for developing breast or ovarian cancer in the future, and you could benefit from knowing whether you have this mutation, too. The first step is to discuss this with your doctor who can provide you with more information about *BRCA1/BRCA2* screening recommendations and may refer you to a genetic counselor. You can find the genetic counselor closest to you at www.nsgc.org.

I hope you find this information helpful. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

[ ]