

Volunteer Newsletter

*A Biannual Publication for the West Virginia Breast and Cervical
Cancer Screening Program and WV WISEWOMAN Volunteers*



Cancer Education in the Faith Community

Community Clinic Interventionist (CCI), Ruthie Watts, R.N., conducted a virtual Breast Cancer Awareness presentation for the ladies of Destiny Baptist Church of Martinsburg, WV. Fourteen women of color learned about breast cancer and the importance of staying up to date with their mammograms.

Attendees learned about the West Virginia Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program (WVBCCSP), the WVBCCSP Diagnostic & Treatment Fund, and the Medicaid Treatment Act. The group also discussed the church possibly hosting a breast cancer screening day with Bonnie's Bus in the coming year. Assessments show participants had a seventeen percent increase in knowledge after the presentation. Ruthie would like to thank Reverend Tomeko Harris for allowing WVBCCSP to share education and resources with members of her church. To schedule a presentation at your place of worship, contact your local CCI.

Have You Heard the Good News?

**WVBCCSP now covers
screening mammography for
all Program eligible
women age 40-64.**



**WVBCCSP now covers cervical
cancer screening for all
Program eligible women**

Preparing for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Nationally, breast cancer screening rates dropped significantly during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Now that many people are vaccinated and activities are returning to normal, the West Virginia Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program (WVBCCSP) would like to encourage you to host Breast Cancer Awareness Month (BCAM) activities this October. Early detection saves lives and encouraging people to catch up on cancer screenings they may have delayed is important!

Breast cancer remains the second leading cause of cancer death in West Virginia women. The WVBCCSP program provides free or low-cost screening to program-eligible uninsured and underinsured women. According to officials at Workforce West Virginia, unemployment was “the highest it has been since the Great Depression”, meaning many women may no longer have health insurance through their employers. This makes fundraising for the Diagnostic and Treatment Fund (The Fund) especially important right now. One hundred percent of monies raised for The Fund are used to pay for patient services and stay in West Virginia.

As you plan Breast Cancer Awareness Month activities in your area, we want you to do so safely and encourage you to follow the most recent CDC recommendations for gathering. Remember that your volunteer hours, in-kind donations, and donated funds help WVBCCSP meet grant match requirements, so the program can keep screening women in need. Your efforts and reporting make this possible!

Enclosed with this edition of the Volunteer Newsletter is a BCAM event form and a self-addressed envelope. If you or your volunteer group would like to host a BCAM event this year please complete and return this BCAM event form by Wednesday, August 11th. You can also use this form to request an in-person or online group presentation with our CCIs. It is important to return the BCAM event form promptly so your event can be included with BCAM promotional materials. For those that return the forms on time, we anticipate mailing your BCAM event package the week of August 23th - August 27th. If you have any questions about BCAM events call Shelly at 304-685-2858.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month Presentations

To schedule a breast cancer presentation for your community or faith group this October, please contact your Community Clinic Interventionist today.

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