

North Carolina...Across the Years

Beginning in **1991**, Congress appropriated funding annually to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP) - a nationwide, comprehensive public health program designed to help uninsured and underserved women gain access to screening services for the early detection of breast and cervical cancer(s).

In **1992**, the North Carolina Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (NC BCCCP) began providing free or low-cost breast and cervical cancer screening and follow-up services to eligible women throughout NC.

In **2000**, Congress enacted the **Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Act** allowing states to provide medical assistance to cover treatment costs through Medicaid to women diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer (or a breast or cervical precancerous lesion) while enrolled in BCCCP.

In **2007**, the North Carolina General Assembly allocated additional state funding to allow NC BCCCP to broaden the population of women who could be served.

In **2009**, NC BCCCP offered a Biennial Training - **“Stayin Alive”** as the use of mass media and motivational interviewing was introduced to increase breast and cervical cancer screenings.

In **2011**, **“Treasuring the Past and Transforming the Future”** Biennial Training focused on Patient Navigation and Reaching our Special Populations.

NC BCCCP

offered flexibility while serving BCCCP patients during the COVID-19 Pandemic through encouraging the use of telehealth services when appropriate and the use of mobile mammography events.



In **2015**, the General Assembly approved the NC BCCCP tax donation general statute that **allowed taxpayers** to donate any or all their NC tax refund to support breast and cervical cancer screening through NC BCCCP. Additionally, our Biennial Training - **“Step Right Up for Your Ticket to Wellness”** featured Dr. Jaqueline Miller with a focus on wellness and financial assistance.

In **2017**, NC BCCCP providers were encouraged to **“Embrace Your Inner Superhero to Champion Women’s Wellness”** during the Biennial Training with a focus on maximizing women’s wellness while optimizing local partnerships.

In **2019**, **“Charting the Course”** Biennial Training highlighted consulting for new BCCCP Navigators, providing evidenced-based interventions and connecting community clinical linkages.

In **2020, Effective October 1, 2020**, NC’s Division of Health Benefits (DHB) began to allow a broader definition of NC BCCCP providers. With this change, women diagnosed with breast and/or cervical cancer outside of NC BCCCP (but who otherwise meet all NC BCCCP eligibility requirements) may be enrolled in NC BCCCP and receive patient navigation-only services by an NC BCCCP provider to apply for Breast and Cervical Cancer Medicaid (BCCM) to cover treatment costs.

In **2021**, BCCCP services are offered by **143 providers** which include most local health departments, as well as some community health centers, hospitals and physician’s offices across the state.