

October 2016

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women in South Carolina. It's the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths among women in the state. Throughout the U.S., about 40,000 women die each year from breast cancer, according to the CDC. Nationally, breast cancer is:

- ✂ The most common cancer in women, no matter their race or ethnicity.
- ✂ The most common cause of death from cancer among Hispanic women.
- ✂ The second most common cause of death from cancer among white, black, Asian/Pacific Islander and American Indian/Alaska Native women.



SC Resources

Best Chance Network

The Best Chance Network (BCN) program provides free breast and cervical cancer screening for South Carolina women who meet program eligibility requirements.

Our goal is to reduce deaths from breast and cervical cancer by providing underserved women in South Carolina access to breast and cervical screening and other BCN services.

According to national and state statistics, South Carolina has one of the highest rates of uninsured women in the nation.

Who May Qualify for Free Cancer Screenings?



You may qualify if you:

Are a woman who lives in South Carolina

Are 30-64 years old

Do not have health insurance or are underinsured (meaning your insurance only covers hospital care)

Meet income eligibility guidelines or in a high deductible health plan with a co-pay of \$1000 or higher and /or diagnostic services not covered at 100%

For more information visit:

<http://www.scdhec.gov/Health/DiseasesandConditions/Cancer/FreeCancerScreenings/>

Why is Early Diagnosis Important?



Women diagnosed with breast cancer at the earliest stage (Stage 1) have a 99% chance of surviving at least 5 years.

Women who are diagnosed with breast cancer after the cancer begins to spread (Stages 2 and 3) have an 84% chance of surviving at least 5 years.

Once breast cancer has spread to distant lymph nodes or organs throughout the body (Stage 4), the 5-year survival rate falls to 23%.

Member Highlight

The mission of the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is to improve the quality of life for all South Carolinians by protecting and promoting the health of the public and the environment. DHEC's vision is "Healthy people living in healthy communities."

Learn more about DHEC at <http://www.scdhec.gov/>

UMRHN Community Members

Catawba Community Mental Health Center • Chester County Representative • Chester County School District • Chester Healthcare Foundation • Chester Regional Medical Center • Eau Claire Cooperative Health Center • Fairfield County School District • Fairfield Memorial Hospital • Good Samaritan Medical Clinic • J. Marion Sims Foundation • John A. Martin Primary Health Care • Mid-Carolina AHEC • Midlands Technical College • North Central Family Medical Center • SC Department of Health and Environmental Control • SC Office of Rural Health • Springs Memorial Hospital • York Technical College