



Support IBCCP

Protect the Investment in Illinois' Breast and Cervical Cancer Program Support \$11 Million in Funding

The Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (IBCCP) provides free mammograms and Pap tests to women aged 35 to 64 who are uninsured. From 2010-2015, the IBCCP detected 563 breast cancers and 1,109 cervical cancers and precancerous lesions.

Breast and Cervical Cancer in Illinois

- Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death among women today.
- An estimated 10,210 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 520 women will be diagnosed with cervical cancer in Illinois in 2017.ⁱⁱ
- In 2014, 74 percent of Illinois women ages 40-64 received a mammogram in the past two years and 81 percent were screened for cervical cancer. Those rates dropped significantly among uninsured women who were screened at 46 percent and 78 percent respectively.

The IBCCP has sustained cuts for the past several years, resulting in long waiting lists and fewer women being served:

- FY 2016 number of women served was 13,455 – a 34% decrease from the number of women served the previous fiscal year.
- FY 2015 number of women served was 20,387 – a nearly 25% decrease from the number of women served the previous fiscal year.
- FY 2014 number of women served was 27,142 – a 20% decrease from the number of women served the previous fiscal year.

Data Source: Illinois Department of Public Health

Continued Need in Illinois

The health care law provides women with greater access to preventive cancer screenings and treatment. However, gaps will still remain for women who continue to be uninsured or underinsured due to affordability, literacy, and language related barriers. It's estimated that more than 75,000 Illinois women ages 40-64 remain uninsured and are still eligible for the services offered through IBCCP.

Protect Illinois' Investment in this Lifesaving Program

Due to budget inaction, many local IBCCP agencies have been forced to reduce hours and services, waitlist women seeking care, or close their program altogether. This is often the only available resource for low-income, uninsured women who need cancer screenings or treatment. Preserving funding for IBCCP is critical to detecting cancer at an early stage, when treatment is more effective and less expensive. That's why our lawmakers must prioritize funding for this lifesaving program. The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network urges Governor Rauner and the General Assembly to fully fund the IBCCP.

i U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program Summaries. Illinois Five-Year Summary July 2009-June 2014. <http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/nbccedp/data/summaries/illinois.htm>

ii American Cancer Society Cancer Facts and Figures 2016

iii American Cancer Society Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Facts and Figures. Tables and Figures 2014.

iv George Washington University