

PROVIDER PRESS

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



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.

IMPORTANT DATES

WVBCCSP Online Program Training

- 1st Thursday of each month
- To register, email: peggy.s.morningstar@wv.gov and aimees.s.bragg@wv.gov

Women's Health Information Program (WHIPS)

- August 17th, 10 AM - 3 PM
via Zoom

RESOURCE LINKS

- [Rural Challenges and HPV Vaccination Archived Webinar](#)
- [2019 WV Cancer Burden Report](#)
- [2021-2025 WV Cancer Plan](#)
- [WV Cancer Resource Guide](#)
- [Patient Advocate Foundation](#)
- [CDC Breast and Cervical Resources](#)





Director's Dialogue

Just over a year since the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic and the state shutdown, we are still here and still standing! As I reflect to March 2020, it is amazing the strides we have made with all the challenges we have faced. I could not be prouder of the resilience and determination that has been demonstrated during this Pandemic. It has not been an easy road, yet we have persevered – we are innovators and we are survivors!

While we continue to deliver quality health care and services to the women of West Virginia, COVID-19 has certainly impacted outcomes. From June 30, 2020 – April 30, 2021, 629 women have been screened for breast cancer and 587 women have been screened for cervical cancer, compared to 697 and 900 women for breast and cervical cancer screenings respectively during the same period last year. Hopefully, cervical cancer screening rates will improve with the program implementing enrollment for women beginning at age 21 - 24 for cervical cancer screening only.

The program continues to evaluate services and service delivery to maximize overall program potential, providing as many services as allowed by our funders. We are finalizing a contract with one MRI provider, Wheeling Hospital. We hope to secure contracts with the others as well. Progress updates and guidelines will be forthcoming.

Preventive care is a major focus of Healthy People 2030, and screening is the key to prevention. In addition to breast and cervical cancer screening, heart disease and stroke prevention through blood pressure screening, A1C, and other cardiovascular disease risk factors are also key components of the Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening Program under what is known as WISEWOMAN (Well-Integrated Screening and Evaluation of WOMen Across the Nation). According to the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NDCCEDP) guidelines, breast and cervical screening providers should also be screening women aged 40-64 for cardiovascular disease in an effort to provide holistic care for each woman enrolled in the program. More on this in the coming months. Happy Spring!



Your Opinion Matters!

Changes to the Provider Press were based upon feedback from provider surveys. Some requested changes were:

- Short, easy to read updates
- More information on HPV vaccination
- Links to patient resources
- Notifications for upcoming trainings

Thank you for making your voices heard!