

**Item Title:** Proclamation Recognizing October 2019 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month

**Specific Action Requested:**  
**That the Board of Commissioners proclaims October 2019 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month.**

**Item Summary:**

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is an opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of early detection and local resources to address breast cancer. During the month of October, various organizations, advocates, health care providers, businesses, and faith communities will convene to increase awareness about this disease and where possible, refer others to appropriate resources to secure the care they need.

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in American women and is the second leading cause of cancer death in women. There is a one in eight chance that a woman in the United States will develop breast cancer in her lifetime. Though there have been great strides in combatting this devastating illness, trend data depicts an overall increase in projections and deaths at the national, state and local levels. It is estimated that among US women, there will be 268,600 new cases of invasive breast cancer and 41,760 breast cancer deaths in 2019. It is projected that 8,870 women in NC will be diagnosed and 1,390 will die from breast cancer in 2019 (American Cancer Society, 2019). In Wake County, it is anticipated that 1,026 women will be diagnosed with and 129 will die of breast cancer in 2019.

Many women can survive breast cancer if it is found and treated early. A mammogram, the screening test for breast cancer, can help detect breast cancer early when it is easier to treat.

**Attachments:**

1. Proclamation
2. October Calendar of Breast Cancer Awareness Activities