

Item Title: Breast Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation

Specific Action Requested:

That the Board of Commissioners proclaims October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Wake County.

Item Summary:

Breast cancer touches the lives of Americans from every background and in every community across our state and nation. Though there have been great strides in combatting this devastating illness, it is estimated that among US women, there will be 246,660 new cases of invasive breast cancer and 40,450 breast cancer deaths in 2016 (American Cancer Society, 2016). According to the North Carolina Central Cancer Registry, it is projected 10,052 women in NC will be diagnosed and 1,416 will die from breast cancer. In Wake County, it is projected that **895** women will be diagnosed and **119** women will die from breast cancer this year. *(NOTE: This is an increase in projections from 2015 where 854 were projected to be diagnosed and 115 to die.)*

Though the exact causes of breast cancer are unknown, understanding its risk factors is essential to prevention. Early detection is the key in the fight against breast cancer. Getting recommended screening mammograms, clinical breast exams and performing breast self-exams are also essential. During the month of October, numerous groups and 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.

The mission of REX Mobile Mammography is to take high-quality mammography services to areas where women have difficulty accessing healthcare. REX Mobile Mammography services are possible due to generous funding from Revlon, Inc., the Kay Yow Cancer Fund, the REX Hospital Open, and the REX Healthcare Foundation in hopes all women may benefit from mammography's early detection capabilities.

The long-term partnership between REX Mobile Mammography and Wake County Human Services' Health Promotion Chronic Disease Prevention Program has been significant. Both establishments share a common mission of providing the highest standard of care to all citizens. This presentation will further describe this partnership.

Attachments:

1. Breast Cancer Awareness Proclamation