

**Item Title:** Proclamation Recognizing October 2017 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Wake County

**Specific Action Requested:**

**That the Board of Commissioners proclaims October 2017 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Wake County**

**Item Summary:**

Breast cancer is the second most common kind of cancer in women. About one in eight women born today in the United States will get breast cancer at some point.

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 252,710 new cases of invasive breast cancer and 40,610 breast cancer deaths in 2017 (American Cancer Society, 2017). According to the North Carolina Central Cancer Registry, it is projected 10,279 women in NC will be diagnosed and 1,446 will die from breast cancer. In Wake County, it is anticipated that 935 females will be diagnosed and 122 females will die of breast cancer in 2017.

The good news is that many women can survive breast cancer if it's found and treated early. A mammogram, the screening test for breast cancer, can help find breast cancer early when it's easier to treat.

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a chance to raise awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer. Spread the word about mammograms and encourage communities, organizations, families, and individuals to get involved.

During the month of October, various 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.

An event that exemplifies these efforts is the annual National Mammography Free Screening Day provided by Raleigh Radiology. WCHS' Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) has partnered with this event for the past five years in an effort to link uninsured women who need follow-up services to care. This year, the event will be held on Friday, October 20, 2017, at select Raleigh Radiology locations.

Raleigh Radiology is Wake County's oldest radiology practice. Their team of 35 board-certified radiologists is truly dedicated individuals. Together, their combined knowledge and broad sub-specialized expertise is unparalleled – making Raleigh Radiology not only the oldest, but the most experienced practice in the triangle.

**Attachments:**

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