

October 28, 2021

## Florida Department of Health in Duval County Observes Breast Cancer Awareness Month

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**Jacksonville, Fla.** – As National Breast Cancer Awareness Month comes to a close, the Florida Department of Health’s **Florida Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (Program)** continues to encourage women to receive regular screenings to promote early detection and treatment of breast cancer.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, breast cancer is the most common cancer in women in the United States.<sup>1</sup> The American Cancer Society estimates over 20,000 new cases are expected to be identified in Florida this year alone.<sup>2</sup> In 2019, 3,183 women in Florida died from breast cancer.<sup>3</sup>

Early detection of any cancer is critical to supporting a long and healthy life. Breast cancer is no exception and getting routine screenings is vital to staying apprised of your health.

Women should talk to their health care provider about possible individual risk factors and the frequency of mammograms, as well as complete any recommended mammogram screenings.

Through this essential Program, the Florida Department of Health provides access to free or low-cost breast cancer screenings statewide to women who may be uninsured or have a low income.

Over the past ten years, breast cancer mortality rates in Florida have decreased by 8.7 percent, as a result of ongoing progress in screening and improved treatment.

**To learn about resources in your area, contact your [county health department](#).**

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### **About the Florida Department of Health**

The Department, nationally accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

For more information about the Florida Department of Health please visit [www.FloridaHealth.gov](http://www.FloridaHealth.gov).

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Cancer Prevention and Control.

<https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/breast/statistics/index.htm>. (Accessed 13 September 2021.)

<sup>2</sup> American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures 2021. Atlanta: American Cancer Society; 2021.

<sup>3</sup> Florida Department of Health, Bureau of Community Health Assessment. Community Health Assessment Resource Tool Set.

<http://www.flhealthcharts.com/ChartsReports/rdPage.aspx?rdReport=Death.TenYrsRpt&cid=0084>. (Accessed 13 September 2021.)