



Date: October 10, 2019

FOR RELEASE THE WEEK OF:
Immediate Release

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PRESS RELEASE

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

October 2019 marks the 34th anniversary of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Breast cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed in women other than skin cancer and is the second leading cause of cancer deaths for women. One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. It is estimated that there will be 268,600 new cases of breast cancer diagnosed across the United States in 2019. Vonda Pruitt, Director of Nursing at the Iroquois County Public Health Department states that "the best chance for detecting breast cancer early is through mammography screenings and earlier detection gives higher survival rates."

The Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program serves women across the state with free breast and cervical cancer screenings. The Iroquois County Public Health Department works with the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program to provide free screenings for ALL uninsured and underinsured women in Iroquois County between the ages of 35 and 64. Younger women with symptoms also may qualify. If needed, many treatments are also covered under the program. If you live in Illinois, are without health insurance and are between 35 and 64 years old, please contact Jane at 815-432-2483 (Monday through Friday 8:30am-4:30pm) to enroll in this life-saving program. You can also visit www.cancerscreening.illinois.gov for more information.