

Free Screenings

Depending on the size of your event, there are some free mammography screening opportunities.

- Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (IBCCP) lead agencies work with Chicago area clinics to provide free mammography screenings to low-income women who meet the program guidelines. These agencies may be able to send a representative to the event to explain the program and help women make appointments. To be connected with one of these lead agencies, call the Women's Health-Line at 888-522-1282.
- Wellness Inc., Aurora (statewide service) 630-849-2339
- St. Mary's Hospital, Streator (equipment travels to sites in Livingston and LaSalle counties, need two rooms) 815-673-4641
- Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center, Mattoon (covers Coles, Clark, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Jasper, Moultrie and Shelby counties) 217-258-2588
- Decatur Memorial Hospital, Decatur (equipment travels to sites in Macon County and surrounding areas, need two rooms) 217-876-2320
- Methodist Medical Center, Peoria (covers Peoria, Tazewell and Woodford counties) 309-671-8282

State of Illinois

Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor

Department of Public Health

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Pink Potlucks

Women helping women by promoting breast cancer awareness



What is a Pink Potluck?

It's a fun event that can save lives. It's women talking to women about the importance of screening for and early detection of breast cancer. Illinois' First Lady Patti Blagojevich kicked off the first Pink Potlucks by inviting women in congregations and community groups across the state to host the events. Just like a regular potluck, everyone coming to the event brings a dish or dessert to share. A featured speaker discusses the importance of early detection and can describe self-examination techniques and other breast care issues. Literature may be provided and sometimes even on-site screenings also are held.

Why hold a Pink Potluck?

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women. However, if it is detected while still in its earlier stages, breast cancer can be successfully treated. Routine mammograms and breast exams can detect cancer early and provide women with better treatment options and results. Also, women need to know that the newly enhanced Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program provides free screening and treatment to eligible women. What better way to save lives and have fun than to gather a group of women for breakfast, lunch or dinner and empower them to stay healthy!

How can I organize one?

It's simple to hold a Pink Potluck.

1. Decide how many people you want to invite. It can be a small group of women or a whole congregation.
2. Pick a location and time.
3. Invite women through flyers, phone calls, e-mails or word of mouth. Let them know if the potluck is a breakfast, lunch or dinner and ask them to bring some food to share.
4. Invite a speaker to discuss breast health care and, if possible, find a survivor to talk about their experiences.
5. Be prepared to eat, have fun and get informed on the day of the Pink Potluck.



Where can I find resources?

Free Literature and/or Speakers

- The Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program offers free mammograms, breast exams, pelvic exams and Pap tests to eligible women. Free brochures and flyers about the program are available. Gov. Rod R. Blagojevich has expanded the program, allowing even more women to take advantage of its services. A family of four with an annual income of \$51,625 or less may qualify for free screenings and treatment. For additional information, call the Women's Health-Line toll free at 888-522-1282 (800-547-0466 TTY) or visit cancer-screening.Illinois.gov

Other resources include:

- American Cancer Society, 800-ACS-2345 (800-227-2345)
- National Cancer Institute's Cancer Information Service, 800-4-CANCER (800-422-6237) or 312-814-1081
- Susan G. Komen for the Cure, 708-544-1039
- Sisters Working it Out Advocacy in Motion, 708-862-2917, ext. 1
- Y-ME Illinois, 312-364-9071