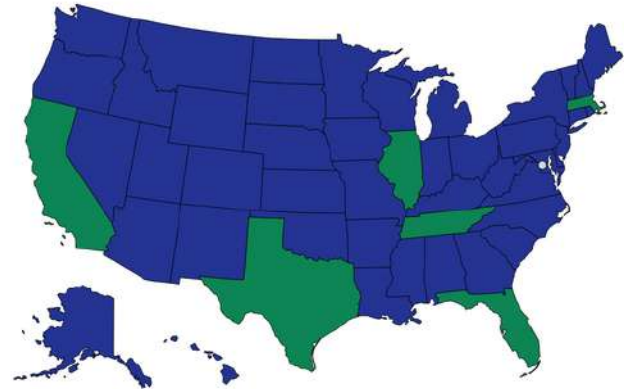


Breast Cancer Screening & Prevention Grant Report 2024

Background

The Breast Cancer Screening & Prevention Grant Program, administered by the National Association of Free & Charitable Clinics (NAFC) and funded by the McKesson Foundation, was designed to enhance access to life-saving breast cancer screenings and referrals for eligible patients. This program supported seven free and charitable clinics, each receiving \$30,000 to either establish or expand their breast cancer screening services in alignment with guidelines set by the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and the American Cancer Society. Through this initiative, clinics were able to provide critical preventive care to underserved communities, helping to detect breast cancer early and improve patient outcomes.



Awardees

- Christ Clinic - Katy, Texas
- CommunityHealth - Chicago, Illinois
- Grace Medical Home - Orlando, Florida
- Helping Hands of Middle & West Tennessee - Jackson, Tennessee
- Lestonnac Free Clinic - Orange, California
- Point Washington Medical Clinic - Santa Rosa Beach, Florida
- Volunteers in Medicine Berkshires - Great Barrington, Massachusetts

Results

The Breast Cancer Screening & Prevention Grant Program had a transformative impact on free and charitable clinics by significantly enhancing access to breast cancer screenings for low-income, uninsured, and underinsured women. Clinics leveraged the \$30,000 grants to hire dedicated staff, such as referral coordinators and care managers, who played pivotal roles in managing mammogram referrals, coordinating follow-up care, and ensuring seamless communication between providers and patients. This resulted in increased screening rates, with some clinics far surpassing national benchmarks, such as Grace Medical Home, which screened 91% of eligible women—well above the 51% national average for federally qualified health centers.

In addition to improving access to screenings, the grant program fostered extensive community outreach and education efforts. Clinics like Helping Hands of Middle & West Tennessee reached thousands of community members through bilingual educational materials and events, raising awareness of breast cancer risks and encouraging participation in screenings. The program also emphasized the importance of timely follow-up care, with clinics ensuring that patients received necessary referrals and treatment within 30 days of abnormal findings. By removing financial barriers and strengthening partnerships with local hospitals and healthcare organizations, clinics were able to offer free mammograms and other services, ultimately leading to early detection and better health outcomes for their patient populations.

By the Numbers

- The project reached **5,871 patients** through **7 Free and Charitable Clinics**.
- **2,667 breast cancer screenings** were provided to underserved patients.
- **12,590 lives** were touched through the program. This includes patients, providers, staff, volunteers and patient family members.

