

2016 BUDGET PROPOSAL

EXPANDING FREE MAMMOGRAMS FOR UNINSURED WOMEN CITYWIDE

Mayor Emanuel and the City of Chicago are committed to ensuring uninsured women have access to free, quality mammograms along with comprehensive follow-up care. In 2016, the City is joining efforts with the Cook County Health and Hospitals System to ensure up to 20,000 women have access to free life-saving mammograms along with receiving vital follow up care from diagnosis to treatment at Cook County Hospitals.

The City's total investment in 2016 will provide free mammography services to 5,000 uninsured women annually – more than double the 2,100 women that currently receive services.

Expanding Access to Free Mammograms. As part of the 2016 budget process, the City will invest \$635,000 in Cook County Health and Hospitals System (CCHHS) to provide additional mammography services at three locations in Chicago. The City will also continue to provide \$100,000 each to Roseland Community Hospital and three Mercy Hospital and Health Center locations as part of the ongoing collaboration to expand and improve breast health services in Chicago.

Providing a Continuum of Care. Since the City cannot provide diagnostic services, women with abnormal screenings were referred out to other health systems to receive diagnostic services, resulting in fragmented care for women who possibly had breast cancer. By transitioning care to the CCHHS, women will be able to receive mammograms but also any necessary follow up care including diagnostic services and treatment at the same location.

BACKGROUND: Closing the Accessibility Gap

According to the 2014 Healthy Chicago Telephone Survey, there are 30,186 uninsured Chicago women between the ages of 50-74 and of these women, 8,625 had not had a mammogram in the past two years.

There is a disproportionate rate of premature deaths caused by breast cancer in the following Chicago neighborhoods: Beverly, Auburn Gresham, Roseland, Washington Heights, Pullman, Chatham, Calumet Heights, South Shore, Kenwood, North Lawndale, and West Garfield Park.

The City partnered with Roseland Community Hospital in 2014 to ensure that uninsured women in these communities have access to mammography services and is continuing that partnership today.

In 2014, the City provided about 1,600 screening mammograms at city clinics for a total cost of \$1.6 million.