

Center for Black Women's Wellness

Community Breast Health Project

The purpose of CBWW's Community Breast Health Project is to increase access to quality, affordable, culturally appropriate breast health services for Black low income, medically underserved women in Metro Atlanta. Black women in Georgia are more likely to delay breast health screenings, be uninsured and underserved, and be diagnosed with breast cancer at later stages. Minority populations are underrepresented in the receipt of appropriate breast health education and screening services needed to reduce mortality rates. Moreover, COVID has delayed the receipt of preventive health services, further exacerbating health disparities. As such, our community can greatly benefit from this project. In all, CBWW proposes to serve 150 hard-to-reach women through requested grant funds.

Outreach staff will implement targeted outreach activities to promote breast health to those who need it most. CBWW will build on its experience of providing low cost/no cost clinical breast exams, done onsite through its women's health clinic; and coordinate low cost/no cost screening mammograms, diagnostic mammograms, and diagnostic services (ex. ultrasound, MRI, biopsy, pathology fees) through area partners. Additionally, patient navigation services will be provided to women who need screening and follow up services as a strategy to improve compliance, efficiency, and continuum of care. Evidence-based strategies identified by the Community Preventive Services Task Force suggest that breast health navigation reduces structural barriers to increase screening for breast cancers. Our Breast Health Navigator (BHN) will follow-up regularly with patients referred for services to provide support, answer questions, and refer them to the Nurse Practitioner, as necessary.

Evaluation methods for this project will include medical charts, mammogram referral logs, attendance logs, and post-test surveys. Based on the needs of our population, strong breast health partnerships, established trust in our community, and evidence-based strategies, CBWW is poised to positively impact the breast health outcomes of our underserved population.
