

## First Choice Primary Care

### **Breast Cancer Screening and Education for the Medically Underserved**

First Choice Primary Care is a federally qualified health center providing primary care and preventive health services to anyone, regardless of ability to pay. We are requesting funding to increase patients' knowledge regarding the importance of breast cancer screening along with increasing the number of breast cancer screening services for medically underserved women we serve. Last year, 68% of these women were minority, including 65% who are Black / African American. 28% have no insurance and 91% are below 100% of the federal poverty guidelines. In addition, these patients have challenges with transportation and stable housing.

When preparing for patient visits for the next day, care team members will identify patients who based on age should have a screening mammogram but have not had a breast cancer screening in the recommended time frame. This information (along with other key patient visit planning information) will be entered into the patient's chart for review by the medical assistant and provider. Clinical staff will collect initial evaluation on patient knowledge regarding breast cancer/ importance of breast cancer screening, will assist with addressing barriers and work with FCPC partners to schedule appropriate breast cancer screening / services for the patient. Follow through will occur to ensure the patient obtains the appropriate services. The care team staff will then re-evaluate the patient's level of knowledge regarding breast cancer screening. Data will be measured, analyzed, reviewed and discussed each month.

Our desired outcome is higher rates of breast cancer screening across our patient population, regardless of race or insurance status. Grant funds that cover the cost of the screening mammogram remove that barrier for uninsured patients. We also anticipate that the education provided by our clinical staff will increase the number of women who follow through on the referral and complete their screening mammogram.