

## FY2025 Well Woman HealthCheck Funding

***Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in Arizona and the second leading cause of cancer death. It is estimate that more than 6,800 new cases of female breast cancer will be diagnosed in Arizona this year, and 950 deaths will be caused by the disease. The earlier breast cancer is found, the better the chances for successful treatment and survival.***

**Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening:** ACS CAN will advocate to maintain funding of \$1,369,400 for the Arizona Well Woman HealthCheck Program, the state breast and cervical cancer screening and treatment program for low-income uninsured and underinsured women administered by the Arizona Department of Health Services and AHCCCS. The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network is asking lawmakers to protect these vital screening dollars. **Please maintain the level funding of \$1.369 million in the Governor's FY 2025 budget.**

### **The Arizona Well Woman HealthCheck Program**

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The National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program operates in all 50 states and is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The program is administered by the Arizona Department of Health Services and is known as the Well Woman HealthCheck Program (WWHP) in Arizona. The program has been providing women with mammograms, clinical breast exams and cervical cancer screenings since October 1995. Well Woman HealthCheck serves Arizona women who are 64 years or younger, uninsured, or underinsured, and have a household income that is less than 250% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Arizona receives funds annually from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the early detection and screening program. State matching funding of \$1.369 million for screening allows the program to operate statewide.

### **Treatment Program**

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When a woman is diagnosed with cancer through Well Woman HealthCheck, she is eligible for the treatment program that is housed at AHCCCS, Arizona's Medicaid program. ACS CAN opposes any reduction in this program. Cuts to this program in Arizona would stop lifesaving treatment for some women who have no other access to care.

In 2012 we successfully advocated for a policy change and increased funding which enhances the treatment program by allowing women who meet the other criteria but are not diagnosed through WWHP to be treated by AHCCCS. Since Aug. 2, 2012, **more than 1,000 women have been admitted to AHCCCS for treatment as a result of the policy change.**