



Project Title: Project PEERS

Grant Amount: \$49,796

Project Description:

Many older women avoid an annual breast exam and mammogram because of fear of the unknown and because of fear of the cost of the procedures and/or resultant treatment. Project PEERS (Participation, Education, Examination, Rehabilitation, and Saving Lives) begins with breast cancer education workshops throughout the five-county service area at which statistics about breast cancer, expected diagnostic procedures, treatment options for positive diagnosis, and other life-saving information regarding breast cancer will be presented to participants. Sessions will include a question and answer segment in which participants can ask all those fear-driven questions directly to a panel of breast cancer survivors. These survivors will provide first-hand information regarding both the physical and emotional aspects of a positive diagnosis of breast cancer. Participants 40-64 will be referred to BreastCare through which they can receive financial relief for similar services. Uninsured, underinsured, and low-income 65+ participants will be given a voucher with which they can arrange a no-cost breast examination and/or mammogram. For these low-income patients, transportation to and from the exam and/or mammogram facility can be provided at no cost to the patient. Vouchered patients receiving a suspicious breast exam and/or mammogram can receive financial assistance with additional physician-directed diagnostic procedures not covered by Medicare and/or insurance. Patients receiving a positive diagnosis of breast cancer will receive follow up and referral for available financial assistance.

Service Area:

