

2025

BREAST CANCER RESEARCH & EDUCATION TRUST FUND

GRANT RECIPIENT SPOTLIGHT



Kentucky Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

The impact of BCTF funding is best seen through the incredible work of our grant recipients. Meet some of the changemakers spotlighted at our first annual highlights meeting.

"The BCTF allows us to serve an underserved population who otherwise would not have a screening mammogram. For our mobile mammography, our current never screened rate is 18%, which tells me that we are serving a population that may not have gotten screened, simply by removing the financial and access barrier. The BCTF has helped us serve our uninsured population, by removing the financial barrier that may keep some women from getting the screening and allow for earlier detection of a problem."

-Krista McArther, Norton Healthcare – FY2025

"Our health departments have always been a resource in the communities we serve, but this has allowed us to be more seen as an avenue for women's preventative health. We hope to continue to provide women with quality care and partner with other organizations to expand our message on the importance of breast health and early detection."

-Hailey Wallace, McCracken Co. Health Center – FY2025

"We are a very small health department, and we do not have a physician or mid-level so we can't do screenings or diagnosis, but our voices are big. We take pride in the outreach and education that we provide to our community with a focus on underserved populations. We attend every event in our small county, and we talk to people about breast cancer, signs and symptoms, and early screening options. We have seen a rise in our mammogram numbers at our hospital and I would like to think that our education has played a role in that. We all have someone we know or love who has been affected by breast cancer. I want to share a story personal to our health department. I was preparing for the annual boat show for our county. At this event they have a whole section for women so I thought it would be a perfect opportunity to provide education on breast cancer screening and early detection. I spent several days prior to the event in preparation. Getting everything together for the event. A nurse who works in the health department was in and out of my office while all of this was going on. Two days prior to the event she comes into my office and said that she had found a lump in her breast. She is 32 years old and has a 2-year-old daughter. We discussed what she had found and called her physician and made an appointment. Three days later she found out that she has an aggressive form of breast cancer and will be starting chemo on March 17th. The diagnosis has been devastating for her and all of us because we are family. I did praise her for doing self-exams and she told me that this was the first time she had ever done one. She said that it was me getting ready for the boat show and talking about the education that I was going to provide that made her go home and do a self-check. I was amazed at just how powerful words and education can be. We might not be able to do all the things that hospitals and clinics do, but I can tell you from experience that what we are doing is making a difference!"

-Angela Thomas, Calloway County Health Department – FY2025

