



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

News

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Trenton City Hall is in the Pink for National Breast Cancer Awareness Month; Mayor Encourages Women to Get Mammograms

Trenton, N.J. - City Hall's external facade will be illuminated in pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month to highlight the importance of getting mammograms between the ages of 45 and 50, Trenton Mayor Eric E. Jackson announced today.

"Our administration believes strongly in putting the people of Trenton first. We want to create policies, collaborations and programs that improve the wellness of our residents and empower them with essential health-related information," said Mayor Jackson.

According to James A. Brownlee, Trenton's health officer and Director of the city's Department of Health and Human Services, which has broad responsibilities for implementing the Jackson administration health-care agenda, women should start getting mammograms at age 50. If their family has a history of breast cancer, then they should start getting checked at age 45.

"Breast cancer survival rates are much higher when patients are proactive about regular mammograms, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)," said Brownlee. "The procedure is quick and typically painless. For women whose medical history aligns with what we know about this disease, the guide that I just mentioned should be adhered to strictly."

Scheduling a mammogram for women with private health insurance is as easy as speaking to their primary-care physician or gynecologist. Residents without health insurance can contact the Henry J. Austin Health Center at (609) 278-5900 or the Capital Health Primary Care-Brunswick Avenue facility at (609) 815-7400 to schedule an appointment or to see a general practitioner for a checkup and additional referrals.

More than 40,000 women, including several hundred men die from breast cancer annually, according to the CDC. If a malignant tumor is found in the breast, the five-year survival rate is nearly 100%. Some 61% of breast cancers are diagnosed at this stage. If the cancer has spread to other areas of the body, particularly the lymph nodes, the five-year survival rate is 85%. If the cancer has spread to an area of the body that is difficult to treat with surgery or radiation, the survival rate drops to 26%.

"Mammograms can detect cancer early," said Mayor Jackson. "Therefore, it is of critical importance that women take proactive measures to prevent the disease."

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