Currently, programs funded through CDC’s National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP) serve approximately 14.3% of NBCCEDP-eligible women, aged 40–64 years, for breast cancer, and 8.7% of eligible women, aged 18–64 years, for cervical cancer. NBCCEDP is the only nationally organized breast and cervical cancer screening program in the United States.

An increase in appropriations would allow the program to provide lifesaving screening to more women. With the suggested increase in funding, over 100,000 additional women could be screened. Funds would also be used to expand efforts to enable more organized systems of care by supporting strategies such as patient navigation and case management, public education and awareness, targeted outreach, and efforts to ensure quality screening and diagnostic follow up.

**Basic Facts about Breast and Cervical Cancer:** In the US in 2011, 220,097 women were diagnosed with breast cancer and 40,931 women died from the disease, and 12,109 women were diagnosed with cervical cancer and 4,092 women died from cervical cancer. Screening increases the likelihood of finding breast and cervical cancers at earlier stages, when they are more treatable. Early detection and follow-up can prevent virtually all cervical cancer deaths and reduce breast cancer deaths by 16% in women over age 40.

In 2013, the NBCCEDP—

- Screened 347,246 women for breast cancer with mammography and diagnosed 5,982 breast cancers.
- Screened 232,267 women for cervical cancer with the Pap test and diagnosed 269 cervical cancers and 11,381 premalignant cervical lesions, of which 33% were high-grade.
- Estimates are that over $8 billion per year is spent in the U.S. for the treatment of breast cancer, and over $3 billion per year on the treatment of cervical cancer. Mammography screening every two years extends life for women aged 65 or older at a cost of about $36,924 per year of life saved. Cervical screening every three years extends life at a cost of about $5,392 per year of life saved.

**CDC’s National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP)** provides access to breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnostic services to low-income, uninsured and underserved women in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, 5 U.S. territories, and 11 tribes. Programs also include evaluation, public and provider education, outreach, patient navigation/case management, follow-up, and quality assurance. Since the beginning of the program, nearly 12 million screening and diagnostic tests have been provided to over 4.7 million women, and 66,198 breast cancers, 3,625 invasive cervical cancers, and 169,598 premalignant cervical lesions diagnosed, of which 40% were high-grade lesions.

While the ACA is increasing insurance coverage for millions of women, estimates show that more than 4.5 million women will remain uninsured and eligible for breast or cervical cancer screenings through the NBCCEDP. In response to the implementation of ACA, CDC has been working to expand activities that will increase population level screening rates, while continuing to provide screening services to the most vulnerable who continue to be program eligible.

With greater flexibility, the NBCCEDP can support widespread participation in screening and targeted outreach to underserved communities with a heavier cancer burden, and the population of insured women who are in need of screening. NBCCEDP provides enhanced support for evidence-based public health approaches such as public education and outreach, clinical services and care coordination, quality assurance.

Contact: Amy Souders, Cornerstone Government Affairs. (202) 488-9500 or asouders@cgagroup.com