



## Federal Legislative Priorities

### **PRIORITY #1:**

\$150 Million for the Department of Defense (DOD) Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP) for FY2019: As a result of NBCC's grassroots advocacy, the DOD BCRP was created in 1992 to "eradicate breast cancer by funding innovative, high-impact research through a partnership of scientists and consumers." The DOD BCRP is widely viewed as an innovative, unique, and efficient medical research model which has proven to be accountable to the public and has produced extraordinary results. NBCC seeks continued funding for this successful program.

### **PRIORITY #2:**

A bill to add Metastatic Breast Cancer as a Qualifying Condition for Medicare Coverage. This legislation would waive all waiting periods for Medicare eligibility on the basis of disability for all individuals with metastatic breast cancer and provide Medicare health care coverage including drugs and biologicals and all interventions used for the treatment and alleviation of symptoms relating to metastatic breast cancer.

### **PRIORITY #3:**

Preservation of the Medicaid Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program: Congress enacted the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Act in 2000 after years of NBCC grassroots lobbying and influence. NBCC remains 2/23/2018 NBCC 2018 Legislative and Public Policy Priorities committed to ensuring all women and men screened and diagnosed with breast cancer through federal screening programs have access to the treatment they need.

## Public Policy Priorities

### **PRIORITY #1:**

Guaranteed Access to Quality Care for All: Ensuring access to quality, evidence-based health care has been a top priority of NBCC for many years and is an essential component of Breast Cancer Deadline 2020®. Prior to the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the NBCC grassroots Board of Directors approved a Framework for a Health Care System Guaranteeing Access to Quality Health Care for All which built on NBCC's Principles for Quality Care. In 2010, NBCC endorsed and advocated for the passage and implementation of ACA which marked important steps forward in access to quality health care for individuals with, and at risk of, breast cancer. The Coalition opposes and will work to defeat any and all efforts to repeal the ACA or replace it with something less expansive.

### **PRIORITY #2:**

Ensuring the Participation of Educated Patient Advocates in all Levels of Health Care Decision Making: NBCC continues to work to ensure that educated patient advocates who represent a constituency, have a meaningful "seat at the table" in all levels