



Lawmaker Call Script Builder

All you need for an effective interaction with a lawmaker – virtual or otherwise – a very short version of your story, a couple talking points and our “ask.” Use this document to build out your script for your upcoming legislative calls – remember, time is of the essence: keep things short and sweet!

Hook

My name is _____, from _____, Indiana. I am calling today to ask for your support in maintaining funding for the Indiana Breast and Cervical Program.

Your Story Sentence 1:

Your Story Sentence 2 (optional):

Your Story Sentence 3 (optional):

Line

Fact 1:

Fact 2 (optional):

Sinker/Ask: Can I count on your [or Rep./Sen. X if speaking with staff] support for maintaining the only \$176,000 we need to protect the Indiana Breast and Cervical Cancer Program in the budget?

Example:

Hi, my name is Grace and I am calling from Indianapolis. I'm calling today to ask for your support in maintaining funding for the Indiana Breast and Cervical Cancer Program in the state's budget.

My best friend's mom was diagnosed twice with breast cancer and I have seen the terrible toll it took on her and her family, even though she was lucky enough to have insurance and financial support.

I don't want anyone to go through that experience, so it is very important to me that low-income Hoosier women have access to prevention and treatment services through the Indiana Breast and Cervical Program.

In the FY 2021-21 budget, Indiana allocated \$176,000 to the IBCCP which qualified it for a \$1.8 million grant from the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Program – ensuring that 4,000 Hoosier would be able to receive prevention and treatment services through the IBCCP.

State funding for this life-saving program is vital for its survival, can I count on your support for maintaining the \$176,000 in the state budget for the Indiana Breast and Cervical Cancer Program?

Tips and Tricks:

- Take notes on their response & use those notes when filling out the Report Back Form [\[LINK\]](#). This is how we track our support and which lawmakers we need to spend more time educating
- It is ok if you talk to staff instead of the lawmaker. For a variety of reasons our legislators may not be able to come to the phone. But they rely heavily on their staff to make sure they are voting according to what their constituents say they want.
- If a legislator or staff member asks you for information you don't know, let them know you will get back with them. Make a note of the question so that Bryan, our Government Relations Director, can get you the right answer and follow up with the legislator.

Talking Points

Breast and Cervical Cancer in Indiana

- 5,400 Hoosiers were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2020
- 270 Hoosiers were diagnosed with cervical cancer in 2020
- 41,000 Hoosiers are eligible for IBCCP services and this is likely to grow due to COVID-19.

Indiana Breast and Cervical Cancer Program Overview:

- The Indiana Breast and Cervical Cancer Program offers no-cost prevention and treatment services to low-income women who have no insurance or are underinsured.
- Women who are diagnosed with cancer through the program are eligible for Medicaid coverage that lasts for the duration of their cancer treatment.
- 4,000 Hoosier women rely on the IBCCP.

How the IBCCP is Funded:

- Most of the funding comes from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), but the CDC requires a 1-to-3 match, meaning the state must provide \$1 for every \$3 it receives.
- The IBCCP received just \$176,000 in state appropriations in the FY 2020-21 budget.
- Any reduction in the state appropriation could put federal funding, and the program itself, at risk.