

## Maintaining funding for the New Jersey Cancer Education and Early Detection Screening Program (NJCEED) at \$5 Million

The New Jersey Cancer Education and Early Detection (NJCEED) provides uninsured and underinsured New Jerseyans with access to breast, cervical, prostate, and colorectal cancer screenings.

NJCEED offers a critically important service to people who lack health insurance at no cost to the patient. Detected early, these cancers can be more effectively treated. Failing to have these cancers detected early can lead to deadly consequences. The services provided by NJCEED include education, outreach, screening, case management, tracking, follow-up, and facilitation of treatment.

Program services are provided through 21 contracted lead agencies; each county in NJ has at least one lead agency. NJCEED is an important program that has achieved much over the years, and in the past decade, the NJCEED Program has provided hundreds of thousands of mammograms, pap tests, colorectal screenings and prostate screenings.

Evidence-based cancer services programs like NJCEED are critical to improving outcomes for the new cases of cancer that will be diagnosed in New Jersey this year. Published research on the success of the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, which partially funds and guides the NJCEED, demonstrates a substantial impact on reducing mortality from breast cancer in medically uninsured women with limited incomes. These evidence-based findings justify the state's investment in NJCEED and the early detection of cancer. A poll of New Jersey voters showed that 83% of voters support increasing funding for NJCEED.

During the State Fiscal Year of 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023), the final NJCEED screening numbers for breast, cervical, colorectal, and prostate cancers were:

- Breast Cancer:
  - 16,858 women were screened for breast cancer.
  - 13 men were screened for breast cancer.
- Cervical Cancer
  - 10,802 women were screened for cervical cancer
- Colorectal Cancer
  - 5,639 women were screened for colorectal cancer.
  - 733 men were screened for colorectal cancer.
- Prostate Cancer
  - 662 men were screened for prostate cancer.

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**ACS CAN recommends that the NJCEED have its funding maintained at \$5 million. This funding is essential to help the NJCEED serve its existing patients and expand outreach to those in need.**

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