Breaking Barriers, Healing Hearts: Empowering Black Women in the Fight Against Breast Cancer

A Resilience Building Initiative

WHO?



- African American women ages 40+ are dying at higher rates from breast cancer compared to any other racial group in the country (American Cancer Society, 2022).
- The American Cancer Society reports that Black women have a 4% lower incidence rate of breast cancer compared to White women but have a 40% higher breast cancer death rate (2022).

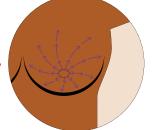
SO WHAT?

The highest rates of breast cancer mortality in the nation are in the District of Columbia where 45.4% of the population is African American

(American Cancer Society, 2022)

WHY?

Individual level: African American women are more likely to have subtypes of tumors that are more aggressive and resistant to treatment (Williams et al., 2016).



Community level: Incidence of late stage breast cancer diagnosis is much higher in African American communities due to poor



access to healthcare facilities (Dai, 2010).

Relationship level: Due to discrimination, African American women experience higher levels of social isolation and socially isolated women are 2x likely to die from breast cancer (Coughlin, 2019).



Program Goals

Societal level: African American women experience the weathering effect: waned immunity and premature health decline due to general social disadvantage (Phelan & Link, 2015).



Educate women on indivudal risk, encourage engagement in screening, and promote mental well-being to build individual resilience



Gain community partnerships that will aid in creating greater access to social and healthcare programs to build community resilience

Create lobbyist groups that will push legislators to create better access to health care facilities in Black communities to build societal resilience





Create patient and family support groups throughout DC to promote interpersonal resilience



Scan me and learn how to get involved

Program Cost: Free

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