did you know...

In 1980, black and white women in Chicago with breast cancer had an equal death rate.

Between 1999-2004, the difference in death rates grew to 68% between black and white women in Chicago, compared to New York City, where the gap is only 11% and 37% for the entire U. S.

By 2005, while the death rate for White women had decreased dramatically, no improvement had been seen for Black women. In fact, data showed that Black women’s breast cancer deaths continued to increase to a rate 116% higher than White women in Chicago.

Help us

Eliminate Breast Cancer Disparity

Sign up on our website to receive information about The Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer Task Force and its efforts.

Join our advocacy efforts to support funding improvements for breast cancer programs for women. Go to www.chicagobreastcancer.org

Breast Cancer Task Force
Uniting to End Disparity

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Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer Task Force

In response to these facts, in March 2007, over 100 experts, researchers, advocates and community leaders came together to form The Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer Task Force (MCBCTF). The Task Force developed 37 specific recommendations to address the following main questions:

1. Is this a problem of access to mammography screening and cancer treatments?
2. Is this due to differences in quality of primary care and mammography/treatment that is available to Black women?
3. Can public policy and legislation address this inequality?
4. Can outreach and education to community members make a difference?

The MCBCTF is dedicated to answering these questions through our 37 recommendations which can be found at www.chicagobreastcancer.org.

Our mission is to serve as a catalyst to reduce the racial, ethnic, and class disparity in breast cancer death rates in Metropolitan Chicago.

Chicago Breast Cancer Quality Consortium

The Chicago Breast Cancer Quality Consortium is a project of the Task Force, aimed at assisting Chicago health care providers deliver the highest quality of breast cancer care by improving the quality of primary care and mammography/treatment. The following are key facts about the Consortium:

Currently, 75% of Metropolitan Chicago hospitals are members of the Consortium and share quality data on breast cancer screening and treatment.

Once the data has been collected and analyzed, the Consortium will bring providers together to identify and address areas in need of improvement in order to improve the quality of care across Chicago.

In September 2009, the Chicago Breast Cancer Quality Consortium became the nation’s first federally designated Patient Safety Organization dedicated exclusively to breast health.

For more information, please visit our website at www.chicagobreastcancer.org.

Contact Groups for Assistance

Illinois Breast & Cervical Cancer Program (IBBCP)
Provides free mammograms and pap screenings for individuals with no insurance:
Call 1-888-522-1282
www.cancerscreening.illinois.gov

American Cancer Society
Provides many resources for cancer patients and their families:
Call 1-800-227-2345
or visit http://illinoiscancerhelp.org/

Stand Against Cancer Programs (SAC)
Call 1-888-SAC-HOPE
(1-888-722-4673)
Provides low-cost mammograms and pap screenings.

Join our effort!!!

Sign up as a referral organization or volunteer and help the task force reduce the racial disparity in breast cancer death rate in the Metropolitan Chicago area. Visit the website www.chicagobreastcancer.org and click on the “Join Our Effort” link.

Funding partners of the MCBCTF include:
- Avon Foundation
- Astra Zeneca
- Sanofi Aventis
- Susan G. Komen for the Cure
- Field Foundation
- MCBCTF has provided several community grants for organizations to assist in our efforts.