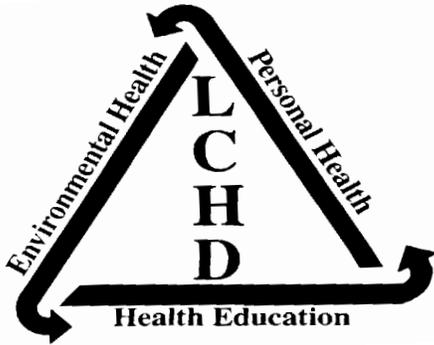


## **MEDIA RELEASE**



Date: September 28, 2018  
To: All Media  
From: LaSalle County Health Department  
717 Etna Road  
Ottawa, IL 61350  
Contact: Leslie Dougherty (ext. 225) or Jenny Barrie (ext. 226)  
Phone: (815) 433-3366  
**For Immediate Release**

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**OTTAWA, IL** – October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. LaSalle County Health Department, through our Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program grant, can pay for mammograms, beginning at age 40 and pap smears at age 35 for women who qualify. You qualify if you are a LaSalle or Grundy County resident between the ages of 35 -64 and have no insurance (regardless of income) or whose insurance has a high deductible that must be met prior to covering wellness services. Or insurance that does not cover wellness screenings/diagnostics at all.

The good news is that most women can survive breast cancer if it's found and treated early. A mammogram – the screening test for breast cancer – can help find breast cancer early when it's easier to treat. Low income women and women with no insurance die from breast and cervical cancer more often than other women. These high mortality rates are attributed in part to the fact that these women generally do not receive regular mammograms and Pap Smears. As a result, cancers are diagnosed at later stages when it is more difficult to treat and the chances for survival are less.

Through IBCCP, LaSalle County Health Department is working to increase breast and cervical cancer awareness and break that cycle of late stage treatment. IBCCP provides FREE mammograms and Pap Smears for those women who qualify and assistance with meeting your deductible for those who are insured. Take advantage of this opportunity for early detection. You are important to your family.

**-MORE-**

For those women who do not qualify for the IBCCP program or have related charges not covered by the IBCCP grant there are a limited amount of community donated funds to assist with those services. Call (815) 433-3366 for further information on how you may qualify to receive a free mammogram and pap test, or if you have a question on how high deductible works.



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