



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, all New Yorkers value the benefits of good health as the key component of a long, productive, and fulfilling life and proudly support observances that focus public attention on crucial health issues, such as Breast Cancer Awareness Month; and

Whereas, one of the most urgent health concerns facing society, breast cancer is the most prevalent form of non-skin cancer affecting women today; this year, more than 14,000 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed in New York State, and approximately 2,600 individuals will die from this disease; and

Whereas, many women with breast cancer have no apparent risk factors, other than being a woman and growing older; and

Whereas, medical experts stress the importance of early detection, and recommend that women between 50 and 74 years of age get a mammogram every two years; other women, including those who are between 40 and 49 years old, those with a family history or other risk factor for breast cancer, and those who have any symptoms or changes in their breasts, should talk to their doctor about what screening schedule is right for them; and

Whereas, breast cancer may also occur in men, although it is much less common than in women; a man's risk for breast cancer can be increased by having multiple female relatives with a history of breast cancer, or if a man has a history of exposure to radiation; while routine screening for breast cancer is not recommended for men, those who may be concerned about an increased risk for breast cancer or who experience symptoms such as a lump on the breast should talk to their health care provider; and

Whereas, New York State is at the forefront of battling this disease and supports a network of community-based breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screening programs, called the New York State Cancer Services Program, which offer women access to breast cancer screening services, and these programs are especially valuable in ensuring that low-income women with healthcare needs are offered education, medical examinations, and follow-up services; and

Whereas, continued progress in the battle against breast cancer demands widespread public support for innovative programs, scientific research and education; all educators, service providers, researchers and advocacy groups are urged to work together to develop ways to educate more women about breast cancer and to ensure that all women in New York State have access to appropriate breast cancer screening services; and

Whereas, during this month-long observance, all New Yorkers are encouraged to join in related activities and initiatives that help raise support and awareness of this devastating disease which has claimed too many lives over the years; moreover, people everywhere are called upon to raise their awareness of breast cancer and contribute to the global fight against it;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim October 2014 as

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given

under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this first day
of October in the year two thousand fourteen.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor