



AMERICAN  
BREAST CANCER  
FOUNDATION®

**Media Contact:**

Danielle Davis, for  
The American Breast Cancer Foundation  
443-834-6725

**THE AMERICAN BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION MAINTAINS MAMMOGRAPHY  
SCREENING RECOMMENDATIONS**

***ABCF Recommends Screening Mammograms for Women Beginning at the Age of 40 Because  
Early Detection of Breast Cancer Saves Lives***

BALTIMORE (November 18, 2009)—After carefully reviewing the recently published guidelines from the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), the American Breast Cancer Foundation (ABCF) maintains its long-standing mammography screening guidelines concurring with the American Cancer Society’s recommendation that all women begin annual mammography screenings for breast cancer at the age of 40 and perform breast self exams.

“The USPSTF’s recommendations dismiss the fact that 27 percent of the women diagnosed each year with breast cancer in the United States are under the age of 50,” said Phyllis Wolf, president of ABCF. “These taskforce changes create another barrier to surviving breast cancer. The American Breast Cancer Foundation believes that everyone deserves a fighting chance against breast cancer and our mission to remove barriers and provide direct financial assistance to early detection testing remains unchanged.”

With a referral from their health care provider, clients of ABCF’s Key to Life Breast Cancer Assistance Program receive financial grants for routine screenings beginning at the age of 40, as well as assistance for diagnostic tests, biopsies, treatment, medications and post-surgical support to aid in the survival of breast cancer, at any age.

The American Breast Cancer Foundation continues to be committed to educating women about the importance of early detection and strongly urges women of all ages to practice breast self-examinations to familiarize themselves with their breasts. After assessing a woman’s health, family history, risk factors and lifestyle, empowerment through the understanding of any changes to the breast will aid a patient and their physicians in the decisions about screenings for breast cancer.

###

***About the American Breast Cancer Foundation:***

The American Breast Cancer Foundation (ABCF) is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit committed to providing direct financial assistance to uninsured and underinsured individuals for diagnostic tests to aid in the early detection and survival of breast cancer. ABCF’s Key to Life Breast Cancer Assistance Program provides breast cancer patients with financial assistance for support items such as emergency treatment, wigs, prosthesis and medications. Critical information and referral services are provided to support patients and their families. To best serve all populations throughout the United States, Spanish speaking staff and third party translation services are available to accommodate most languages. ABCF supports research for innovative diagnostic, treatment and patient support methods through leading medical institutions.