NATIONAL BREAST CANCER COALITION PUBLIC POLICY PRIORITIES
PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE 2016

NBCC’s mission is to end breast cancer. We educate our advocates and the public on all issues that will achieve that mission and on the positions that those in office and other policy makers and leaders take on our agenda. Your answers to the questions below will be posted on the NBCC website and shared with NBCC advocates via newsletters and on NBCC social media profiles.

Breast Cancer Deadline 2020®: Knowing how to end breast cancer by the end of the decade is NBCC’s number one priority. In Congress, our legislative priority is the Accelerating the End of Breast Cancer Act, which would establish the Presidential Commission to Accelerate the End of Breast Cancer, bringing together representatives from a wide variety of disciplines, including advocates, to leverage existing resources by identifying the tools, technology and ideas resulting from this nation’s prior investments and that, through collaboration, could have a major effect on ending breast cancer and saving lives.

If elected, will you work with Congress to fulfill the mission and goals of the Commission? Please explain:

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Full funding for the Department of Defense (DOD) Breast Cancer Research Program (BCRP): As a result of NBCC’s grassroots advocacy, the DOD BCRP was created in 1992 to “eradicate breast cancer by funding innovative, high-impact research through a partnership of scientists and consumers.” The DOD BCRP is innovative not only because of the unique research that it funds, but also because the program is transparent, efficient and flexible. As recommended by the Institute of Medicine (IOM), the program is overseen by a group of distinguished scientists and advocates. Over 90% of the funds go directly to research grants, awarded only to the best projects through a competitive process. It is currently funded at $120 million for FY 2016.

If elected, will you support continuation of this program and encourage Congress to restore the DOD BCRP to level funding of $150 million? Please explain:

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Guaranteed Access to Quality Care for All: Ensuring access to quality, evidence-based health care has been a top priority of NBCC for many years and is an essential component of Breast Cancer Deadline 2020®. NBCC supports legislative efforts that improve access to quality health care for individuals with, and at risk of, breast cancer. In addition, NBCC remains committed to protecting vital existing programs, such as the Medicaid Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program (Medicaid BCCTP).

If elected, what steps will you take to ensure access to quality, evidence-based health care? How will these actions assist the 249,260 women and 2,600 men who are expected to be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer and another 61,000 women who are expected to be diagnosed with in situ breast cancer in the United States this year? Please explain:
Ensuring the Participation of Educated Patient Advocates in all Levels of Health Care Decision Making: NBCC defines educated patient advocates as: individuals who represent a patient-led, patient centered organization with a patient constituency; have been personally affected by breast cancer; and are trained, knowledgeable, and prepared to participate in the decision making process of science and medicine. NBCC continues to work to ensure that educated patient advocates with a constituency, have a “seat at the table” in all levels of health care decision making that affects their lives.

If elected, will you support continued efforts to include trained patient advocates in all federal health care decision making? Please explain:

Thank you for filling out NBCC’s Public Policy Priorities Questionnaire for Presidential Candidates. If there is anything else you would like to share about how you would help meet Breast Cancer Deadline 2020®, please include it below.

For questions, please contact us at info@breastcancerdeadline2020.org. We look forward to receiving your responses.

Please return to the National Breast Cancer Coalition (NBCC) by email (info@breastcancerdeadline2020.org) or mail (1010 Vermont Ave NW, Suite 900, Washington, D.C. 20005) by July 1, 2016. Candidates’ responses will be posted on the NBCC website and shared with NBCC advocates via newsletters and on NBCC social media profiles.