**Protect Medicaid – Urge Congress to Oppose Cuts**

**For team Leaders to send to representatives in December/January**

Dear [staff name],

The National Brest Cancer Coalition (NBCC)is grateful for your support for our mission to end breast cancer. We know that to save the lives of those diagnosed with breast cancer, we must make certain they have access to quality care. Medicaid is one of the vital programs that covers such care.

We are deeply concerned by recent reports that proposals are gaining traction, which result in drastic cuts to Medicaid funding through a budget reconciliation process early in the next Congress. Any such threats would negatively impact the health and financial security of millions of Americans, including breast cancer patients. As an advocate of the National Breast Cancer Coalition, I urge [Senator/Representative X] to oppose any cuts that would impact Medicaid coverage or eligibility.

Medicaid is the largest source of funding for medical and health-related services for people with low income in the United States, providing health insurance to 85 million low-income and disabled people as of 2022.

Medicaid has long served a crucial role in providing care for low-income women and men living with breast cancer. For example, the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program, enacted by Congress in 2000 as a result of NBCC’s advocacy, authorized enhanced matching funds to states to provide Medicaid coverage to uninsured or underinsured women diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer through a federal screening program. To date, it has provided treatment to 1 million breast cancer patients.

Any cuts to Medicaid could dismantle these and other proven routes to battling breast cancer. They would also jeopardize care for low-income communities and deepen financial instability. Any loss in individuals’ Medicaid coverage will push unmet costs to local providers and communities. Rural areas, where cancer care is already difficult, would be among the hardest hit.

I strongly urge [Senator/Representative X] to stand up against any cuts to Medicaid and preserve health care coverage for millions of Americans.