



CITY OF CHICAGO • OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



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**MAYOR LIGHTFOOT INTRODUCES RESOLUTION TO MAKE OCTOBER BREAST  
CANCER AWARENESS MONTH IN CHICAGO**

*City recognizes the three million Americans battling the life altering illness every year*

CHICAGO—Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot today introduced a resolution to honor those who are currently suffering, lost their lives or whose lives have been affected by breast cancer – naming the month of October Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Chicago.

“I commend the many women and men that have bravely battled against the extremely prevalent and deadly disease that is breast cancer,” said Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot. “I also want to offer my condolences to those that have lost their loved ones to this illness. We must continue forward in supporting each other, caring for our own health and remaining committed to finding new, more effective forms of treatment so that we may one day know a world without this disease.”

This resolution recognizes the more than 268,000 women and 2,000 men that are expected to be diagnosed with new cases of invasive breast cancer in 2019, with women being at a higher risk, especially those with a family history of the disease. Breast cancer remains the second most common form of cancer and second leading cause of death overall among American women. Approximately every two minutes, one case of breast cancer is diagnosed, and nearly one out of every eight women in the United States is diagnosed with breast cancer in her lifetime.

Breast cancer awareness month began in October of 1985 to promote mammography as the most effective test for early detection. Since then the honorary month has evolved into a collaboration of nonprofit organizations, professional medical associations and government agencies working together to promote awareness and raise money to find new, more effective forms of treatment.

Breast cancer deaths have declined 40% since 1989, likely due to early detection, better screening, increased awareness and advancement in treatment options. Breast Cancer Awareness Month has played an integral role in encouraging more



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Chicagoans to schedule screenings and treatment – ultimately leading to fewer deaths.

The pink ribbon not only serves a form of solidarity for people affected by the disease, it is now recognized as the international symbol for breast cancer awareness. In addition to the resolution, Chicago demonstrates its support through illuminating several landmark buildings throughout the city with pink lights, including lights within City Hall.

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