
Part II: Facilitator Training Manual For



**THE
WITNESS
PROJECT®**

**A Culturally Competent, Community-
Based Cancer Education Program For
African American Women**

Once your Witness Project® is underway and conducting programs, you must ensure that your new trainees have the opportunity to observe at least 3 programs before attempting to cite breast and cervical cancer facts and resources or give breast self-examination (BSE) demonstrations. You may find in both situations, considering the confidence level of your team members, that some may need to observe more than 3 programs before they are ready to present.

Your team members need to be carefully instructed about the mammography and Pap test services available in their communities and how to access these services. In Arkansas, we are field-testing using a mammogram/Pap test flip chart developed by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) that is illustrated on one side and has talking points (cues) on the presenter side. We have taken a step further to customize the talking points side (by cutting and pasting) as appropriate for Arkansas. You may want to do the same thing for your area.

WITNESS ROLE MODEL ORIENTATION

We begin WRM orientation with introductions and an icebreaker, which will communicate the value systems of the participants. We show the video to demonstrate the mission of the project and follow with a discussion of the project and special issues.

Training Your Team

Original Story	Significant Points to Listen For and Emphasize	Polished Story
<p>My name is Dorothy, from Little Rock, Arkansas. One day the phone rang and it was a doctor. She called to see how I was getting along. She really was trying to see if I was still alive, you know, after going through the hospital records, she knew that I was a breast cancer survivor. She wanted to know if she and another doctor could come out and visit with me, and I said sure. I wondered what they wanted with me, but they did come and they asked me if I would be comfortable in a witnessing program, going out and talking to other African American women about breast cancer, and I said well if it would help somebody, I'll be glad to because I didn't have anyone to turn to or to talk to that had been in my shoes or had knew what I had gone through with and was going through with. So they came out and we formed this little group of women and I was an experiment. They wanted to see how the public would take to it. So I invited them to come my church, because I felt comfortable there, and I talked to the church and they said it would be okay.</p>	<p>It's okay to talk about cancer.</p>	<p>My name is Dorothy and I am a breast cancer survivor.</p> <p>Cancer is a subject no one wants to talk about, but it's also one we need to find out about, because what you don't know can kill you.</p>
<p>I had never heard of breast cancer .</p>	<p>She was not aware of breast cancer.</p>	<p>I didn't know anyone who had breast cancer.</p>

Training Your Team

Original Story	Significant Points to Listen For and Emphasize	Polished Story
<p>...and I was going to get my regular yearly checkup and working everyday, working in a factory and I had gone to see my doctor. I went for my Pap smear and those things that women go and take, and he said to me, today we are gonna examine your breasts, and I said okay.</p>	<p>She believed that going for an annual check-up was taking care of her health, but she was not familiar with the screening process - BSE, CBE, or mammography.</p>	<p>I went to my doctor regularly to have my Pap smear and for the things that females go and take.</p>
	<p>She relied on her doctor to tell her what to do.</p>	<p>I trusted him to do what needed to be done, but the doctor never told me to have a mammogram or showed me how to do breast self-examination.</p>
<p>So he examined my right breast and he said tine, and then when he examined my left breast, he said oops, I feel a mass Well I didn't even know what he was talking about, you know, and he said I recommend you contact a surgeon, so I said doctor, we gonna be off for the Christmas holidays, this was during the week of Thanksgiving, the Friday before Thanksgiving, the next week. So he called over to radiology and got me an appointment to go and have a mammogram.</p>	<p>She did not understand the terminology the doctor used or what has to be done when a lump is found.</p>	<p>When the doctor found a lump in my left breast he wanted me to have a mammogram right away but I wanted to wait until after the Christmas holidays (this was the week of Thanksgiving).</p>