



"Breast cancer is the most common cancer in American women, except for skin cancers. Statistics show that 1 in 8 women will develop breast cancer sometime in her life. The stage at which breast cancer is detected influences survival chances," said Ronda Sunnenberg, Radiology Director. "If detected early and at a manageable stage, the five-year survival rate is around 97%."

Currently, Nemaha Valley Community Hospital uses 2D Mammography imaging to help detect cancers or other breast tissue abnormalities. This holiday season our fundraising efforts, approximately \$180,000, are focused on upgrading our mammography equipment to 3D imaging. Since early detection and diagnosis are critical with mammography exams, it is essential we offer patients the 3D state of the art technology that allows for a higher level of care, close to home.

3D Mammography, also known as Digital Breast Tomography (DBT), is an advanced technology that takes low dose images of the breast from different angles, detailing each layer of breast tissue in a 3-dimensional image. This technology is appropriate for everyone as a screening mammogram and most major insurance companies are now covering 3D Mammography.

"We want to ensure that our local communities are getting the best possible care without having to travel," said Sunnenberg. "3D imaging is the gold standard in breast imaging, allowing earlier detection of cancer." This advanced technology helps the radiologist visualize the breast tissue more accurately, supports diagnosis of cancers at an earlier stage, lessen the chance of additional pictures and callbacks, helps locate questionable areas faster and provides more details of the breast.

Projects of this magnitude are only possible with support from donors who believe in our mission of providing personalized, compassionate care while promoting wellness in the communities served. Your charitable support for our 3D Mammography campaign will ensure that your family, friends and neighbors access the best in breast cancer detection, close to home.

Sincerely,

Courtney Schmelzle  
Community Outreach Coordinator  
& Foundation Director