

GNHC WORKS TO HELP WOMEN AT RISK FOR CERVICAL CANCER

Cervical cancer was once the number one cause of cancer death among women in the United States. Now, because many women get PAP smears regularly, precancerous changes in the cervix can be detected and death rates are declining. Still, many women suffer and die from this type of cancer. The National Cancer Institute estimates that 11, 270 women will be diagnosed in this country with cervical cancer in 2009, while 4,070 will die from it.

At Good Neighbor Healthcare Center, we are working to bring those numbers down. In 2008, GNHC provided 2,615 PAP smears. All abnormal PAP smears, or incidents of dysplasia, are sent to one of our registered nurses, Jackie Parsons, who provides careful case management to make sure all patients receive follow-up care. This year alone, 145 women have been referred out by Ms. Parsons for dysplasia.