

# Press Release...



FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE LA SHAWN K. FORD

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**For More Information:**

State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford

773-378-5902

## **Ford Calls For Increased Efforts to Combat Breast Cancer**

**CHICAGO** – State Representative La Shawn K. Ford, D-Chicago, participated in a forum today with the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation and other breast cancer experts and cancer survivor state Rep. Marcus Evans. "Government and the medical community must do more to work together to develop new and more effective treatments for metastatic breast cancer," said Ford. "Metastatic breast cancer occurs when cancer spreads beyond the breast to other parts of the body, including the bones, lungs, liver and brain; and we need to increase awareness about treatments, support and coping methods available for those living with the disease and friends and family members."

Women of all colors are affected by breast cancer. In 2013, an estimated 232,000 women in the U.S. were diagnosed with breast cancer, and almost 40,000 women died of the disease. It is estimated that in Illinois, 9,230 women are expected to be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2014 and 1,610 are expected to die from it.

The forum, held at the Gleacher Center in downtown Chicago, was titled the "Metastatic Breast Cancer Conversation: Let's Talk." The event featured a conversation for survivors and medical and scientific professionals in the cities of Chicago, Boston, and Albany, New York, the state capital. Groups participating included Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation, American Cancer Society -- Cancer Action Network, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Illinois, Sisters Network Chicago Chapter, and the Metropolitan Chicago Breast Cancer Task Force.

Governor Quinn honored the work of breast cancer advocates with a proclamation from his office that calls upon "...all citizens to celebrate and commend metastatic breast cancer survivors and medical and scientific professionals working to advance the fight against breast cancer and patient advocacy organizations." October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

For more information, contact one of Ford's constituent service offices: 816 S. Oak Park Avenue in Oak Park at [708-445-3673](tel:708-445-3673), 4800 W. Chicago Avenue in Chicago at [773-378-5902](tel:773-378-5902) or in the Stratton Office Building in Springfield at [217-782-5962](tel:217-782-5962).

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