

## Mission

Scientific discoveries are dependent on new ideas and moving beyond the status quo. **Earlier.org - Friends for an Earlier Breast Cancer Test**®, a 501(c) 3 organization, is the nation's only breast cancer charity focused exclusively on supporting research for new discoveries of an innovative biological test to detect breast cancer earlier.

With technology as it exists today, the death rate from breast cancer each year is approximately 40,000 women and 460 men. In addition, the lives of well over 200,000 women are impacted by this disease. <u>This is the present</u>, <u>but it need not be the future</u>. Over the past decade, research has exploded exponentially, offering enormous opportunities for new discoveries. However, these new discoveries must be championed; they must not be forced into the background or postponed.

**Earlier.org - Friends for an Earlier Breast Cancer Test**® has as its mission, finding a new and innovative biological test to detect breast cancer far earlier than is now possible. Since most breast cancer is in the body five to eight years before it can be detected through current methods, there is a window of opportunity for a test that would offer earlier detection, thereby changing the picture of breast cancer treatment and prognosis.

## Research

In research, the most difficult, yet most critical funding to obtain, is that of seed grants. These grants provide the startup money to launch promising investigations. By having such a defined and specific mission, **Earlier.org** - **Friends for an Earlier Breast Cancer Test**® directs all available funding to this one specific and essential focus. With this targeted approach, the Medical Advisory Committee of **Earlier.org** - **Friends for an Earlier Breast Cancer Test**® carefully reviews and determines the most promising proposals submitted. Since the inception of the organization in 1995, <u>one hundred three</u> (111) projects have received funding totaling <u>nearly \$4.5 million</u>. The identification of a new test is essential and time is critical. The opportunity to save lives is ours to act upon. With a financial contribution, you will be a part of a solution.