**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Center of Hope hosts Buddy Bus for no-cost mammograms Oct. 21**

*Support available for those without insurance; pre-registration required*

**Jacksonville, Fla. (Sept. 25, 2023) –** The Center of Hope at Emmett Reed Community Center will host the Buddy Bus mobile mammography unit, operated by Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center, on Saturday, Oct. 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Buddy Bus provides convenient 3D mammograms with a comfortable waiting area, private dressing rooms, and a complete exam room staffed with registered technologists. Anyone wishing to get their annual mammogram on the Buddy Bus should make an appointment at <https://bit.ly/COHBuddyBusOct2023> or scanning the QR code by Oct. 12 to save their spot.

[A qr code on a white background

Description automatically generated](https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/e49e8691b72347e6ba64178041dd71db)

**WHEN:** Saturday, Oct. 21

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

**WHERE:**       Center of Hope

Emmett Reed Community Center

1093 W. 6th St.

Jacksonville, FL 32209

If you are uninsured and need a primary care physician, please reach out to JaxCareConnect at <https://jaxcareconnect.org/patient-questionnaire/> in Duval County or Barnabas Center in Nassau County at 904-261-7000 for your physician’s order.

For more information about this or other Center of Hope events, go to CenterofHopeFL.org or call 904-904-265-6787. For questions about the Buddy Bus, email BuddyBus@bmcjax.com.

**You are eligible for a mammogram with the Buddy Bus if:**

* You are at least 40 years old, or if you have a mother or sister who was diagnosed with breast cancer before age 40, you are within ten years of the age at which they were diagnosed.
* It has been at least one year since your last mammogram.
* You are not currently pregnant.
* You do not have existing breast health issues.
* You have seen an OB/GYN or primary care provider within the last year who is willing to accept screening results.

*(more)*

* You are able to climb the stairs into the bus and stand for 10-15 minutes without assistance. If you are unable to do this, please contact the Baptist Hill Breast Center at
* 904-202-2222, option 6, to schedule an appointment at one of their brick-and-mortar locations.

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**About the Center of Hope at Emmett Reed Community Center**

[The Center of Hope](https://www.fssjax.org/center-of-hope/) is a family–strengthening and neighborhood partnership working to enhance safety and well-being for all children and families in marginalized communities. The Center promotes positive outcomes of safety and well-being for all of children and families in our community’s most vulnerable areas, with a focus on the 32209 ZIP code, through the development and delivery of comprehensive services and supports. For more information, go to <CenterofHopeFL.org>.

**About Family Support Services (FSS) of Duval and Nassau Counties**

Family Support Services is the lead agency for family preservation, foster care, and adoption services in Duval, Nassau, Pasco and Pinellas counties. Through community-based care, FSS provides services and programs to help prevent child abuse and neglect, to promote a healthy family environment and to care for our community's children in foster care. For more information, go to [www.familysupport.org](http://www.familysupport.org/).