**Sample Letter to the Editor for grassroots:**

Dear xxx,

I am a x-year breast cancer survivor and an advocate for the National Breast Cancer Coalition (NBCC), a grassroots organization dedicated to ending breast cancer through the power of action and advocacy.

Breast cancer is STILL an epidemic. There are more than 3.1 million women and thousands of men living with breast cancer in the United States. In 2018, approximately 330,080 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed in women and 2,550 in men. An estimated 40,920 individuals will die of this disease this year. We still do not know what causes breast cancer, how to prevent it, or how to stop it from spreading and becoming lethal. As we head into mid-terms, I will only support candidates who are committed to ending this disease.

Breast cancer is not only a women’s issue, it is a political issue that remains an urgent health crisis. Every day, elected officials across the country are tasked with making decisions that affect people diagnosed with breast cancer. These decisions include determining the amount of funding and resources allocated to those diagnosed; how to prevent the disease and how to ensure accessibility of treatment and care to their constituency. Breast cancer policies being debated statewide and in the federal government can mean life or death if you or a loved one have been diagnosed with this disease.

In 2016, roughly 43% of eligible voters did not vote in the election. As an advocate of NBCC, I will be working diligently to conduct voter outreach about the importance of supporting officials who are committed to ending breast cancer. I believe that breast cancer is a political issue and governance of breast cancer policy is made by those who are elected to office. Election results are determined by those who vote.

We are all stronger when we hold elected officials accountable.