Mona Moorehead has been a patient at JFK Clinic at Mercy Hospital St. Louis, since 2016. She lost her health insurance and now receives care on a sliding scale fee basis. The JFK Clinic provides medical care for uninsured and underinsured patients.

In 2017, her providers at the JFK Clinic recommended that Mona have a screening mammogram at the Mercy Breast Center in St. Louis. Since Mona’s mother had breast cancer when Mona was a teenager, she knew she needed to get mammograms on a regular basis.

Unfortunately, Mona received a positive diagnosis of breast cancer in October 2017. She was worried about not only her health, but if she would be able to receive care without having insurance.

Upon her diagnosis, Mona worked with her nurse navigator, Jennifer Stumpf of the David C. Pratt Cancer Center, to arrange for her breast surgery treatment.

Jen helped Mona access Medicaid to cover all of her care, including her surgery and follow-up care.

After conferring with her breast surgeon, Dr. Sarah Colwick, and her oncologist, Dr. Bethany Sleckman, about her treatment options, Mona decided to have a mastectomy, even though the breast cancer was small in her breast. She didn’t want to have radiation following a lumpectomy, so she decided to have her breast removed. She also had reconstructive surgery with Dr. Brunworth, a Mercy plastic surgeon.

Since her surgery in December, Mona has been faithful in following up with her appointments with her Mercy treatment team. Mona is grateful for the care and assistance that Mercy was able to give her and happy that there was a safety net in place for those without insurance.

Pictured above: Jill Devine of Y98 and Mona Moorehead