**Delaware Cancer Consortium**

**Cancer Risk Reduction Committee**

**January 8, 2024**

**Minutes- APPROVED**

**Hybrid Meeting**



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| Members |  |
| **Members** |  |
| Participated | Deb Brown, American Lung Association |
|  | Renee Quarterman MD, Delaware Breast Care |
| Participated | Lt Governor Bethany Hall-Long Ph.D., RNC, University of Delaware |
| Participated | Nicole Pickles, Cancer Support Community Delaware |
| Participated | Janet Teixeira, Cancer Care Connection |
|  | Amanda Perdue, Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition |
|  | Yinka Isichei, American Heart Association |
|  | Wade Jones, Alternative Resolution Consulting Group |
|  | Lance Kilpatrick, American Cancer Society |
|  | Kimberly Rogers, PCP, RestoreMD LLC |
| Participated | Meredith Phillips-Woodard, Nanticoke Health Services |
| **Staff** |  |
| Participated | Helen Arthur, Delaware Division of Public Health |
| Participated | Lisa Moore, Delaware Division of Public Health |
| Participated | Lauren Butscher, Delaware Division of Public Health |
| Participated | Sarah Cattie, Delaware Division of Public Health |
| **Guests** |  |
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| Participated | Maddie Ferguson, Office of Lieutenant Governor |
| Participated | Zach Young, American Lung Association |
| Participated | Kristen Henderson, Inner City Cultural League |
| Participated | Katrina Stroud, Inner City Cultural League |

**Welcome/Review/Approval of Minutes**

**Review/Approval of Minutes**

Co-Chair Deborah Brown began the meeting around 10:00 am. All participating members voted on motion to approve the October 16, 2023 minutes as written.

**Policy Updates**

Ms. Deborah Brown, American Lung Association, ALA stated that Delaware General Assembly is returning and there are some things that she wants to make the committee aware of. The first is the American Lung Association State of Tobacco Control will be released on January 24th and that grades states based on policies that are implemented and how protective they are of public health. Stay tuned for more information on that. The Health Fund Advisory Committee met several times over the past couple of months and they have agreed to level sustained funding that was recommended for FY25. The coalition of tobacco control organizations is going to continue to advocate for the funding to remain in place, beginning with the Joint Finance Committee hearings that are taking place in February and throughout the budget process. The big focus of the Health Fund Advisory Committee was discussion around evaluations and outcomes for programs that are funded. The application was revised in the spring of 2023 and there is another expected revision in spring of 2024. The application might be due earlier allowing committee members to have a longer review period. There are a couple of different changes with the Health Fund Advisory Committee. The good news is the recommendation is level sustained funding.

Cigar tax - this is Senate Bill 84, which would lower the tax on premium cigars from 30% to 20% and that was carried over to the 2024 session and sits in the Senate Executive Committee. The coalition of tobacco control organizations is going to be focused on opposing the bill. There has been an indication that this Bill will be worked, and the coalition will need to continue our efforts to provide education around the health risk associated with cigars, and how the category of “premium” can be manipulated by the tobacco industry to include other cheaper and more accessible products. Ms. Brown stated that if there is anyone on this Risk Reduction Committee who has the opportunity to do education and provide education to legislators about the harms of cigars, she is able to provide educational materials. Delaware received the first payment from the JUUL settlement and according to the Department of Justice, the settlement funds are being directed to the Department of Justice Consumer Protection Fund. As the funds were secured, due to enforcement of the Consumer Fraud Act and under Delaware law, any funds that are secured due to the enforcement of the Consumer Fraud Act are required in almost all circumstances to go to this fund. Nationally, she indicated that there is great concern regarding the proposed rules for menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars. Health organizations such as the American Lung Association and others have been asking the Biden Administration to finalize the menthol cigarette and flavored cigar rules. The target date for releasing the rule was initially August. It was then pushed back to the end of the year. The White House is in its regulatory agenda, is setting a new target date of March 2024. Prior to the holiday, administration officials met with civil rights and public health leaders. That included the Lung Association, the Cancer Society, Heart Association, Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids in the wake of the Administration's decision to delay the ban on menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars. It was a meeting that was similar to something that had been held in November with tobacco industry lobbyists. They are obviously advocating against the proposed rules. These rules have been more than a decade in making, and would, if passed, be one of the most consequential policies from the FDA since it began regulating tobacco in 2009. We know that we would save hundreds of thousands of lives, particularly among black smokers, because 85% of black smokers use menthol. That is compared to 30% of white smokers. This legislation or these rules are extremely critical. We will continue to push the Administration on this.

**Lieutenant Governor’s Challenge Update**

Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long thanked everyone who helped with this year's Lieutenant Governor's Challenge which links directly into a great conversation that was had this morning at the Cancer Consortium Advisory Council meeting, where we talk about broad lifestyle and healthy lifestyle choices from a systems perspective. It's physical health, emotional wellbeing as well as individuals and policy, and all of the things that impact healthy lifestyles, which directly impact cancer and risk reduction. The ceremony was hosted on October 25th at Delaware State University, and they had so many awesome applicants, and everybody was a winner.

Lauren Butscher, Physical Activity Nutrition Obesity (PANO) Program Administrator, stated that the PANO program continues to partner with the office of Lieutenant Governor to support the Lieutenant Governor's challenge. This challenge is really an opportunity to recognize organizations and individuals who are making the healthy choice, the easy choice by implementing policy systems and environmental changes and interventions in their community. The goal is to recognize these organizations or individuals who are really going above and beyond to advance the goals of healthy Delaware in one of 4 different focus areas: emotional well-being, healthy living, chronic disease management and prevention, and maternal and child health. This year we received 38 nominations, and 6 of those were selected to receive an award. Next year we're very excited to do an early celebration and rerun of the award in May of 2024. The nominations are going to run for 6 weeks from February 12th to March 20th. The winners will be announced, and an award ceremony will be hosted to celebrate the winners in late May. More details will be coming out soon about nominations.

**PANO/Advancing Healthy Lifestyles Update**

Ms. Butscher stated that PANO provides support to the Department of Education to implement physical fitness assessments for Delaware students. Delaware regulations require physical fitness assessments for students in grades 4th, 7th, 9th and 10th. The Department of Education has contracted with Welnet as their vendor, who provides the Focused Fitness software as a physical education resource curriculum and fitness assessment tool to determine school assessment data for the fall. The 2023 to 2024 school year will be collected at the end of January and again at the end of the school year, where we're really going to be able to see what data was collected, and to make sure that these assessments were occurring in the schools. PANO continues to work with DOE to provide technical assistance to teachers to improve implementation, compliance and reporting of the assessment. Along these same lines, PANO continues to provide technical assistance and resources to Delaware's professional Society for Health and Physical Educators, otherwise known as SHAPE Delaware, which makes up the professional workforce for health, physical activity, and physical education teachers throughout Delaware. SHAPE Delaware hosted its annual Convention on Friday, October 13th and PANO provided technical assistance and administrative support for this event. Nearly 400 health and physical education teachers attended the event which is the most attendees that they have had at a convention to date. This proves that SHAPE Delaware is continuing to grow. PANO continues to assist SHAPE in increasing their membership and improving member engagement. The 2024 SHAPE Delaware’s Annual Convention is scheduled for October 11TH, 2024. PANO will work with them to provide support for this event as well. This year, PANO is going to expand their partnership with SHAPE DE by providing support for 10 health and physical education teachers to attend the 2024 SHAPE America National Convention. SHAPE Delaware will require that the teachers who attend the SHAPE America National Convention are going to lead a session at the 2024 SHAPE Delaware Convention to share the knowledge that they acquire nationally with Delaware teachers locally.

Since 2021, the PANO program has concentrated its efforts on the Advancing Healthy Lifestyles, chronic disease, health equity and COVID-19 initiative. As a part of this initiative the PANO program has launched an Advancing Healthy Lifestyles Coalition. The vision of the coalition is to uplift the well-being of all Delawareans and break down barriers to achieve healthy lifestyles, and the mission is to bring together coalitions and partners to focus on healthy lifestyles and equity through a PANO lens to leverage and expand resources in the community. The coalition is continuing to expand, and currently has 42 active members from public and private sectors across the state. A quarterly meeting for the coalition was held on December 12th, at Delaware State University. The Executive Director of the Mental Health Association in Delaware, Emily Vera, presented on the relationship between physical and mental health and the importance of living a healthy lifestyle to improve mental health. Oryx Cohen, President and CEO of the National Empowerment Center presented on emotional connecting, empowering, revitalization also known as ECPR, which is a community education and training program designed to provide community members with skills to support someone experiencing mental health challenges. The chairs of the Coalition’s six different committees also reported out on updates and next steps for the committee. The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for March 12th, 2024, at Delaware State University. Ms. Butscher let the committee know that if they know anyone or themselves is interested in joining the coalition to reach out to her for more information on how to become a member.

PANO is hosting the second annual advancing Healthy Lifestyles Conference this year, and planning is already underway. The theme of the Conference is engaging communities to live healthy lifestyles. The event is on June 6th, 2024, from 8 am to 4 pm at Delaware State University, in the Martin Luther King Jr. Conference Center. The conference will be a similar agenda to last year, with 3 concurrent breakout sessions discussion panels, a keynote speaker, and an engaging afternoon panel. While the agenda is still being finalized, the discussions will be around building trust in communities, improving mental and emotional wellness, changing mindsets, and overcoming barriers and unsupportive systems and environments to engage in healthy lifestyles. The keynote speaker will be Jackie Joiner-Kersee, 6-time Olympic medalist. She will talk about her experience as a professional athlete with severe asthma. The save the date is scheduled to be sent out and registration will open on January 16th. More information about the conference will be posted on the Advancing Healthy Lifestyles website on the Healthy Delaware platform.

PANO continues to work with Mathematica as the main contractor and subcontractor Concept Systems Inc to facilitate the objectives of the Advanced Healthy Lifestyle initiative. The Advancing Healthy Lifestyle goals are to reduce adult and childhood obesity along with other chronic conditions to achieve long term health equity in 3 settings, schools, communities, and workplaces. During the fourth year of the initiative, the focus is on Triple Play in schools and the activities in community-based settings. PANO continues to implement Triple Play in partnership with the Boys and Girls Clubs school-based sites to address healthy lifestyles, skills, attitudes, knowledge, and behavior in youth. We've completed the fall series for Triple Play in 9 after school programs, 3 in New Castle County, 4 in Kent County, and 2 in Sussex County, and programming will continue in the spring and summer of 2024. PANO also continues to work with 4 primary partners on community-based policy systems and environmental change initiatives. The first progress reports were due from primary partners in November.

The American Lung Association has completed 3 cohorts of facilitator training in their Kickin’ Asthma and Open Airways for Schools programs, and they continue to work with local schools to provide asthma management, education, and resources. The University of Delaware continues to work with 2 retail sites in Harrington and Farmington, which provides fresh local produce to community residents. The program provided produce for 14 weeks from May to October during the growing season. The Delaware State University adapted Physical Activity program partners with the Charlton School and Charlton alumni to increase access to physical activity and nutrition programming for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Thirty-five students from the Charlton School participated in the fall semester programming, and that is going to continue again in the spring semester. Finally, the Delaware State University summer camp program offered 4 weeks of summer camp, free of charge for children in the capital park neighborhood and surrounding communities to increase access to physical activity and nutrition programming. Some of the activities included the use of garden tables, activity maps, and rotations among food and physical activity stations.

The last piece of our community setting work is the Mini Grants. In the second year of our Mini Grant program, PANO awarded mini grants to 7 organizations implementing programming related to advancing healthy lifestyles. Each organization is implementing PSE activities and increasing access to programs and education related to physical activity, nutrition, and obesity prevention. Programming began in October and will continue through May of 2024. We have one of our Mini Grant recipients on today who's going to share a little bit more about their programming.

**State of Lung Cancer Report 2023**

Ms. Brown (ALA) stated that we all know the impact policies can have on individuals who live, work and enjoy our state here in Delaware. And so Today we would like to present some information on the American Lung Association, 6th annual State of Lung Cancer Report. It highlights how the toll of lung cancer varies by state, and it examines some key indicators throughout the U.S. including new cases, survival early diagnosis, surgical treatment, lack of treatment and screening rates. The report also looks at lung cancer burden among racial and ethnic groups at the national and state levels. Zach Young, Senior Director of Epidemiology and Statistics for the Nationwide American Lung Association, presented the report.

See Report

**Mini Grant Presentation**

Kristen Henderson gave a mini grant presentation. The Inner City Cultural League received a tobacco prevention mini grant as well as a PANO mini grant. The League runs prevention programs year-round, including, particularly for tobacco, weekly youth-centered prevention classes, adult information prevention seminars, and they participate in national tobacco control days.

Katrina Stroud gave a brief background of the organization. The Inner City Cultural League started in the 1970s. It was started by then Ruben Salter, Dover City Councilman, who got together with some other Councilmen and some business people in the area. They were concerned about the lack of activities or things to do for the youth in the community. They started a Youth Athletic League, and that went on for a few years. During that time, they also had a prevention program developed in house with the other local community organizations and with the support of the State. But later on, as they started growing and including more and more of the community in the programming, they were able to get the word out about the programming. They started getting funding and support from the State of Delaware and donations. In the 1990s, this organization's been around for a little while, in the 1990s, they changed to a cultural arts program. The programming stayed the same. It was to have activities for youth, positive activities, positive environments, help them learn to make good decisions, and also be involved in things such as music or dance. There also are annual cultural programs that are hosted by the Inner City Cultural League. Some of those include the Martin Luther King Junior program, which is coming up on the 15th. This is the 38th year they will be at Delaware State University collaborating with them. It is open to the community. Ms. Stroud stated that one of the things they have done and hope they are doing better is to expand their health and wellness programming. In the beginning it started off sort of small. They had an afterschool program that would make sure the youth got outside every day and did activities, participated in soccer and things like that. She stated that they started getting smarter when the pandemic came, and the doors were closed. They were not allowed to have anyone inside their facility and started going outside of the facility to do things. They were still able to do some of the larger things. One of them is the African American Festival. That is an outside event. They started using their programming at those kinds of events. Delaware State University and Global Ubuntu Impact Foundation are two of the partners. That is a nonprofit organization started by Miss Gifty Boateng. She is a nurse at Bayhealth, who is also one of our partners. She was supposed to attend today’s meeting but, however, she is in Ghana right now, because, as the name of her organization says, it is global. They do health and wellness and healthy food and things like that, not only in the United States and in Delaware, but also throughout the world, and especially in her homeland in Ghana, which is in West Africa.

Lisa Moore, Division Public Health, DPH stated that they just got approved for some vaping videos that were made through Aloysius Butler & Clark, AB&C. The theme is person on the street interviewing with some kids at the Boys and Girls Club in Milford.

See Report

**Sharing Time**

Janet Teixeira, Cancer Care Connection let the committee know that they are participating in the CDC funded project through the State. It is called the Survivorship Diverse Mental Health Initiative and survivors can get 6 free sessions of counseling under this initiative, and it can range from pragmatic needs up to therapeutic needs. Ms. Teixeira also made the committee aware that they are in the process of kind of putting materials together and starting the recruiting process. Ms. Teixeira will share more details when those are created. She asked if anyone would like more information to please call her directly.

Nicole Pickles, Cancer Support Community Delaware, stated they just put together their numbers for 2023. Delaware is very pleased with how many people they have reached. They served over 6,500 people, cancer patients, caregivers and loved ones. In Delaware in 2023, they provided over 14,000 visits and provided over 2,900 hours of service. This is virtual and in person. It started back in person about a year ago in all three offices, in all three counties, New Castle, Kent and Sussex. They saw the need for a lung cancer support group in 2023 and added that for cancer patients and the participants. It has been very successful. Ms. Pickles stated that they have a lot of people who reached out and are coming in person and online. They are calling the hybrid programming the fresh face of programming for Cancer Support Community Delaware. They will continue offering virtual groups because they have reached into many communities throughout the State that they have never been able to serve before. They went over budget with fundraising.

Ms. Helen Arthur stated that was asked to be a co-editor on the Delaware Journal of Public Health, and that's going to be coming up. Submissions will be required by February 23rd. The administration that runs the Delaware Journal of Public Health will be making a mass outreach to all partners throughout the State. The topic will be on chronic disease and the authors do not necessarily need to come from the state, they can come from partners as well. She let the committee know that if they have topics that are focused on chronic disease and believe are something that the committee really need to share to let her know. There are going to be certain requirements. Ms. Arthur stated that she can share all the information that's required for publication in the Journal of Public Health. She asked the committee to please reach out and let her know. Internally, they are working on a few things and there are some barriers they have to achieve, so they have already started. It was stressed to Ms. Arthur that the authors can come from their partners as well. There will be a future article on cancer. She stated that if the committee has chronic disease related topics that are focused on cancer now, that's okay, or healthy lifestyles or obesity or smoking. Now is the time that you can get some of these publications in. They're usually looking for anywhere between 8 to 12 articles. She also let the committee know if anyone is interested, to please reach out and let her know.

Lieutenant Governor Hall-Long told the committee to mark their calendars for April 9th in-person at Bally's for the retreat. Also, for Monday, July 8th and Monday, October 14th for the rest of the 2024 meetings.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Adjournment**

**Attachments**

[State of Lung Cancer Report 2023](https://www.lung.org/getmedia/186786b6-18c3-46a9-a7e7-810f3ce4deda/SOLC-2023-Print-Report.pdf)

Meeting documentation is available on the DCC website (www.healthydelaware.org) or by contacting Elaine Goodman (Elaine.Goodman@delaware.gov or 302-744-1010).

**Future Meeting (s)**

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| Next Meeting:  Tuesday, April 9, 2024 – IN-PERSON RETREAT | 2024 Meetings:  Monday, July 8, 2024 – Hybrid  Monday, October 14, 2024 – Hybrid |