**Delaware Cancer Consortium**

**Cancer Risk Reduction Committee**

**April 3, 2023**

**Minutes- APPROVED**

**Hybrid Meeting**



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| **Members** |  |
| Participated | Deb Brown, American Lung Association |
| Did Not Participate | Renee Quarterman MD, Delaware Breast Care |
| Did Not Participate | Terri Clifton, Nanticoke Health Services |
| Participated | Lt Governor Bethany Hall-Long Ph.D., RNC, University of Delaware |
| Participated | Nicole Pickles, Cancer Support Community Delaware |
| Did Not Participate | Janet Teixeira, Cancer Care Connection |
| Participated | Amanda Perdue, Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition |
| Participated | Yinka Isichei, American Heart Association |
| Participated | Wade Jones, Alternative Resolution Consulting Group |
| **Staff** |  |
| Participated | Lisa Moore, Delaware Division of Public Health |
| Participated | Shebra Hall, Delaware Division of Public Health |
| Participated | Maxwell Amoako, Division of Public Health |
| **Guests** |  |
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| Participated | Rachel Kogan, Mathematica |
| Participated | Jo Wardell, RVO Health (formerly Optum), Delaware Quitline |
| Participated | Christinetta Dixon, Division of Public Health |
| Participated | Ayesha Bailey, Delaware Quitline |
| Participated | Heather Mackson, Delaware Quitline |
| Participated | Taylor Wright, AB&C |
| Participated | Scott Rosen, Concept Systems |  |

Participated Paola Arredondo, Lt. Governor Intern

Participated Penny Dryden, Community Housing and Empowerment Connections

**Welcome/Review/Approval of Minutes**

**Review/Approval of Minutes**

Co-Chair Lt. Bethany Hall-Long began the meeting around 10:00 am. All participating members voted on motion to approve January 9, 2023 minutes as written.

**Policy Updates**

Deb Brown, American Lung Association (ALA) stated that the Tobacco Control Program funding is in the Governor's recommended budget at the Delaware Health Fund Advisory recommended amount which is level compared with last year. House Bill 1 and House Bill 2, which are the Marijuana Legalization Bills are headed to the Governor's office for action. The American Lung Association confirmed that the Bills at this time do not undermine the Clean Indoor Air Act. ALA will continue to monitor it. They also want to make sure that all facilities remain smoke free. Ms. Brown reported that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has been taking action on applications to be able to keep tobacco products on the shelves. Unfortunately, the FDA did grant a modified risk tobacco product claim for US Smokeless Tobacco for Copenhagen Snuff. The claim is that if you smoke, consider switching completely to their product because it reduces the risk of lung cancer. The company will have to do post-market survey to see how things are going. There were also two rejections of menthol e-cigarettes. FDA has now issued rejections for every menthol e-cigarette application on which it has acted.

Ms. Brown reported that on March 30, 2023, a judge in Texas ruled on Braidwood versus Bakara, and it's important for cessation and potentially on cancer screening. It was a lawsuit that challenged the requirement of the Affordable Care Act that most health plans must cover preventative services at no cost. Ms. Brown stated that it was based on the Religious Freedom Restoration Act that was requiring health plans to cover a medication that significantly reduced a person's chances of getting HIV, but it really did take in all preventative services. Some services like breast, cervical, colon, and a few other tests were provided before 2010 and most likely still be covered 100%. Other services, such as lung cancer screening and potentially some cessation services like Chantix may become cost sharing. Right now, the stay may be issued but something to monitor. The ALA was a party to an amicus filing earlier and will most likely be appealing in an amicus filing as well.

Lt. Governor Hall-Long let the committee know that they are in legislative session and have one more week before Easter break where she presides in the Senate. She also stated that the Committee voices really matter. The positive work that has been done over the past two decades really has come from a lot of the Committee’s advocacy. Conversations, emails, phone calls, interactions with State elected officials, and our federal officials really does matter.

**Lieutenant Governor’s Challenge**

The Lieutenant Governor's Challenge has been an incredible opportunity for schools, workplaces, communities, and individuals to promote both emotional and physical well-being. Thanks to all of you, on the committee, as well as Aloysius Butler & Clark (AB&C) and others working in collaboration with the team.  Lt. Governor Hall-Long stated that they had a fantastic in person recognition event last year for the Leadership Award winners.  There were over 50 applications last year. Nominations for this year opened on Thursday, March 30th, 2023. Deadline to submit applications will be May 12th, 2023.  Lt. Governor Hall-Long thanked the team at DPH for doing an incredible amount of work with the Lieutenant’s office.

Shebra Hall, Physical Activity, Nutrition, and Obesity Prevention Program (PANO) gave an overview of the Challenge.  She stated the PANO program will continue to work with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor for the Lieutenant Governor's Challenge.  It is an opportunity to recognize organizations, workplaces, schools, and individuals who are making the healthy choice the easy choice by implementing policy system and environmental interventions in their communities. A continued effort will be made to promote the challenge and make sure people understand what kinds of nominations are being looked for.  There are four areas of focus, which are emotional well-being, healthy living, chronic disease management and prevention, and mother and child health. Updates have been made to the website to make sure all this important language is there, highlighting examples of the past winners. There is also a hall of fame of the last few years of winners that were recognized. Ms. Hall stated that they are looking for specific criteria in nominations, those that demonstrate sustainability, reach, impact, and outcomes.  Ms. Hall asked the committee if they know organizations, communities, schools, or individuals that are doing this kind of work across the State, to nominate them for the Lieutenant Governor's Challenge.

**PANO Update**

Shebra Hall, PANO stated that they provide an update on Advancing Healthy Lifestyles: Chronic Disease, Health Equity and COVID-19, and initiative of PANO at the Cancer Risk Reduction Committee meetings.  The DCC has been great supporters of this work since it was launched in 2021.

PANO is going to host it’s first annual Advancing Healthy Lifestyles Conference this year. The theme of the conference is *Improving health through equity*.  The event is going to be on May 18th, 2023 at Delaware State University, in the Martin Luther King Junior Conference Center, from 8 am to 4 pm; 8 am until 9 am will be registration and a continental breakfast.  DHSS Secretary Magarik will provide a brief welcome, and your Committee co-chair Lt. Governor Hall-Long will deliver opening remarks. There will be three concurrent breakout session discussion panels. Ms. Hall shared the session titles: *Addressing Systemic Bias in Health Care; Improving Health Through Community Collaborations;* and *The Trauma of Racism and Health Disparities.* There will be an opening plenary with our Region Three Director from U.S. Health and Human Services, and other regional and national organizations.  The keynote Luncheon speaker is Olympian and business owner Dominique Dawes.  Ms. Dawes was a co-chair of the President's Council on Sports, Fitness and Nutrition under President Obama’s administration.  After the keynote, there will be interactive peer to peer round table discussions and then closing remarks again by DHSS Secretary Magarik.  There will be a networking reception at the end of the conference with refreshments. Ms. Hall stated that PANO just sent out a “save the date” and if the Committee did not receive it, to please reach out to her.  They can also visit the Advancing Healthy Lifestyles website on the Healthy Delaware platform. Registration for the Advancing Healthy Lifestyles Conference is now open.

**Advancing Healthy Lifestyles Update**

Rachel Kogan from Mathematica and Scott Rosas from Concept Systems Inc. provided a brief update and highlights from the work during the last a quarter of the Advancing Healthy Lifestyle initiative work.

See Presentation

**Air Quality**

Deb Brown, ALA discussed how it is important for the Committee to remember why air quality is so important and the role that it plays. We have had decades of progress in cleaning up air pollution but more than 40% of Americans still live in places with failing grades for unhealthy air that affects us in many ways. Air pollution threatens our health at every stage of life, from a respiratory aspect we have lung cancer, shortness of breath, asthma attacks, worsening COPD and other health issues such as heart attacks and stroke, lower birth weights, preterm birth and premature death. There also are some real specific groups that are much more vulnerable to illness and death because of poor air quality which includes people of color, people experiencing poverty, children into older adults and people with underlying health conditions such as heart disease, lung cancer, COPD, asthma, etc.

Ms. Brown introduced Penny Dryden who is the Executive Director of the Community Housing and Empowerment Connections. Ms. Dryden was recently awarded, an EPA Grant to engage community residents in the development of an air monitoring network that achieves community priorities while supporting research, public policy and improved outcomes in New Castle County. Ms. Dryden presented the highlights of the project which included the goals (including education and improved health outcomes) communities of implementation (including Southbridge), the equipment used, and partners involved.

See Presentation

Ms. Brown reiterated that this type of work also fits with our committee because we are encouraging healthy lifestyles as well- the communities need good air quality to walk, exercise outside etc. (in addition to safety and all the other concerns).

**Sharing Time**

Deb Brown, ALA let the committee know the American Lung Association State of the Air Report comes out April 19th, 2023. Delaware will be listed. Cancer, specifically, lung cancer is a concern. Kent County has improved since last year. Delaware gets lumped into the metropolitan area of the Philadelphia, Wilmington, New Jersey type area, which affects the ranking. Ms. Brown also stated that generally there is still work to do here in Delaware.

Jo Wardell, Quitline introduced two staff members that have joined her team with the Quitline Heather Mackson and Ayesha Bailey. They are the provider and community outreach faculty. They will be out in the community a lot more while Ms. Wardell manages the Quitline program.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Adjournment**

**Attachments**

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:  Monday, July 10, 2023 – Virtual | 2023 Meetings:    October 16, 2023 - Virtual |