



**Delaware Cancer Consortium
Advisory Council
July 12, 2021
APPROVED - Minutes
VIRTUAL MEETING**

Members

Participated	Katy Connolly – Chair
Participated	Heather Bittner-Fagan – Christiana Care Health System
Participated	Ruth Briggs-King – Delaware House of Representatives
Participated	Deborah Brown, CHES – American Lung Association
Participated	Joe Bryant – Governor’s Office
Participated	Stephen Grubbs, MD – American Society of Clinical Oncologists
Participated	Bethany Hall-Long, RNC, PhD – University of Delaware/Delaware Lt. Governor
Participated	Kendra Johnson – Delaware House of Representatives
Participated	Ernesto Lopez – Delaware Senate
Did not participate	Meg Maley, RN, BSN – Welldoc, Inc.
Participated	Nicholas Petrelli, MD – Christiana Care - Helen F. Graham Cancer Center
Participated	Marie Pinkney – Delaware Senate
Did not participate	Tim Ratsep – Delaware of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
Did not participate	Karyl Rattay, MD, MS, FAAP – Delaware Department of Health and Social Services – Division of Public Health
Participated	Rishi Sawhney, MD – Bayhealth Medical Center
Participated	James Spellman, MD, FACS, FSSO – Beebe Healthcare - Tunnell Cancer Center

Staff

Participated	Michele Corkell – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Lisa Moore – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Helen Arthur – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Cassandra Codes-Johnson – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Rosemary Doughten – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Melissa Keiper – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Christina Gardner – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Sierra Martinez – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Bill Leitzinger – Delaware Division of Public Health

Guests

Participated	Krisy McMahon – AB&C Creative Agency
Participated	Nora Katurakes – Christiana Care

Welcome/Review/Approval of minutes

Review/Approval of Minutes

Chair, Ms. Katy Connolly began the virtual meeting at 8:30 am. Dr. Nick Petrelli motioned to approve the April 12, 2021 meeting minutes and Dr. Steve Grubbs seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as written

Delaware Cancer Treatment Program (DCTP) Spending Update

Ms. Michele Corkell, Comprehensive Cancer Control Program Manager, provided an update on the number of people participating in the Delaware Cancer Treatment (DCTP). From the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 a total of 96 individuals participated in the DCTP. The program received 34 applications in 2021 with 11 being financial hardship waivers. Currently there are 56 clients

enrolled with 35 of them coming under the financial hardship waiver. About 80% of the population approved for financial hardship waiver are Medicare clients. As per the budget, \$3.5 mm has been allocated for the DCTP which includes a \$200,000 cost for the administration of claims by the Division of Medicaid and Medical Assistance (DMMA). This is transferred each year by a memorandum of understanding. Total spending to date is \$1,808,539.63 for claims which equates out to about \$34,123/week average. Payment of claims is set up on a purchase order of \$2.5 mm. Tier 2 proposals for \$600,000 that were presented at the April 12, 2021 DCC AC meeting have been implemented and include: promotion of the Self-Management Programs and graphic messages seen in provider offices and Division of Motor Vehicle offices promoting cancer screenings. Dr. Grubbs commented that given the cost of the projects and the population of Delaware, it equates out to about \$2.25/Delaware citizen to have universal health care and that is a bargain.

Fiscal Year 2022 Budget

Ms. Michele Corkell, Comprehensive Cancer Control Program Manager advised that HB250 was approved with no changes to the budget of \$9,290,100 that was presented at the last meeting. That budget will stand.

Healthy Homes Presentation – Bill Leitzinger (Office of Healthy Environments)

Mr. Bill Leitzinger from the Office of Healthy Environments provided a presentation on how the Healthy Homes Program uses funds received from the Delaware Cancer Consortium. The program was created in 2006 with a media campaign and over the years has grown to offer services to Delawareans to reduce indoor health concerns and hazards. Many indoor health hazards effect children more than adults. Residents of substandard housing are at increased risk for exposure to lead, carbon dioxide, dust mites, rats, pesticide residues, tobacco smoke, radon, and mold. Health problems related to housing conditions include asthma, allergies, brain damage, behavior and learning problems, lung cancer, injuries, and poisonings. Funding supports the fight against cancer causing toxins. Office of Healthy Environments Program activities include multi-media campaigns (print, radio, Internet), internal and external partnerships expanded, phone assessments conducted statewide to reduce health and safety hazards and also education and outreach. The website for the program is: DelawareHealthyHomes.org.

COVID 19 Cancer Screening Campaign Presentation

Aloysius Butler & Clark (AB&C) Account Supervisor, Krissy McMahon, presented the COVID-19 cancer screening campaign that is being launched later this month that brings three hospital systems and Division of Public Health (DPH) together for a uniform outreach approach to increase cancer screenings. The goal of the campaign is to communicate the importance of scheduling cancer screenings and safely resuming care now that the vaccine is available, and the pandemic has begun to subside. The campaign will run for approximately two and one-half months and include print ads (newspapers), radio spots, digital (Facebook, Instagram, Spotify). Fact sheets have been created in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole reminding the importance of cancer screenings. It is a broad message and does not target any specific cancer. The message is that early cancer detection is important and can save lives. The fact sheets contain phone numbers to Christiana Care, Bayhealth and Beebe Healthcare. Dr. Petrelli commended DPH staff member, Sierra Martinez, for her advocacy in bringing all the different hospital representatives together for this important screening campaign. Dr. Rishi Sawhney commented that the screening age for colon cancer on the fact sheets is 50 years of age but now the recommended age is 45. Dr. Steve Grubbs agreed and also mentioned Cologuard test should be added. Dr. Grubbs stated that he is giving a presentation this afternoon to Astra Zeneca and he asked to use several of the slides on the campaign. He continued saying our state is often used as a model in cancer screening/treatment programs and is known as the "Delaware Program".

Advancing Healthy Lifestyles – based on CRRC goals and HLSC report

Ms. Helen Arthur, Health Promotion & Disease Prevention (HPDP) Section Chief, provided an update on the Advancing Healthy Lifestyles (AHL) work. To recap: Healthy Lifestyles (HLSC) is a subcommittee of the Cancer Risk Reduction Committee. Major focus areas for the AHL initiative are coordinated school health and wellness, community capacity building and worksite employee wellness. There has been a lot of activity underway in the state from the vendors (Mathematica and Concept Systems) overseeing the program. Highlights of work that has been done includes:

- Surveys asking for recommendations regarding the 14 policy recommendations that were established.
- Three World Cafes were conducted, and intense conversations took place about the subcommittee recommendations and how they support the action plan.
- The first AHL Learning Series were held, usually at lunchtime, as a platform for learning about topics related to Healthy Lifestyles.
- Webinars with schools and several meetings with Department of Education have been held. Because schools are facing a variety of challenges as they prepare to go back to in-person learning, we revised the plan of action to create healthy school action teams at the county level and include youth organizations such as Boys & Girls Club, after school organizations and YMCA.
- In the community capacity area we are working with American Lung Association, University of Delaware, and Delaware State University to develop action plans to use the theory of change model to come up with activities they would like to see implemented.
- In the Workplace Wellness area we have been working with State Benefits Office (SBO) to develop a statewide policy that is acceptable to all state executive branches. This will lead to an online toolkit where information on best practices and evidence-based practices could be accessed.

Sharing Time

Michele Corkell advised that the Delaware Cancer Consortium Committees will begin work on the next 5-year plan and the drafts will be presented at the October meetings. The new 5-year plan will be the “Teal” book.

Ms. Sumitha Nagarajan, Epidemiologist for the Bureau of Chronic Disease, advised there will be changes with the Incidence & Mortality (I&M) Report. Next year there will not be a secondary analysis report because some issues were found with how the report is being analyzed. However there will be a compendium. Helen Arthur advised that we must maintain the methodology to make sure it is written within Delaware regulations and is HIPPA compliant. The I & M Report will be an agenda item at the October meeting with a presentation by vendor Westat, who works with many other states on their I & M Reports.

Ms. Corkell informed the group that Representative Briggs-King received an email from a gentleman, that is not a Delaware resident, who went through prostate cancer treatment. His concern was the Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (WHCRA) guarantees by law, no woman can be denied corrective surgery by her insurance company following her battle with breast cancer. As a male who has undergone surgery for prostate cancer, he does not have similar protections. All forms of therapy for dysfunction resulting from nerve damage were not at his disposal. He is reaching out to inform of the imbalance of treatment options and bring this to light. In researching this issue, Ms. Corkell found when all other options have failed and there is a clear medical indication

that the condition will not resolve naturally, implants can provide a solution. Medicare insurance may help cover the costs of surgery. Because Medicare sets the standards for healthcare coverage in the U.S. some private insurers follow suit and provide insurance coverage for implants. However, many insurers do not provide coverage, or they assess co-pay fees that are cost-prohibitive leaving their subscribers with uncertainty about how to pay for the most effective treatment for prostate nerve damage. Representative Briggs-King has met with Lt. Governor Hall-Long and others and finds potential in the CURES Act. The CURES Act was signed into law on December 13, 2016 and is designed to help accelerate medical product development and bring new innovations and advances to patients who need them faster and more efficiently.

An opinion article that appeared in Delawareonline.com was circulated last week regarding a multi-screening blood test. Dr. Petrelli stated that this is not new as research is constantly being done. He continued by saying the diagnostic sensitivity of these DNA analysis remain a challenge. The mortality benefit from the screening remains to be established so there is still a lot of research to be done. Dr. Grubbs added that data must be looked at and analyzed and does the test actually change the outcome of the disease. He continued saying to his understanding the legislation is not asking for the test to be approved, it is asking to fast track it once the evidence becomes available. Dr. Rishi Sawhney stated there could be very different subjective interpretations of the data and what may be impactful to some may not be to others. Dr. Sawhney suggested as a scientific community to wait for the science before taking any action.

A reminder was given regarding the Tobacco Policy Presentation at 11:30 by Dr. Phillip Gardiner from the African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council on the history and health effects of menthol cigarettes and other flavored tobacco in Black communities across the country.

Public Comment

No items were discussed.

Adjournment

Chair Connolly thanked everyone for being available for the call. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am.

Attachments



DDPHC-1-CSED
33409 COVID-19 Car



DCC FY22 GRB
Budget.xlsx



HH Update to DCC
Advisory Board BL V



Mathematica CSI
AHL update to CRRC

Meeting documentation is available on the DCC website (www.healthydelaware.org) or by contacting Rosemary Doughten (Rosemary.Doughten@delaware.gov or 302-744-1000).

Future Meeting (s)

Next Meeting: Monday, October 11, 2021 - TBD	2021 meetings: TBD
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