



Delaware Cancer Consortium
Early Detection & Prevention Committee
October 14, 2024
Approved - Minutes
Hybrid Meeting
Thomas Collins Building, Dover, DE

Members

Participated	Heather Bittner-Fagan, MD, MPH – ChristianaCare
Participated	Allison Gil - American Cancer Society
Participated	Rebekah Glick – Susan G. Komen
Participated	Stephen Grubbs, MD – American Society of Clinical Oncology
Participated	Susan Kelly, MD – ChristianaCare
Participated	Sue Murray - DE Breast Cancer Coalition
Participated	Pam Schauer – American Cancer Society
Participated	Rita Williams – Beebe Healthcare
Participated	Judy Giddens, LPN – Cancer Screening Nurse Navigator - Bay health
Participated	Robyn Biehn, BSN, RN, OCN, Nurse Navigator, ChristianaCare
Did not participate	Emanie Dorival – Ephphatha Medical Care
Did not participate	Tiffany Edwards, DMP, APRN, FNP-BC – Sussex County Health Coalition
Did not participate	Stacy Giles, MBA – Tidal Health
Did not participate	Danny Hamm, Jr. – Helen F. Graham Cancer Center
Did not participate	Nora Katurakes, RN, MSN, OCN – ChristianaCare
Did not participate	Stephanie McClellan, MSN, RN, CMSRN – Bayhealth Medical Center
Did not participate	Lauren Moore - Tidal Health, Nanticoke
Did not participate	Carolee Polek, RN, MSN, PhD – DE Diamond Chapter of Oncology Nursing
Did not participate	Albert Rizzo, MD, FACP, FCCP – American Lung Association
Did not participate	Robert Sikes, PhD. – University of Delaware
Did not participate	Sarah Toborowski – Quality Insights
Did not participate	Crystal Wright – Henrietta Johnson Medical Center
Did not participate	Michael Zaragoza, MD, FACS – Delaware Prostate Cancer Coalition
Did not participate	Holly Reynolds, BSN, RN –Nurse Navigator, ChristianaCare
Did not participate	Adriana Viveros-Sosa- Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition
Did not participate	Vikas Batra, MD, FACP, FC -- Sussex Pulmonary & Endocrine Consultants, PA

Staff

Participated	Paulette Robinson-Wilkerson – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Sharon Richey – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Helen Arthur - Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Christinette Dixon – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Lyra Gibbs-Lloyd – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Nikita Clark – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Stephen Cassese – Delaware Division of Public Health
Participated	Sumitha Nagarajan – Delaware Division of Public Health
Did not participate	Dawn Hollinger – Delaware Division of Public Health
Did not participate	Jade Nagyiski - Delaware Division of Public Health
Did not participate	Stephanie Belinske - Delaware Division of Public Health

Public/Guests

Participated

Connie Holdridge – Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition

Welcome/Review/Approval of Minutes

Welcome/Review/Approval of Minutes

Dr. Heather Bittner-Fagan, Chair, began the meeting at 10:00 am and welcomed all attendees. A motion was made to approve the July 2024 meeting minutes by Dr. Bittner-Fagan. Sue Murray, DBCC made the motion to approve the minutes. A vote was taken, and the July 2024 minutes were approved as written.

Delaware Breast Cancer Survivorship DBCC

Connie Holdridge, the Director of Survivorship for the Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition (DBCC), shared her personal experience as a three-time survivor and her motivation to help others with breast cancer. The coalition's mission is to raise awareness, increase access to care, and facilitate early detection and treatment of breast cancer. They reach out to patients through screening navigation, and tabling events in the community. DBCC distributes "Pink Folders," a free toolkit of resources provided to those newly diagnosed with breast cancer in Delaware. The Pink Folders are provided to hospitals, imaging centers, surgery centers, cancer centers and physicians at no cost to share with their patients diagnosed with breast cancer. The folders include a variety of resources including information and resources relative to the needs of someone who is recently diagnosed with breast cancer.

Ms. Holdridge discussed the organization's various survivorship programs, including a peer mentoring program for newly diagnosed breast cancer patients. Ms. Holdridge discussed the Breast Care Assistance Fund, which provides financial assistance with mortgage or car payments, or utility bills to individuals in active treatment. Ms. Holdridge also mentioned the Young Survivors in Action Group, managed by Stephanie Cumella, which focuses on young survivors and their children. The Bosom Buddy program offers bras, prosthetics, wigs, and hats to those in breast cancer treatment. These items are donated from overstock stores or from the public. My Sister's Keeper is a support group for women of color, while Viva La Vida is a support group focused on Spanish-speaking women. Both groups aim to alleviate stress and provide emotional support to those affected by breast cancer.

Yes2Health is a free ten-week community outreach program designed to help individuals improve their health. The program focuses on nutrition, teaching people how to read food labels and reduce their salt intake. DBCC's signature survivor program is the Peer Mentor Support for Breast Cancer. This program provides breast cancer survivors free one-on-one support and education. DBCC Peer Mentors are trained breast cancer survivors who reach out to help and support others with breast cancer. DBCC has a large network of survivors, some of whom speak different languages, as well as young breast cancer survivors who are eager to help other young women who are diagnosed with breast cancer. Each survivor is paired with DBCC's team members based on their diagnosis, and their treatment schedule.

Ms. Holdridge discussed DBCC's efforts, specifically for black women. DBCC provides information about Triple Negative Breast Cancer to include addressing risk factors and providing information about genetic counseling. Ms. Holdridge acknowledged the challenges faced by uninsured or underinsured women, including language barriers and transportation issues. To mitigate barriers their clients may encounter DBCC partners with local imaging facilities to complete mammograms for their clients and DBCC provides patient interpretation in Spanish

and Haitian Creole. Dr. Bittner-Fagan said this is also an opportunity to get the message out and encourage people with breast cancer, then your sisters, and your daughters, should be talking to someone in the healthcare system about their risk, too. This may be an opportunity to have a mammogram earlier, or to have an MRI, or to do genetic testing for those at risk.

Patient Navigation

Mrs. Lyra Gibbs-Lloyd, Bureau of Cancer Prevention and Control, Nurse Consultant presented an overview regarding the significance of nurse navigation in early detection and prevention, particularly in cancer screening. She emphasized the role of Nurse Navigators in building a multidisciplinary team of healthcare professionals to ensure underserved or uninsured patients do not fall through the cracks. Nurse navigation plays a crucial role in closing healthcare gaps, providing individualized care, ensuring patient quality of life, increasing compliance, and reducing healthcare costs. It significantly impacts improving healthcare outcomes for Delawareans. This education empowers patients to actively participate in their own health management and coaching these patients on what to expect during a visit. Dr. Bittner-Fagan asked, "How many nurse navigators are there?" Ms. Gibbs-Lloyd responded approximately 20 in the Screening for Life program.

National Lung Cancer Screening Day

Pam Schauer from the American Cancer Society discussed the need to increase the number of lung cancer screenings and the small percentage of eligible Delawareans receiving Low Dose CT scans to screen for lung cancer. Ms. Schauer also discussed the partnership with Delaware for the second year to promote the statewide National Lung Cancer Screening Day (NLCSD), on Saturday, November 9th. This partnership includes each of the health systems, two Federally Qualified Health Centers; and La Red and Westside Family Health Centers. The goal this year is to increase provider reach, schedule screenings, complete screenings to reduce those structural barriers, and get Delawareans screened. We will celebrate lung cancer screening awareness for the entire month of November. The NLCSD Planning Committee aims to amplify their message through social media and the DPH State Office of Communication. Dr. Bittner-Fagan emphasized the need for increased awareness about lung cancer screening, suggesting ways to acknowledge lung cancer, i.e. wearing white at work, and posting on social media. She also discussed challenges in current screening criteria, which often disqualify individuals who quit smoking for over 15 years. Ms. Schauer discussed the need for better tools in Electronic Medical Records to accurately record a person's smoking history. Dr. Susan Kelly stated, "I think people realize what the criteria are for screening." Ms. Schauer shared the link to the website that is used to help patients find lung screening programs near them, using their zip code. She also declared, "I have people who smoked three packs a day for 30 years, but they quit 10 years ago, and they're told they are considered non-smokers." The messaging should be clearer so that it's easy to understand who should have screening. Dr. Bittner Fagan, expressed, "If you quit, and it's been more than 15 years right now, according to USPSTF and most payers, you're no longer eligible."

Dr. Susan Kelly, from Christiana Care Women's Health, inquired about the method for obtaining information on office screenings for cervical and prostate cancer. Dr. Bittner-Fagan explained they rely heavily on the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Study (BRFSS) at the State level, which provides state-level data and analysis guidelines for screenable cancers. However, Dr. Kelly raised concerns about the lack of data on cervical and prostate cancer screenings in Delaware, due to the lack of centralized reporting. The committee agreed to further discuss cervical screening, HPV vaccination, and possibly prostate cancer in the next meeting. Dr. Kelly inquired about benchmarking for prevention, focusing on a decreased cancer incidence. Dr. Bittner-Fagan agreed, stating that the BRFSS data for screening is flawed, particularly for

cervical screening, as women may mistakenly think getting a pap smear also means it was a pelvic exam. Overall, the focus should be on prevention rather than merely focusing on reducing cancer incidence.

Sharing Time

There was no sharing time.

Public Comment

There were no Public Comments.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

Attachments



Meeting documentation is available on the DCC website (www.healthydelaware.org) or by contacting Jade Nagyiski (Jade.Nagyiski@Delaware.gov or 302-744-1065).

Future Meeting(s)

Next Meeting: January 13, 2025 – Hybrid	2025 Meetings: January 13, 2025 – Hybrid April 14, 2025 – Hybrid July 14, 2025 – Hybrid October 6, 2025 – Hybrid
---	---