



Meeting Summary
January 23, 2015

Members in Attendance:

Kathleen Connors-Juras
Stephanie Cooper-Greenberg
Diane Couchman
Joan Daugherty
Mary DeShields
Catherine Fenwick
Wendy Friar
Lisa Gallicchio
Mary Garza
Kim Herman
Christine Marino
Jed Miller
Yale Stenzler
Kala Visvanathan
Stanley Watkins

Members Absent:

Kevin Cullen
Roger Harrell
Kevin Kelly
Anthony Muse
William Nelson
Jay Perman
Paul Rothman
Artie Shelton
Brock Yetso

DHMH Staff in Attendance:

Sarah Conolly Hokenmaier
Nanyamka Hales
Courtney Lewis
Donna Gugel
Jody Sheely

Welcome, Announcements and Review of Minutes from 9/19/14 Meeting

- The Council approved minutes from the meeting held on September 19, 2014.
- Stephanie Cooper Greenberg was introduced as a newly appointed member to the Council.
- The 2014 Cancer Council Annual Report has been submitted.
- Council members were reminded of the 2015 Meeting schedule and the importance of meeting the minimum 50% attendance requirement.

Legislative Session

Jody Sheely from the DHMH Office of Policy and Planning presented on the DHMH process during legislative session (see attached). Of the 378 bills Prevention and Health Promotion Administration (PHPA) distributed as either Priority or FYI during the 2014 session, 136 passed.

The following points were discussed regarding Council positions on legislation:

- The Council is appointed by the Governor; therefore, official positions provided from the Council will be sent through the DHMH legislative review process which includes review by the Secretary and then Governor. Council members should be aware that the official position of DHMH will likely not be known in advance of the deadline for the Council's position.
- Council positions are important, as they can elevate or add support to DHMH's position.
- Dr. Watkins noted that the Council should express opinion from a scientific or evidence based perspective, and not from a political or personal view.
- As private citizens, Council members can take any position they desire and submit on their own behalf.
- The process for the Council for communication purposes is when the Center for Cancer Prevention and Control receives a "Priority Review" bill from the Office of Policy and Planning, the bill will be sent to Dr. Watkins with a deadline to respond on behalf of the Council.
- Suggestions were given to allow the Council to adequately respond within the short deadline constraints:
 1. Have a legislative sub-committee work with Dr. Watkins to provide timely responses.
 2. At the May meeting, discuss the outcome of the previous legislative session and determine priority areas that the Council is interested in taking positions on in the next session. The September meeting can be used to finalize priorities and discuss positions options so that template letters can be prepared by the Council in advance of the next legislative session. This idea was well received by the majority of members and will be placed on upcoming Council agendas.

In response to a question about whether the Maryland Hospital Association provides positions, it was noted that the Office of Governmental Affairs works with the Maryland Hospital Association for their positions.

Dr. Watkins informed the group that he would meet with Senator Anthony Muse (Council Member) and also meet with the new Secretary after the legislative session. Yale Stenzler expressed interest in attending the meetings with Dr. Watkins.

House Bill 56- Tanning Devices- Uses by Minors- Prohibition

- House Bill 56 was discussed; the bill and Council position paper in response to the identical bill in the last session were provided. Dr. Watkins proposed that the Council strongly support the bill as they had done the previous year, and Council members agreed.
- Dr. Watkins planned to revise the letter and submit on behalf of the Council. It was noted that if the Council would like to provide in person testimony at the bill hearing, they should inform DHMH staff. *[Note: the Council's final position submitted to DHMH after the Council meeting is attached.]*

Cigarette Restitution Funds Discussion

- Donna Gugel provided an update on the Cigarette Restitution Fund. The update included the background of the program and statute. One portion of CRF includes funding for cancer research grants to Johns Hopkins Institutions and the University of Maryland.
- Fiscal Year 2015 Cigarette Restitution Fund Budget revisions were approved at the Board of Public Works meeting on January 7, 2014, which included cuts to the Cancer Research Grant Awards (both Johns Hopkins Institutions and the University of Maryland).
- Local health departments were not affected by this budget reduction.

Maryland Cancer Fund

- Courtney Lewis reminded Council members about the Maryland Cancer Fund (MCF). The attached flyer is available for dissemination by Council members. Donations can be made to the Maryland Cancer Fund by checking Line 37 on Maryland State tax returns. Promotional materials are sent to tax preparers, partners at DHMH, and promoted via a media campaign that includes television ads.
- Each year the MCF receives an estimated \$450,000. Funding in recent years has only allowed for the awarding of treatment grants, but this year there was enough funding to provide primary prevention grants for the period of January 2015 – June 2016. The MCF awarded 5 MCF Primary Prevention grants as follows:

Adventist HealthCare, Inc.

Tobacco use prevention and cessation: To implement a tobacco cessation program for inpatients at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital, and provide tobacco use prevention and cessation education at outreach events in Montgomery County.

The Johns Hopkins University

HPV vaccinations: Coaching grandparents and caretakers to help increase rate of HPV vaccination among African American preteens in Baltimore City and Prince George's County.

Harford County Health Department

Promote nutrition, physical activity and healthy lifestyles: Establish a Faith Communities Health Program to engage community partners, provide mini-grants, support a faith community nursing curriculum at a local community college, and establish an online resources forum.

Anne Arundel County Health Department

HPV vaccinations: Provide HPV vaccine free of charge to eligible 19 to 26 year old males and females who are referred to the health department for STI testing and/or treatment, and conduct HPV vaccine outreach activities at county schools, physicians' offices and health fairs.

Worcester County Health Department

Tobacco use prevention and cessation: To purchase the necessary equipment (signage, ash barrels, etc.) required to implement the new smoking restriction ordinance on the Ocean City beach and boardwalk.

HPV Updates

- Courtney Lewis discussed updates with the DHMH HPV campaign, including the most recent data on vaccination ordering and uptake. See attached handout. DHMH currently has printed and ready for distribution CDC flyers available at: (<http://phpa.dhmh.maryland.gov/cancer/SitePages/HPV.aspx>) for providers free of cost. Contact Nanyamka if you are interested in having flyers mailed to you.
- Joan Daugherty reported that Peninsula Regional Medical Center is focusing on this issue, and inquired about HPV speakers for an April meeting. DHMH staff will provide a contact.
- Dr. Watkins informed the Council of an HPV documentary, *Someone You Love*. A screening was held in Annapolis targeting parents and the general public. Multiple health organizations, including Anne Arundel Medical Center, collaborated together to host the event. There were over 250 people in attendance and a question and answer session was held after the movie with local physicians to discuss the topic. Details on the film, including information on hosting a screening, are available at: (<http://hpvepidemic.com/>)

Maryland Cancer Collaborative

- Joan Daugherty updated the Council on activities of the Maryland Cancer Collaborative-see attached handout.
- Nanyamka informed the group that the updated Cancer Plan will be released in January 2016. Council members will be asked soon to serve on review committees for feedback on the updated plan.

Maryland Cancer Registry Advisory Committee Update

Lisa Gallicchio updated the Council on the Cancer Registry Advisory Committee (CRAC):

- The focus of the MCR during this time of year is on data submission to both the CDC National Program of Cancer Registries and the North American Association of Cancer Registries. The MCR anticipates receiving “Silver” certification for 2012 data.
- The CDC has selected MCR data for inclusion in the survival statistics for the U.S. Participating states are largely SEER states, but a select group of non-SEER states have also been selected (Maryland is not a SEER state).
- Westat has developed a novel database, ComTrack, for the purpose of tracking active communication with under reporting facilities (under reporting facilities are those whose reporting drops below 5% of the expected, which is based on a previous 3-year average). ComTrack compiles completeness monitoring, contact information, and interactions with hospital facilities in one centralized location. The database will also provide an easy-to-use data entry tool for Westat staff to log interactions and correspondence with reporting facilities.
- The MCR is currently working with the DHMH Meaningful Use Group to register eligible providers. Providers must have already registered for Meaningful Use 1 to be eligible for Meaningful Use 2, which permits physicians who diagnose or treat cancer patients to submit records electronically.
- The MCR has produced several issues of the MCR E-Update which is shared with all reporting facilities. This electronic update includes information on upcoming NAACCR webinars, updates from the MD Tumor Registrars Association, MCR, NAACCR and/or NPCR, any new information vital to reporters, and a question and answer section. The Update has been well-received by reporters.

Cancer Conference Updates

Evaluation

Nanyamka Hales reviewed the 21st Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Cancer Conference evaluation results with the Council:

- There were 351 people in attendance to the conference.
- Overall the conference received a majority of “excellent” ratings in regards to quality of the conference, accessibility, convenient location, time of event and audio/visual set up. Some overall themes in the comments were that people enjoyed the speakers and the food. However, people thought the room was too tight for the number of attendees. Nanyamka provided the suggestion that the number of attendees be reduced to 300 if the same venue is used in the future. In addition, participants were interested in more networking opportunities and to bring increased attention to the poster presentations.

Abeloff Award Criteria

- The Abeloff Award Criteria was discussed regarding the eligibility of current/active Council members to be nominated for award. The Council determined that it is a conflict of interest for current Council members to be eligible. The award criteria will be modified; past/previous Council members will remain eligible.

2015 Cancer Conference

- The Council discussed the 2015 date, location and funding measures. Tuesday, November 15, 2015 is being held at the Anne Arundel Medical Center Conference Center until a final decision is made from the Council on the location. Nanyamka will follow up with the Cancer Center to confirm donation of space.
- The Council will again ask for sponsorships for the remaining amount of the conference. Last year the total cost of the conference was \$14,000. This amount (or more) will be needed for the 2015 conference. The sponsorship letter will be revised for 2015 and sent out to members to start soliciting for donations from their organizations and other organizations.

Next meeting:

May 15, 2015 Anne Arundel Medical Center, Conference Room B, 9:30-11:30am