Maryland State Council on Cancer Control  
September 22, 2017  
9:30 – 11:30 a.m. 

Anne Arundel Medical Center 
Belcher Pavilion, 7th Floor 
2000 Medical Parkway 
Annapolis, MD 21401 

SUMMARY 

Members in Attendance 
Stanley Watkins 
Donna Gugel 
Kevin Cullen 
Brock Yetso 
Stephani Cooper-Greenberg 
Kala Visvanathan 
Kathleen Connors-Juras 
Mary Garza* 
Roger Harrell 
Diane Couchman 
William Nelson* 

Members Absent 
Jay Perman 
Paul Rothman 
Joan Mischtschuk 
Yale Stenzler 
Anthony Muse 
Mark Mank 
Artie Shelton 
Sheree Sample-Hughes 
Catherine Fenwick 

*Attended via conference line 

Staff and Guests in Attendance 
Brian Mattingly, Maryland Department of Health 
Sara Valek, Maryland Department of Health 
Ken Lin Tai, Maryland Department of Health 
Erin Penniston, Maryland Department of Health 
Bonita Pennino, American Cancer Society 

1. Welcome and Review of Minutes (Stanley Watkins) 
   - The Council reviewed the January 20, 2017 meeting minutes. There were no comments or edits, and the minutes were accepted as written. 
   - The Council may consider rotating locations in the future to better accommodate members’ travel time. 
   - New staff introductions were made including Erin Penniston, Deputy Director, Center for Cancer Prevention and Control, and Sara Valek, Program Manager of Comprehensive Cancer Control Programs at Maryland Department of Health.
2. Council Membership Update (Stanley Watkins)
   - The Council currently has ten vacancies. Two applications have been submitted to the Governor’s Appointments Office. Brian Mattingly maintains ongoing communication with the Maryland Department of Health’s Office of Appointments and Executive Nominations to receive application and appointment status updates and will update Council members as new information is received. The Council will prioritize increasing members’ geographic, racial, ethnic, and survivorship backgrounds.
   - Council members are encouraged to identify potential applicants and refer them to Mr. Mattingly for additional information about the Council. The Governor’s Appointments Office Application is available at: http://govappointments.maryland.gov/

3. Maryland Cancer Registry Advisory (MCR) Committee Update (Kala Visvanathan)
   - In November 2016, Maryland Cancer Registry (MCR) transitioned from 24 month data submission to both 12 and 24 month data submission to NPCR. MCR data met NPCR’s United States Cancer Statistics report criteria for incidence years 2006 through 2015 and the National Data Quality Standard criteria for incidence years 2010 through 2015. Overall completeness improved with a continued focus on meeting the 12 month Advanced National Data Quality Standard. The MCR met the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR) Gold standard criteria for incidence years 2010 through 2015.
   - Reporting entities have encountered challenges with a lack of trained abstractors and awareness of this type of position among members of the public and job seekers.

4. Maryland Cancer Collaborate Update (MCC) (Brian Mattingly)
   - MCC Annual Meeting will occur on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at the Anne Arundel Community College. The meeting objective is to highlight workgroup progress as well as discuss lessons learned and best practices. Two notable speakers include:
     - Dr. Meredith Shiels of the National Cancer Institute: “Cancers with Rising Rates in Maryland, Potential Etiologies, and Interventions”
     - Dr. Jennifer Schrack, of Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health: “Fatigability and Cancer-What It Is, How to Measure It, What are the Causes and Interventions.”

5. Maryland Tobacco Control Initiative to Raise Age to Purchase Tobacco (Bonita Pennino of ACS-CAN):
   - A current American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS-CAN) priority is to lower the rate of tobacco use by increasing the legal age to purchase tobacco products from 18 to 21. Known as “Tobacco 21” laws, ACS-CAN is building a coalition of supporters in Maryland and requested the Council consider becoming a supporter or member of this effort. A “supporter” would be named on the ACS-
CAN’s website and a “member” would provide additional educational efforts, disseminate information via newsletters, author op-ed pieces in local papers, etc.

- Ms. Pennino will provide the Council an update and additional Maryland-specific data during a future meeting and can be reached at: (301) 758-1255 or bpennino@cancer.org
- The Council will determine a position once legislation has been filed.

6. **Fertility Preservation (Brock Yetso, Ulman Cancer Fund):**
   - One of the major secondary effects of cancer treatment is infertility. Because of this, many young adults confronted with cancer have chosen to preserve their eggs and sperm, however this procedure can cost approximately $10,000-$20,000.
   - Currently, insurance plans in Maryland do not cover these types of procedures, also referred to as fertility preservation. The following bills were introduced in the 2017 legislative session requiring specified insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations that provide specified benefits under specified insurance policies or contracts to provide coverage for specified fertility preservation procedures:
     - i. HB 0876 - Health Insurance - Coverage of Fertility Preservation Procedures for Iatrogenic Infertility. This bill was withdrawn after an unfavorable report analyzing economic impact was released by the Health and Government Operations Committee. This bill will be reintroduced in the 2018 session and is supported by the Ulman Cancer Fund.
     - ii. SB 918 - Health Insurance - Coverage of Fertility Preservation Procedures for Iatrogenic Infertility
   - Connecticut and Rhode Island have passed similar bills. The bills are expected to be re-introduced during the 2018 legislative session. The Ulman Cancer Fund has requested support from the Council for these bills.
   - The Council will determine a position once legislation has been filed.

7. **Annual Cancer Conference 2017 (Brian Mattingly):**
   - The 24th Annual Maryland State Council on Cancer Control Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at the Anne Arundel Medical Center.
   - **Abeloff Award:** Council members were encouraged to submit to Mr. Mattingly, by September 29, 2017, their 2017 Abeloff Award nominations or their interest in serving on the awards committee. The Abeloff Nomination Committee will meet via conference call on Tuesday, October 10, 2017, to select this year’s winner.