

**Maryland Cancer
Collaborative –
*Cancer Disparities Committee***

PROGRESS HIGHLIGHTS

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Committee Priorities

- **Committee Priorities:**

- **Priority 1 – Objective: Reduce racial/ethnic minority vs white cancer disparities in Maryland to reach targets in the Cancer Plan**

STRATEGY:

- **Enhance safety-net insurance plans and healthcare systems to supply screening and follow-up to a greater proportion of minorities**

Committee Priorities

- **Priority 2 – Objective:** By 2015, conduct an assessment and create and implement a plan to improve data systems to better identify and track cancer disparities by race, ethnicity, language, disabilities, sexual orientation, and other factors.

STRATEGY:

- Partner with BRFSS, the MD Cancer Registry, and the MD Vital Statistics to ensure accuracy and completeness of data.

Priority Background

- ***Priority: Reduce Cancer Disparities***
 - ***Importance: Cancer disparities continue to be the second largest mortality disparity in Maryland.***
- ***Priority: Improve Data system to better track Cancer Disparities***
 - ***Importance: Need assessment that leads to standardized data collection that accurately tracks disparities.***

Progress

- *Committee received presentations from:*
 - *Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)*
 - *Maryland Cancer Registry*
 - *Maryland Vital Statistics Administration*
- *Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) planning training for hospital registrars on data collection to ensure cultural competency and accuracy*

Progress *(continued)*

- *Compiled and reviewed cultural competency training tools used by facilities and experts in Maryland*
- *Committee members have volunteered to partner with other organizations to implement a pilot Patient Navigation Network- committee will provide resources and expertise*

Next Steps

- *Work with HSCRC as needed as they train hospital registrars on accurate collection of race and ethnicity data*
- *Participate in MD Health Benefit Exchange workgroups to ensure cultural competency and effective outreach to all target groups*
- *Collaborate with the Collaborative Early Detection and Treatment Committee to enhance patient navigation for colorectal and other cancer screenings*

Join Us!

- Anyone interested can join
- Members can join a committee or join as a corresponding member
- Visit <http://fha.dhmf.maryland.gov/cancer/cancerplan> to join

Questions?

<http://fha.dhmh.maryland.gov/cancer/cancerplan>

Carlessia A. Hussein, Co-Chair

Maryland Office Of Minority Health & Health Disparities

With

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Center on Health Disparities, Adventist Health Care, Inc.