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**Kentucky Cancer Consortium Meeting Notes**

**December 3, 2020**

**Meeting Highlights**

* Advocacy partners highlighted the need for extra effort to call, zoom, email your senators as COVID is preventing entry to the capitol this year. See more details in meeting notes.
* 3rd annual State of Lung Cancer report is available at [www.lung.org/solc](http://www.lung.org/solc)
* Dr. Pamela Hull new UK Markey Cancer Center Associate Director of Population Science and Community Impact Office. [Read more about Dr. Hull](https://uknow.uky.edu/uk-healthcare/hull-joins-markey-associate-director-population-science-and-community-impact)
* Promote [Kentucky Cancer Survivor Connection](https://www.kcp.uky.edu/) newsletter. Send Amy Steinkuhl, KCP Regional Cancer Control Specialist [amy@uky.edu](mailto:amy@uky.edu) information to include in the newsletter to survivors and caregivers.
* KCC will initiate a survivorship workgroup. A call to participate in workgroup will be shared with KCC members.
* KCC will consider a health equity workgroup as requested by participants
* ACS Health Equity Video Link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cOM7cIMrv4>
* See evaluation results in attached powerpoint on tobacco treatment, colon cancer screening and KY Cancer Action Plan revision process
* Partner conversations about updating the KY Cancer Action Plan will start in January. This year we will focus on tobacco treatment, colon cancer screening and survivorship with a focus on health equity. More information coming soon.
* You can review the Kentucky Cancer Consortium website here <https://www.kycancerc.org/> and the [Kentucky Cancer Action Plan](https://www.kycancerc.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2019/08/KCC%20Action%20Plan%202019_revised_July26_2019.pdf)
* The [Kentucky Cancer Program](http://www.kycancerprogram.org/about-us)Regional Cancer Control Specialistswill also help us collect partner input on the revision of the KY Cancer Action Plan**.** Find your RCC here: <http://www.kycancerprogram.org/regional-offices>
* Zoom Recording: <https://uky.zoom.us/rec/share/LJZci4kmwn6DXd6nrZzGGIpHB9C46ttQHVfLYKJjQQ9g0JMyBHsHC0pY7TmsPrY1.Gn2a0YpSqnwrV4XP>

**Legislative Updates**

Emily Beauregard**,** Kentucky Voices for Health

KVH will be supporting legislation in the upcoming General Assembly 2021 to improve access to affordable care for all Kentuckians and reduce health disparities. This includes supporting legislation to:

* Create a new Medicaid Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on health disparities and equity and adding additional seats to existing TACs for Kentuckians with lived experience, such as individuals with a substance use disorder (SUD), who have been justice-involved, and/or have experienced barriers to care.
* Support healthy reentry for justice involved Kentuckians with immediate access to SUD and behavioral health services.
* Eliminate Medicaid copays that have historically been a barrier to needed care.
* Strengthen network adequacy rules to ensure adequate access to the providers and services Kentuckians need to maintain or improve their health.
* Protect consumers from surprise out-of-network medical bills.
* Improve maternal health by addressing racial disparities in the healthcare system.
* Make insulin more affordable by capping out-of-pocket costs.
* Require all insurers to cover mental and behavioral health services at parity with physical health services.
* Make certified Community Health Workers (CHWs) Medicaid billable.

Jason Baird and Jack Hillard, Limestone Group

* Funding the colon cancer screening program work. The legislature and the governor had agreed to a $1 million continuation of the Kentucky colon cancer screening program, which of course we were pleased at as part of the budget that they did right they included $500,000 and so we will attempt to place that $500,000 as a continuation
* Updating the Kentucky colon cancer screening program statues that was last updated since passage of the bill and program back in 2008 and codified existing Medicaid coverages to help clear up confusion. It would be no new cost to the budget or the Medicaid, because it's already currently provided, but it will help with a lot of confusion again out in the marketplace on what coverages do Medicaid cover comparative to the private health insurance small market in Kentucky. There is hope that genetic testing coverage by MCO’s will be included as well as help with confusion on what is covered with Medicaid/ vs private health insurance.

Shannon Baker, American Lung Association

* Legislation will be introduced to repeal the state law that prohibits local government cities and counties from passing tobacco control ordinances and that will be a top priority for the Lung Association
* Funding restoration for the state tobacco control program, it will a priority to restore that funding to the previous level of $3.3 million and

All advocates highlighted the need for extra effort to call, zoom, email your senators as COVID is preventing entry to the capitol this year.

**New Leadership**: Dr. Pamela Hull new UK Markey Cancer Center Associate Director of Population Science and Community Impact Office. [Read more about Dr. Hull](https://uknow.uky.edu/uk-healthcare/hull-joins-markey-associate-director-population-science-and-community-impact)

Dr. Hull looks forward to putting collaborations under one umbrella, letting the community guide us and disseminating the good research out to the communities and other parts of the country. She is excited about the KCP and KCC programs and the community involvement that guide the research program going forward. KCP, KCC and the tremendous coalitions and partnerships were some of the reasons she wanted to be here. In addition, Dr. Lovoria Williams has joined as assistant director of Health Equity, which is front and center, a high priority.

We are thankful for Dr. Tucker’s year of leadership and service. Dr. Tucker explains this work as true a labor of love and appreciates the collective efforts that continue to make enormous progress in cancer control.

**Cancer and COVID**- how are you helping your partners? Or partners helping you?

(Breakout Group response)

* People have kept working through COVID continuing to be creative in ways to disseminate information.
* Virtual platforms are key to communicating and collaborating. Many feel this allows for more participation and is money saving. Virtual platforms have also increased new partnerships, i.e. the school of dentistry.
* Podcasts to address the stress of Healthcare workers.
* Drive through screenings and drive through celebrations for survivors.
* Partnering with food and clothing banks and family resource centers.
* Partnering with COVID testing to continue to get cancer information to the public

COVID survey on hold – Mark Dignan provided an update on a survey, which was very close to being released, on how COVID has affected cancer screenings and other related things. However, it’s been put on hold because of potential phishing scams.

**KCC Survivorship Supplemental Grant Activities**

Kentucky Cancer Connection: Amy Steinkuhl, KCP Regional Cancer Control Specialist

The***Kentucky Cancer Survivor Connection*** is an easy way for all Kentucky Cancer Survivors to find out information about programs, activities, opportunities or resources. Participants will receive electronic monthly updates with resources specific to their journey, networking opportunities, new guidelines and findings, and opportunities to participate in local, state and national events.  This informational clearing house is for all Kentucky survivors, caregivers, social workers and health professionals. All information will be protected and never shared without consent. Click here to sign up for the [Kentucky Cancer Survivor Connection](https://www.kcp.uky.edu/) newsletter.

The goal is to have every survivor in Kentucky signed up. There are currently 50 registered, primarily breast cancer survivors and women. If anyone has any information, activities or opportunities, please share them with Amy and she will add them. They are currently working on branding and hope to have that finished by Christmas.

Jennifer Knight is developing a survey for survivors to understand and address the needs of survivors as it relates to COVID. She will need help getting the information to survivors

Other survivorship data being collected:

* Sarojini Kanotra is also collecting survivorship data and is willing to share/synergize. She will send information to Jennifer to share.
* Nicole Wiseman has also had graduate interns checking in with cancer survivors and caregivers to see how they’ve been handling things during COVID. All has been anecdotal but interesting as well.
* Tom Tucker, KCR and Dr. Durbin have a project with Dr. White and people at the State Department for public health to link all the COVID cases to the cancer cases to look at its impact on treatment and survival.

KCC will be developing a Survivorship Committee. We collected names that wanted to be involved in the chat. We will provide more information as it comes available.

**Health Equity**

**New Kentucky Cancer Consortium’s Health Equity Framework**

KCC is currently working on drafting a health equity framework to accompany the revision of the KY Cancer Action Plan. The purpose is to establish a commitment to address all forms of inequities and set intentional action steps to advance health equity. While the Kentucky Cancer Action Plans provides a guide to reducing the burden of cancer, the health equity framework seeks to offer guidance on tools and resources to assist Kentucky Cancer Consortium partners on acknowledging and addressing power dynamics, partnering with intention, describing the narrative with data and communities, tailoring evidence-based interventions and measuring what matters – health outcomes alongside the conditions and factors that influence them. More information is coming soon.

Health Equity Breakout- HE Video Link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cOM7cIMrv4>

We will collect the information from all of the groups and share what we learned. Below you can read one groups comments:

KCC will consider developing a health equity group.

Jennifer Knight shared information on evaluation results on Tobacco Treatment and Colon Cancer Committee along with information on feedback on the current KY Cancer Action Plan

Elaine Russell discussed KY Cancer Action Plan Revision Process

See PowerPoint for more information on evaluation and KY Cancer Action Plan Revision Process.

**Kentucky Cancer Consortium** [**https://www.kycancerc.org/**](https://www.kycancerc.org/)

[**Kentucky Cancer Action Plan**](https://www.kycancerc.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2019/08/KCC%20Action%20Plan%202019_revised_July26_2019.pdf)

[**Kentucky Cancer Program**](http://www.kycancerprogram.org/about-us)

KCP Regional Cancer Control Specialists<http://www.kycancerprogram.org/regional-offices>

Zoom Recording: <https://uky.zoom.us/rec/share/LJZci4kmwn6DXd6nrZzGGIpHB9C46ttQHVfLYKJjQQ9g0JMyBHsHC0pY7TmsPrY1.Gn2a0YpSqnwrV4XP>