

MCCI Update

The Latest Information About the Michigan Cancer Control Initiative

Highlights from the March 3 MCC Meeting – The Transition Begins

The March 3 meeting of the Michigan Cancer Consortium (MCC) marked the beginning of preparation for the transition from the action planning phase to the actual implementation of the Michigan Cancer Control Initiative (MCCI).

MCC Co-Chair Dr. Aaron Scholnik reported to those present that the Action Planning Groups were finalizing their Action Plans in anticipation of the March 31 deadline for submission of the plans. He thanked each of the Action Planning Group conveners and their supporting staff for their hard work and leadership throughout the action planning process.

In response to questions from the End-of-Life Action Planning Group, Dr. Scholnik also spent some time clarifying the MCC policy regarding lobbying. The policy states:

Because it is supported in part by federal and state funds, the Michigan Cancer Consortium (MCC) is prohibited from lobbying in support of or against any pending federal or state legislation.

Dr. Scholnik explained that this means individuals and organizations are free to lobby for a particular issue, but they should not speak “on behalf of” or “as a representative of” the MCC.

MCC Co-Chair Vicki Rakowski summarized the information contained in the draft document *Implementation of the Michigan Cancer Control Initiative: Assumptions and Operational Plan*. (**Editor’s Note:** Prior to the meeting, all MCC member representatives had received a copy of the document, accompanied by a letter encouraging them to review the document carefully, and to raise any questions or concerns at the March 3 meeting.) Rakowski reviewed the key points in the document and asked member representatives to share the information with key decision-makers within their organizations as a means of providing background information about the implementation of the MCCI and encouraging dialogue with leaders about ways in which their organizations could participate in the implementation process.

Many of those in attendance at the March 3 meeting raised questions about potential sources of funding to support implementation of the numerous strategies being proposed by the Action Planning Groups. They were told that fund-raising opportunities are being explored by a group of representatives from MCC member organizations, including Chuck Hammond of the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute and other interested resource development specialists.

Carol Callaghan of the Michigan Department of Community Health Cancer Prevention and Control Section reminded those present that not everything proposed in the Action Plans has to be implemented immediately. Instead, implementing organizations should consider what can be done

MCCI Update is a report from the co-chairs of the Michigan Cancer Consortium, Vicki Rakowski, RN, ET, and Aaron P. Scholnik, MD, for all those associated with the Michigan Cancer Control Initiative. To share ideas for future reports, or to change your mailing information, contact Patty Brookover at 517-335-9620 (FAX: 517-335-9397; e-mail: brookoverp@state.mi.us). For more information about the MCCI, contact Sue Haviland at 517-335-8372 (FAX: 517-335-9397; e-mail: havilande@state.mi.us).

now with existing resources or with minimal new resources. Strategies that require more planning time or additional resources for implementation can be addressed in future years. Although it obviously will be necessary to address all the priorities comprehensively in order to have a major impact on cancer in our state, not all of the actions will have to occur in Year One.

In closing the meeting, Dr. Scholnik reminded the group that as we move into the implementation phase of the MCCI, it is vital that MCC member representatives identify key decision-makers in their organizations and consciously work to involve them in looking for ways in which their organizations can become active in the MCCI implementation process. He added that MCC staff will be contacting members to discuss their organization's needs and interests relative to implementation.

For more information about the meeting or the MCCI implementation phase, contact MCCI Coordinator Sue Haviland (Phone: 517-335-8372; e-mail: havilande@state.mi.us).

Action Planning Phase Completed; Thanks to Everyone Involved

Congratulations! The nine Action Plans are complete. Thanks to the Action Planning Group members, conveners, and supporting staff who worked so hard to finish these plans. Nice job! The nine Action Plans are being compiled into one Master Implementation Plan, which will be used to encourage organizations to commit to implementation of specific strategies. As the Master Implementation Plan is being developed, efforts are being made to ensure that it includes cross-plan strategies that will maximize the use of resources and facilitate the coordination of similar strategies.

Resource Development Group Meets

A group of resource development specialists from MCC member organizations and other health agencies met April 16 to learn more about the MCCI and explore potential sources of funding to support the Initiative. The group asked a number of questions about the Initiative and suggested that this might be a project that would be of interest to both state and national foundations. In light of that fact, group members recommended that MCC staff develop a concept paper about the MCCI that could be shared with prospective funders. Group members agreed to meet again to review the draft concept paper, provide feedback, and continue to discuss possible ways in which to fund and support the MCCI.

MICHIGAN CANCER CONSORTIUM MEMBERS:

Organizational: ACCESS Community Health Center • American Cancer Society, Great Lakes Division, Inc. • American College of Surgeons • Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute • Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan • Flint & Vicinity Action Community and Economic Development • Grand Rapids Community Oncology Program • Health Alliance Plan • Henry Ford Health System • Hospice of Michigan • Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc. • Michigan Academy of Family Physicians • Michigan Association for Local Public Health • Michigan Black Nurses Association • Michigan Dietetic Association • Michigan Health & Hospital Association • Michigan Hospice Organization • Michigan Nurses Association • Michigan Osteopathic Association • Michigan Peer Review Organization • Michigan Primary Care Association • Michigan Radiological Society • Michigan Society of Hematology and Oncology • Michigan State Medical Society • Michigan State University Cancer Center • National Association of Hispanic Nurses, Michigan Chapter • Oncology Nursing Society • University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center • University of Michigan School of Public Health • Upper Peninsula Health Care Network, Inc. • West Michigan Cancer Center

At-Large: Deanna Beyer, MS, RN • Donald Bronn, MD, PhD