

About the MCC

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History

The Michigan Cancer Consortium (MCC) was established in 1987 as a statewide network of cancer experts to advise and assist the Michigan Department of Community Health in its cancer prevention and control efforts.

Over the years, the MCC broadened its mission as well as its membership base, and, in 1997, it changed from a consortium of individual cancer control experts to a consortium of organizations dedicated to reducing the impact of cancer on Michigan citizens.

Consortium membership continues to grow as more and more organizations learn about the MCC's successes and want to join its coordinated approach to cancer control in Michigan. Today the MCC is comprised of more than 100 member and key partner organizations from throughout the state of Michigan, representing seven different member categories:

- Community-Based Health Care Delivery Systems and Practices with Cancer Programs;
- Health Care Insurance Plans;
- Health Education/Health Research and Evaluation;
- Organizations Representing or Serving Hard To Reach and/or Special Populations;
- Public Health Organizations;
- Trade/Professional/Advocacy Organizations; and
- University-Based Health Care Delivery Systems with Cancer Programs.

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Mission Statement

The MCC is a statewide, broad-based partnership that strives to include all interested public and private organizations and provides a forum for collaboration (communication, coordination, and the sharing of resources) to reduce the burden of cancer among the citizens of Michigan by achieving the Consortium's research-based and results-oriented cancer prevention and control priorities.



Bond Falls near Paulding (Photo courtesy of www.michigan.org)

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Vision Statement

The MCC is a statewide cancer control leader, recognized for:

- A dynamic, timely, conscientious response to evolving scientific knowledge, and
- Achievement of or exceeding its established goals in cancer reduction and palliation through member synergy.

Vision Milestones

1. The MCC is effective in achieving the MCC priorities as evidenced by quantitative and qualitative measures.
2. The MCC has developed and implemented a dynamic process that is responsive to opportunities to improve cancer control.
3. The MCC reassesses our priorities as needed.
4. The MCC people/organizations are fully engaged, committed, collaborative, and responsive to MCC issues and priorities.
5. The MCC continues to grow in membership and maintain our commitment to diversity.
6. The MCC has developed the infrastructure, funding and methods to sustain the MCC and the implementation of the MCC priorities.
7. The MCC member organizations will adopt the MCC established goals by incorporating them into standard practice.



Shiawassee River near Corunna
(Photo courtesy of www.michigan.org)

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Thunder Bay Island Lighthouse
near Alpena
(Photo courtesy of www.michigan.org)

Guiding Principles

The aim of the MCC is to reduce cancer incidence, mortality and morbidity, and essential to such an initiative are fundamental principles that guide both the Consortium's decisions and the process it uses to periodically establish goals. The following guiding principles are believed to be essential for an effective approach to cancer control:

Principle 1

The MCC's collective focus should be on cancers with a significant disease burden.

Principle 2

Cancer control priorities should be established based upon:

- opportunities and potential to significantly reduce cancer incidence, mortality and morbidity through prevention, detection, treatment, rehabilitation, and/or palliation;
- feasibility; and
- capacity for collaborative partnerships among public health agencies, private organizations, cancer centers, and all other interested agencies and organizations to carry out recommended cancer control activities.

Principle 3

Decisions should be data driven when feasible.

Principle 4

The MCC will seek financial and other resources to support initiatives. Resources should be efficiently used.

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Principle 5

Efforts to increase awareness and share strategies to reduce the burden of cancer disparities faced by ethnically diverse and underserved populations will be supported.

Principle 6

All Michigan residents should have knowledge of, and access to, quality comprehensive cancer control services across the continuum of care.

Principle 7

The process to identify, implement and evaluate cancer control priorities should be timely.

Principle 8

Effective strategies undertaken by MCC partners to address cancer control priorities should be maintained and sustained, when appropriate.

Principle 9

The MCC serves as a resource for policy makers regarding cancer control issues, but does not engage in lobbying.

Principle 10

The MCC promotes comprehensive cancer control planning and implementation at the local (community) level and supports community driven projects and programs to improve cancer control.

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By 2008, the MCC had achieved four of its original 10 priorities.

Progress to Date

Since 1998, the MCC has made considerable progress in the fight against cancer. Through the collaborative efforts of MCC members and key partner organizations, Michigan has developed many cancer control products, including guidelines, position papers, and decision aids.

The strength of the MCC is its members, and the dedication and commitment of MCC members has made a significant difference in Michigan. Notable accomplishments in our state's impact on cancer control are:

- **Breast cancer** mortality declined 38% since 1995.
- **Colorectal cancer** mortality declined by 20% since 1995.
- **Invasive cervical cancer** incidence declined by 30% since 1995.
- **Adult tobacco use** declined 15% since 1995.
- **Youth tobacco use** declined 25% since 2003.