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Quick News & Links:

[George Washington Cancer Center’s Palliative Care Awareness Social Media Kit is now available.](#)

[Promote the annual flu vaccine with the #SleeveUp to #FightFlu campaign.](#)

[Having an event? Send us the details to post on the MCC Calendar of Events page!](#)

[MCC Calendar of Events](#)

Cancer Survivorship E-Learning Series for Primary Care Providers – Free CME

George Washington University Cancer Institute is offering free CME for the Cancer Survivorship E-Learning Series for Primary Care Providers.

The E-Learning Series is a great opportunity for primary care professionals and providers to learn about cancer survivorship care. The series is a program of the National Cancer Survivorship Resource Center, a collaboration between the American Cancer Society and the George Washington University Cancer Center funded through a 5-year cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Cancer Survivorship E-Learning Series is a free continuing education program that provides a forum to educate primary care providers (PCPs) (e.g., general medicine physicians, geriatricians, gynecologists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses) who may have patients who are cancer survivors about how to better understand and care for survivors in the primary care setting. Cancer survivors may experience the effects of their cancer and its treatment for years. It is important to have medical professionals who understand the health care needs of survivors.

It contains 10 modules covering a range of topics including:

- General survivorship care
- Late effects of cancer treatment
- Clinical follow-up care guidelines for several different cancers
- Spotlights on specific types of cancer survivorship such as prostate, colorectal, breast, and head and neck cancers.

Each module in the E-Learning Series is approximately one hour.

Continuing education credits are available for medical education, nursing, and certified health education specialists

For more information visit: [Cancer Survivorship E-Learning Series for Primary Care Providers.](#)



Cancer PATH: Thriving and Surviving

Article by Martha York, LBSW, Community Education Coordinator; Master Trainer: Cancer, Thriving & Surviving

Do you know cancer survivors who could use some assistance with health self-management? **Cancer PATH: Thriving & Surviving** is a 6-week, **internet-based workshop** designed to help people living with cancer deal with their unique problems and concerns. During once-a-week, 2.5-hour sessions **on Zoom**, attendees discuss common symptoms and challenges like coping with fatigue, managing pain and feelings of isolation, dealing with poor sleep, and living with uncertainty or fear of recurrence.

Whether newly diagnosed, in active treatment, or living beyond active treatment, Cancer PATH helps survivors cope with the thoughts, concerns, and health conditions that accompany living with a cancer diagnosis. This Evidence-Based Program self-management program teaches real-life skills to help people affected by all types of cancer live a full, healthy, meaningful life. Participants each receive a copy of the Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Conditions book that includes additional topics and helpful information beyond what is covered in the 6-week workshop. Caregivers and support persons are welcome to register for the workshop, as well.

Cancer PATH is run by certified facilitators who are themselves cancer survivors or family caregivers that can personally relate to the participants. Everyone attending the workshop sets their own weekly action plan which results in improved motivation and a sense of increased competency in being able to manage the health concerns they face. Participants share their successes and build a common source of support. They identify ways to communicate with family, friends, and health care providers. This workshop builds confidence around managing health, staying active, and enjoying life.

Through grant funding from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Cancer Section, cancer survivors can attend this **virtual workshop free of charge** in 2021. Workshops will be occurring at the dates and times listed below.

Wednesday Night Series:	January 20 - February 24, 2021	5:00pm - 7:30pm
Friday Morning Series:	February 19 - March 26, 2021	10:00am - 12:30pm
Monday Afternoon Series:	April 12 - May 17, 2021	1:00pm - 3:30pm
Tuesday Afternoon Series:	July 13 - August 17, 2021	1:30 - 4:00pm
Tuesday Night Series:	September 14 - October 19, 2021	5:00pm - 7:30pm

To register in advance, contact livingwellprograms@r2aaa.net.



The MDHHS Cancer Prevention and Control Section Is Excited to Announce the New Ovarian Cancer Patient Navigation Phone Line

For women in the United States, ovarian cancer is the 5th leading cause of death. It is also the second most common type of reproductive cancer. Unfortunately, unlike other types of cancer, screening and early detection methods for ovarian cancer are not available. In early stages there may not be signs or symptoms of disease, which can result in the cancer being found at a later stage when treatment may be less effective.

Treatment by a gynecologic oncologist can be a significant predictor of whether ovarian cancer patients will receive the standard of care, which can lead to improved survival rates.

If you know of a woman who has ovarian cancer and is looking to find a gynecologic oncologist, encourage them to call the **Ovarian Cancer Patient Navigation Phone Line at 844-446-8727**. They will be connected to an Ovarian Cancer Patient Navigator who can provide information about a gynecologic oncologist closest to their area, along with additional resources.

For more information on ovarian cancer, resources, and the Patient Navigation Phone Line visit www.michigan.gov/ovariancancer.

Seeking Participants for Rural Workgroup to Address Gaps in Cancer Care

Do you serve cancer survivors in a rural area? People who live in a rural area and are diagnosed with cancer often face challenges not experienced by individuals with cancer who live in urban or suburban areas. In rural areas there may not be a hospital nearby, or the hospital may not offer cancer treatment. For some, their type of cancer requires a specialist that is hours away from home. Access to clinical trials may even require further travel. In addition to cancer treatment, rural cancer survivors also have limited access to mental health services and support groups.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is interested in forming a workgroup with rural organizations, providers, and survivors to look at options for addressing the gaps in care faced by people with cancer in rural areas. If you are interested in serving on this workgroup contact Debbie Webster at WebsterD1@michigan.gov.

Program for Breast Cancer in Young Women

MDHHS received a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to focus on the needs of young women with breast cancer. In this program, MDHHS will work with partners to improve the support available to women under the age of 45 with breast cancer.

According to CDC about 11% of all new cases of breast cancer are found in women under the age of 45. These women often have unique challenges as they may be in college or developing their career. Some are parents of young children or others hope to have children one day. The goal of this program is to increase the understanding of the needs of these young women and the availability of resources to meet their needs. If you are interested in learning more about this program contact Debbie Webster at WebsterD1@michigan.gov. There are a variety of ways you can be involved.



2020 MCC Meetings

2021 Board Meetings:

Wednesday, March 24

Wednesday, June 23

Wednesday, September 22

For more information contact Amy Stagg at StaggA@michigan.gov.

Health Equity Corner

MCC Member Organization Highlight: ACCESS Community Health and Research Center

Submitted by Madiha Tariq, MPH, Deputy Director, ACCESS Community Health & Research Center

Since March, ACCESS has been providing weekly free Covid-19 testing to community members regardless of their insurance status. They have made sure that the intake staff at testing sites are case workers who can also assess the comprehensive needs of clients during the check-in process and coordinate care following their visit.

Recently, Ghada Aziz (Chronic Disease Outreach Coordinator) was doing intake for a woman at a testing site and shared information about the cancer screening program. This woman was a single mom with a son who is already being assisted by an ACCESS Program. For the last decade or so, she has been largely focusing on her son and paid little attention to her own health until recently when she started feeling something in her breast. She was worried about getting it checked because she is uninsured. Ghada took her information and connected her to the Karmanos Cancer Institute soon after talking to her. She was able to go in and get follow-up care. Although her journey ahead will not be easy, she knows now that she is not alone; mission-driven ACCESS staff, like Ghada, will be there with her. Had it not been for her showing up to the testing site and had the testing site not been open to all community members, she would have been looking at a very different path ahead.