

**Cancer Task Force Report**  
**Cecil County Community Health Advisory Committee**  
**July 19, 2012**

The Cancer Task Force (CTF) met on September 9, 2011, January 6, 2012, and May 11, 2012. Grant activities for the following grants were presented for comment: Cigarette Restitution Fund Program Cancer Prevention, Education, Screening and Treatment Program (CRF), Maryland Cancer Fund Cancer Early Detection/Secondary Prevention Grant (MCF), Small Media Provider Pilot Grant, and the Just Us! A Community Legacy for Breast Cancer Screening Program, Maryland Affiliate - Susan G. Komen for the Cure®. The CTF discussed and agreed with the proposed action plans for Fiscal Year 2012 grants and the Just Us! A Community Legacy for Breast Cancer Screening Program, Komen Maryland Affiliate's Fiscal Year 2013.

**Highlights for the Cancer Task Force**

- On March 22-23, the Division of Health Promotion presented a poster, "The Emerging Role of Local Health Departments in Fostering Community Collaboration to Increase CRC Screening Recommendations at Primary Care Offices" at the 14th Annual Dialogue for Action on Colorectal Cancer Screening: Today's Progress, Tomorrow's Challenge in Baltimore, MD. The poster covered the background and goals of the Small Media Provider Pilot Grant (SMPP) initiated at five healthcare provider sites in Cecil County. Initial chart audit results documented that 68% of clients received appropriate recommendations for CRC screening but only 32% had documentation of a completed screening. Also of interest was the disparity between men and women for CRC screening recommendations - 79% of men received CRC screening recommendation but only 57% of women received the same. Each of the five sites participating in the grant has selected interventions to implement increasing recommendations for CRC screening in their client population.
- Cecil County Health Department has also been awarded the Patient Navigation Grant. The goal of this grant is to work with Primary Care Providers to provide patient navigation services to clients to complete recommended colorectal, breast and cervical cancer screening. Two staff members in the Division of Health Promotion have completed the Harold P. Freeman Patient Navigation Institute online course and are certified as patient navigators. Two sites have agreed to participate in this grant.
- Sarah Conolly Hokenmaier, MPA, Coordinator, presented the Maryland Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan to the task force. Copies of the executive summary were handed out to coalition members. Ms. Hokenmaier offered several ideas as to what the CTF coalition can do to participate.
- The new Cancer Resource Center opening in the professional building at Union Hospital was announced. This is through a partnership between the hospital and the American Cancer Society. The center provides a place for cancer patients to get information about the disease. This is the first center like this in the Mid-Atlantic region.
- Jerri Longacre, R.N., B.S.N., Program Coordinator of the Colorectal Cancer Screening Program, informed the CTF that FY12 was the last of the three year funding for the Maryland Cancer Fund Cancer Early Detection/Secondary Prevention Grant (MCF). This grant in the past three years provided cancer screening services for approximately 22 clients per year. Due to the loss of these funds it was proposed to enroll only those who are uninsured. This change in the eligibility criteria would apply to all new clients, as well as, to all recall clients from both the MCF and CRF grants. After discussion and clarification there were no objections to the proposal and the CTF approved the change in program eligibility criteria.
- Rangika Fernando educated the CTF on the State Health Improvement Plan including Cecil County's Local Health Improvement Plan. Members were encouraged to be part of the planning process.
- Union Hospital representatives shared information about free screenings available for prostate cancer held in September 2011 and skin cancer.

The next meeting of the Cancer Task Force is **September 14, 2012** at 12 noon at the Cecil College - Elkton Station.