

Cancer Task Force Report
Cecil County Community Health Advisory Committee
January 17, 2013

The Cancer Task Force met on September 14, 2012 and November 16, 2012. Grant activities for the following grants were presented for comment: Cigarette Restitution Fund Program Cancer Prevention, Education, Screening and Treatment Program (CRF); Colorectal Cancer Small Media Provider Pilot and Patient Navigation Grant; and the Just Us! A Community Legacy for Breast Cancer Screening Program, Maryland Affiliate - Susan G. Komen for the Cure®.

Highlights of Cancer Task Force Activity

- ☒ Rangika Fernando, Cecil County Health Department Epidemiologist, presented the Local Health Improvement Plan and updates to the task force members.
- ☒ Beth Money, Union Hospital and Cancer Resource Center, announced its free screening services for Prostate Cancer, Skin Cancer and Head and Neck Cancer.
- ☒ The following Cecil County Health Department Maryland Cancer Fund Cancer Treatment Grant Application Policy changes were presented and agreed to by the task force members:
 - Client must be current Cecil County resident, enrolled and currently being screened in Cecil County Cigarette Restitution Fund Program Cancer Grant for Prevention, Education, Screening, and Treatment Program.
 - Client must have either a confirmed cancer diagnosis or finding suggestive of colorectal cancer, lymphoma (colon, rectal or anal) or carcinoids diagnosed during colorectal cancer screening. The finding must be no longer than 6 months prior to the date that Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Maryland Cancer Fund Program receives the application for treatment funds.
 - Cecil County Health Department will apply to Maryland Cancer Fund Cancer Treatment Grant for coverage to pay Maryland Health Insurance Plan premiums. Clients must apply to Maryland Health Insurance Plan concurrently. The Maryland Cancer Fund Cancer Treatment Grant and Maryland Health Insurance Plan are not retroactive.
- ☒ Kathy Thomas, Supervisor Food and Nutrition Services, Cecil County Public Schools, presented “Food and Nutrition Services” to the task force. Services include School Breakfast Program, After School Snack Program, At-Risk Supper Program, United States Department of Agriculture Foods Program and the National School Lunch Programs. Revised recipes for healthier choices to meet fruit, vegetables, whole grain and sodium requirements are being utilized.
- ☒ Maryland’s Ranking for Colorectal Cancer and Breast Cancer Screening is 5th in nation for bi-annual mammography and 6th in nation for CRC screenings as reported in MMWR Volume 61 Supplement (MMWR Vol. 61 / Supplement dated June 15, 2012).
- ☒ Relay for Life Cecil County meetings will be held on January 12, 2013 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Moose Lodge in Elkton and on January 16, 2013 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. at the North East United Methodist Church.
- ☒ Dr. Rohit Singhania presented information on bowel preparation for a colonoscopy to the task force. The stages of Colon Cancer and types of preventative tests and available bowel preparation productions were explained.
- ☒ Union Hospital has graciously agreed to work within the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene’s new requirement that local programs must reimburse hospitals for the colonoscopy facility fee at Medicare rates rather than the rates set by the Health Services Cost Review Commission. A new contract has been signed. In addition, a follow up office visit with the endoscopist for a colonoscopy with “normal results” is no longer required. The Task Force approved the change.
- ☒ The Cecil County Health Department Small Media Provider Pilot Program one year follow up chart audits are in the process of being scheduled and should be completed by February 2013.
- ☒ The Cecil County Health Department Patient Navigation Program services began November 2012 at one clinical site and is receiving referrals and documenting in the site’s Electronic Medical Record.

The next meeting of the Cancer Task Force is March 15, 2013 at 12 noon in the auditorium at the Cecil County Health Department.