

NYS Cancer Consortium Chronicle

New York State Cancer Consortium

• Dear Consortium Members,

In an effort to help you learn about some of the individuals involved in the leadership of the NYS Cancer Consortium, over the next several issues of the Chronicle, we will be including a "Meet the Steering Committee" section in which we will provide brief biographies of each Steering Committee member. Each Steering Committee member received a recommendation for their selection by the Membership Committee. Their nominations were then passed by the end of term Steering Committee. Each Steering Committee member agrees to a two-year term.

Meet Your Steering Committee!

Terry Albanese

Terry is the Director of Health Workforce Development at the Central NY Area Health Education Center. She is also an adjunct professor at SUNY Cortland for the health department. Her current work, along with her previous work experience in public health, fuels her interest in community health issues. With cancer remaining one of the top leading causes of death and the number of uninsured on the rise, Terry believes that comprehensive cancer control is critical to reducing disease, disability, and death from this disease. Terry is pleased to be working on a statewide initiative that is so motivated to be making change.

Dee DeLollo, RN, BS, OCN

Dee has been involved with cancer prevention/detection for the last eight years. Prior to that, she did inpatient and outpatient chemo therapy infusion. When she first started in oncology in 1982, there were very few chemo therapy regimes and cancer was a death sentence to most. Chemotherapy has taken a new direction and

genetics is playing an important role in risk assessment. Cancer is now a chronic disease and people are living much longer. Through education, awareness and research, this has been possible. Even though there have been advances in cancer care, Dee recognizes that we have a long way to go. Her involvement in the Steering Committee allows her to be a part of the direction NYS is taking to reduce cancer among New Yorkers.

Brenda Frost

Brenda is the Chief Executive Director of STRIDES Black Women in Stride/ Minorities United in Stride Cancer Resource & Community Development Foundation Inc. She also volunteers with the Susan F. Komen Foundation Speakers Bureau, American Cancer Society, the Witness Project, Start-Up NY— a pilot program assisting individuals with disabilities to become successful entrepreneurs, and is a Citizens Action Network Racial Justice Committee member.

A native New Yorker, born in the Bronx, Brenda relo-

cated to Syracuse, New York in 1989. She is a single mother of four, who previously had a career in corporate banking and medical billing. In 2003, she was devastated to learn she had breast cancer. Now she is a four-year survivor. This experience has given her a new outlook on life, leading her on a path service to the community on the disparities in chronic health related issues. Her goal is to create healthy minorities in various communities by being the front-line of strength and support for patients, family members and caregivers battling cancer, and dispelling the myths about the "c" word, Cancer! Today, her life is on the path of "HEALTH AWARENESS." Brenda's dream is to travel nationwide to unite people and educate them on the importance of understanding cancer, disabilities, and disparities.

Michael Katz

Michael is an 18-year myeloma survivor and is Vice President of the International Myeloma Foundation and co-chair of the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group Patient Representative Com-

mittee. Mr. Katz leads in-person and online support groups for patients and is very active in developing multimedia educational programs, clinical trial information and software for cancer patients and caregivers. He is past-chair of the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Directors Consumer Liaison Group and the Association of Cancer Online Resources (ACOR).

Howard Kaufman, MD

Dr. Kaufman is the Edwin C. and Anne K. Weiskopf Associate Professor of Clinical Surgical Oncology and Chief of the Division of Surgical Oncology at Columbia Univer-

(Continued on page 4)

Inside this issue:

May Calendar	2
June Calendar	3
State of the Plan: Treatment	3
A Word from the Healthcare Systems Subcommittee	4
What's New on the Site?	4

May 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 WNY Cancer Coalition Launch	3
4 New Directions in Clin. Qual. Initiatives	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 LIVESTRONG Day	14 Healthy People 2020	15 "Threads in the Fabric"	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 P.L.A.N.E.T. and UWW Training & Peer-to-Peer Conference Call	23	24
25	26	27	28 Healthier Communities: NYC & Access to Cancer Care Conf	29 Healthier Communities: Saratoga Springs	30	31

Schedule of Events

- **May 2:** Western NY Cancer Coalition Launch— Learn about the NYS Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan, different perspectives on the cancer burden in NYS, and cancer issues specific to WNY.
- **May 4:** CHCANYS sponsored 2008 Clinical Conference: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Primary

Care. Outreach to Med. Directors and clinicians at The Crowne Plaza in White Plains, NY. For more info go to : www.chcanys.org.

- **May 10:** 7:30am-12pm. The CR Wood Cancer Center 2008 Dr. William Simmond's Spring Cancer Symposium "Assessing & Managing Your Patient's Cancer Risk: Tools and Information for Primary Care Providers." For more information, call 518-926-6640.

- **May 13:** LIVESTRONG Day (see purple box below for more info)
- **May 14:** Developing the Framework for Healthy People 2020. One of the 6 national public meetings convened by the US Dept of Health and Human Services, occurring in lower Manhattan. There is no cost, but attendees must register. For more info, visit: <http://www.healthypeople.gov/hp2020/regional/default>
- **May 15:** "Threads in the Fabric: Working Together for Quality Hospice and Palliative Care" held by the Hospice and Palliative Care Association of NYS.
- **May 22:** 9am-1pm Cancer Control P.L.A.N.E.T. and Using What Works Training will be hosted at SUNY Plattsburg. These NCI tools are designed to help healthier educators, researchers and planners to design and utilize evidence based interventions. For more information, email nyscccp@cancer.org.
- **May 22:** 2pm Peer-to-Peer Conference Call "Serving More and More: How to Take Your Clinical Environment into the Outreach Environment". Call begins with a panel of peer experts followed by a facilitated discussion. To register, visit <http://farmworkerhealth.org/peertopeer.html>.
- **May 28:** 8:45am-5pm, NYC. Healthier Communities (see left purple box below)
- **May 28:** 8:30am-3:30pm "Conference on Access to Cancer Care and Services for Immigrants with Breast Cancer" at NYU Medical Center. Topics include: Legal Issues, 'Emergency' Medicaid, Immigrant Housing Support. For more information, email Vidya.Putcha@med.nyu.edu
- **May 29:** 8:15am-5pm, Saratoga Springs. Healthier Communities (see purple box)

LIVESTRONG Day:

Be part of a cancer-fighting community by organizing or attending a LIVESTRONG Day event on May 13th. Anyone, anywhere can organize a LIVESTRONG Day event (I.e. bike ride, bake sale, voter registration drive, etc.). This year, more than 500 LIVESTRONG Day events will take place across the country to raise awareness and funds for the fight against cancer. To register an event or see what is going on in your area, please visit, www.livestrong.org/livestrongday.

Healthier Communities: Successful Strategies of Steps to a HealthierNY

Steps to a HealthierNY is a CDC initiative in 4 NYS counties. Each county uses an integrated, community-based approach to reduce the burden of diabetes, obesity and asthma by promoting physical activity, healthy eating and tobacco-free initiatives. These 1-Day workshops are occurring across NYS to address the burden of chronic disease and are designed for individuals interested in improving the health of their communities. Space is limited so register early. Each workshop includes a Continental breakfast and lunch. There is a \$50 registration fee.

For more information visit:

Steps to a HealthierUS: www.cdc.gov/steps
 Broome County: www.broomesteps.org
 Jefferson County: www.ncsteps.org
 Chautauqua County: www.ccsteps.org
 Rockland County: www.rocklandsteps.org

June 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 <i>Healthier Communities: Syracuse</i>	5 <i>Healthier Communities: Cheektowaga</i>	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 <i>Peer-to-Peer Conference Call</i>	27	28
29	30					

NYS Increases Cigarette Tax!

Effective June 3rd, NYS will increase the cigarette tax \$1.25 a pack, raising the tax to \$2.75 a pack. This puts NY in the lead for cigarette tax and will result in an estimated 140,000 fewer smokers in the state. Way to go, NY! Kudos to all who assisted in making this tax increase happen.

State of the Plan: Treatment

The New York State Cancer Registry (NYSCR) began collecting cancer treatment data in 2003 using nationally standardized coding guidelines. Three types of treatment data are being collected: cancer surgery, radiation therapy, and systemic therapy data. Surgery data allow for identification of the surgical procedure at the site of tumor origin, the biopsy and removal of regional lymph nodes, and the removal of distant tissue beyond the primary site. Radiation therapy data elements describe radiation modality and anatomic

target, in addition to the dose and timing of treatment. Systemic therapy data include chemotherapy, hormone therapy, immunotherapy, endocrine therapy, and hematologic transplants.

Currently, the NYSCR is processing the treatment dataset for 2003 through 2006, reviewing it for quality and completeness. When this process is complete, the treatment data may become available for analysis. There are some limitations to the data including that not all hospitals and specialization fa-

cilities have the same reporting requirements and treatment information is not available when the cancer report is based on the results of a laboratory examination, an autopsy report, or a death file.

The collection of this data will help track the treatment goals of the New York State Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan as well as fulfill some of the strategies in the data and surveillance section of the Plan.

Schedule of Events

- **June 4:** 8:15am-5pm. Healthier Communities: Successful Strategies of Steps to a HealthierNY, Syracuse (See purple box on Page 2).
- **June 5:** 8:15am-5pm. Healthier Communities: Successful Strategies of Steps to a HealthierNY, Cheektowaga (See purple box on Page 2).
- **June 26:** 2pm. Peer-to-Peer Conference Call. "Populations on the Rise: Understanding and Serving Indigenous Farmworkers." Call begins with a panel of peer experts followed by a facilitated discussion. To register, visit: <http://farmworkerhealth.org/peertopeer.html>.
- **June 29:** Free Online Seminar: "Introduction to Ovarian Cancer" Collaboration with the NYS Dept. of Health Ovarian Cancer Program and the NYS Nurses Assn. Is offering a brand-new web seminar. Target audience is nurses. Participants will learn about the epidemiology of ovarian cancer, signs, symptoms and risk factors associated with the disease, **and the important role of nurses in** identifying and managing affected women. Registration is required and Continuing Ed. Credits are available. For more info or to register, log onto <http://www.nysna.org>.

Smoke Free Gaming Rooms!

Congratulations to our New Jersey neighbors! The City Council in Atlantic City unanimously passed an ordinance to provide 100% smoke free gaming floors in all city casinos. Smoking will be allowed in enclosed, separately ventilated smoking lounges, but there will be no gaming or staff permitted in the lounge area. The Mayor now has 20 days to sign this ordinance into law. Once passed, casinos must enact this new law by October 2008.

(Continued from page 1)

sity. He also serves as the Director of the Tumor Immunology Laboratory and is Co-Director of the Columbia Melanoma Center. He is the Co-Chair of the Oncology Service Line for NY Presbyterian Hospital. Dr. Kaufman did his surgical residency at Boston University and completed fellowship training in Tumor Immunology and Surgical Oncology at the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, MD. His research focuses on the use of poxviruses as vaccines for cancer and the clinical application of tumor immunotherapy in patients with melanoma and renal cell carcinoma. Dr. Kaufman has conducted numerous Phase I clinical trials and has chaired several multi-institutional and cooperative group clinical trials. He serves on several editorial boards and has authored or co-authored over 175 peer-reviewed manuscripts, book chapters, review articles and abstracts. He recently authored "The Melanoma Book" as a comprehensive cancer resource for patients with melanoma. He has received numerous awards for his scientific research and was named as one of the best doctors in NY by New York Magazine and one of the best doctors in the US by Castle-Connolly. Dr.

Kaufman is a member of several national and international medical and scientific societies and serves as a consultant for several large pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies.

Leslie Larsen, MPH

Leslie is the Coordinator of the New York State Comprehensive Cancer Control Program. One of her areas of responsibility in this role is to work with members of the NYS Cancer Consortium to develop a statewide communication network for members. In addition, Leslie works on implementing special projects in cancer control and sits on various work groups and planning committees, both related to cancer, such as the Dialogue for Action and other areas of interest. In her free time, Leslie enjoys writing, and is training to be a magician's assistant.

Karen Lower, RN, MS

Karen is the Executive Director, Product Line Services at Arnot Ogden Medical Center in Elmira, NY. One of her areas of responsibility is the Oncology Service Line. One of the things that became evident to

her early in this role was the importance of connecting with the "community of cancer care". She is an advisory board member for the Western Region of the Eastern Division of ACS, secretary of the Board of Directors for Southern Tier Hospice and Palliative Care, and treasurer for the local chapter of American College of Healthcare Executives. In her spare time, she and her husband enjoy all the extra-curricular activities of their twin teenage boys. She also gardens and takes piano lessons.

Betty (Elizabeth) Owens, RN MS, OCN

Betty is a registered nurse from Buffalo, NY who has been involved in oncology nursing her entire nursing career. She is currently the Director of Nursing Education at Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, NY, the only NCI Designated Comprehensive Cancer Center in Western NY. She is also a member of the American Cancer Society Eastern Division Board of Directors. Betty became involved in the Consortium after being invited by Melissa Blackstone, since she currently chairs several committees and workgroups on the ACS Board and some of her work there crosses over to the Consortium.

New York State Cancer Services Program (NYSCSP)

The NYS Dept. of Health Cancer Services Program (NYSDOH CSP) oversees the delivery of free breast, cervical and colorectal cancer screenings to women and men who are uninsured, underinsured or cannot pay for these services. In addition, diagnostic services and treatment coverage is available for those who are eligible. Services are coordinated by community-based partnerships located in every county/borough in NY State. The community-based programs are collectively referred to as the Cancer Services Program Partnerships, CSP Partnerships. CSP Partnerships rely on community partners to help identify and recruit priority populations for screening services. Partners include community-based organizations, health care providers, local businesses, health-related organizations and government agencies.

Who is Eligible?

Free Mammograms

- Women aged 40 and older
- Women who are younger than 40 and at high risk for breast cancer

Pap tests, pelvic exams and clinical breast exams

- Women aged 18 and older

Fecal Occult Blood Tests

- Men and women aged 50 and older who are at average risk for colorectal cancer

Screening Colonoscopies

- Men and women determined to be at elevated risk for colorectal cancer

Provider Benefits to Participating in the CSP Partnerships

- Receive reimbursement for screen-

ing, diagnostic and treatment services that you are currently providing to uninsured patients, but for which you are not compensated

- Reimbursement for the provision of HPV vaccine to eligible women aged 19 to 26
- Access to a network of CSP-sponsored community-based cancer support and legal assistance programs

To find a CSP Partnership in your community, please call 1-866-442-CANCER (1-866-422-2262). To learn more about the NYSDOH Cancer Services Program or how to become a community partner or provider, please contact Heather LeBlanc at hsl04@health.state.ny.us or (518)474-1222.



New York State Cancer Consortium

"Working together, reducing cancer, saving lives"

For membership information, please go to www.nyscancerconsortium.org and click on "Join Today!" at the bottom of our homepage.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
VISIT US AT:
[HTTP://WWW.NYSCANCERCONSORTIUM.ORG](http://WWW.NYSCANCERCONSORTIUM.ORG)

Letter from the Editor:

With 2010 quickly approaching, the NYSCC continues to work hard toward the goals in the NYS strategic plan. With the creation of the Western NY Cancer Coalition, the brainchild of Dr. Ashwani Rajput, goals set in the NYS Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan seem more possible every day. For more information on this new coalition, stay tuned to our Special Chronicle Edition due out at the end of June/early July. Photos and information will also be made available on our website. Congratulations, Western NY!

Heads Up!

In order to facilitate evaluation of the NYSCC, a Member Satisfaction Survey will soon be sent to all NYSCC members. The survey should take about 10 minutes and will be answered from a first-person perspective. Please be honest and be as specific as possible.

Special Chronicle Edition

The next edition of the Chronicle will be a special edition featuring a special focus on CDC funded activities undertaken through the NYS Comprehensive Cancer Control Program and the NYSCC website. Stay tuned!

Membership Committee Challenge Reminder!

As a quick reminder, the NYSCC Membership Committee challenged all members of the NYSCC to recruit one new member to the Consortium in an attempt to double our membership. Remember to encourage colleagues to join the Consortium by July to meet this challenge. Good luck!

What's New on the Site

Maps

Check out new mapping using Observed Cancer Cases for selected cancer sites in different areas of New York State. Mammography sites, cancer centers, and hospitals have also been mapped. These maps may be used by all individuals and organizations in the NYSCC.

Documents

NYSCC Implementation Activities Survey Results
Now available on the site are a pdf report and PowerPoint presentation showing survey results and outcomes from the Survey Results Committee.

Registrations

Registration for the May 22 Cancer Control P.L.A.N.E.T. and Using What Works Training in Plattsburg, NY is now available! Go to nyscancerconsortium.org and click on News.

Stay Tuned for the Website Users Survey

A new website user survey has been created to see what types of people are currently using the site, what they are looking for, and if the site is user-friendly. Be sure to fill out the survey (1-2 minutes) so that your comments are noted!