

Calhoun County Cancer Control Coalition
Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2007
Family Health Center, Park Hill Conference Room

Present: Dr. Karamchandani (Chair), Dr. Benzik, Kathy Bloch, Carla Chambers, Dr. Cram, Sue DeRuiter, Phil Hostetler, Pam Hughes, Donna Kachman, Mike Murray, Deb Pierce, Barbara Nawrocki, Carol Meyer-Niedzwiecki, Lauren Rocho, and Jean Thompson.

I. Minutes: Minutes from the December 6, 2006 meeting were approved.

II. Web Site Design

Lauren Rocho reported that the website is in the final stages of being designed by Raffail & Associates of Albion. A printout of the main page of the site was included in the meeting packets. The site currently contains a main page, a page for more information about the group, a page for the calendar of cancer events, a page for meeting minutes, and a page to contact the group. The web address is: www.calhouncancer.org. Discussion was held about the contact page and the fact that any questions or comments will be e-mailed to Rocho and shared with the group at meetings when appropriate.

III. Letter from Health Care Leadership Forum

Dr. Karamchandani reported that the copy of the letter included in the meeting packets from the Health Care Leadership Forum was for the group's information.

IV. Updates from SubCommittees

A. Lung/Tobacco

Carol Meyer-Niedzwiecki reported that the group is still working with Battle Creek Health Systems and the Calhoun County Commissioners.

- **Decision of BCHS** – Mary Ellen Benzik reported that the BCHS board discussed a referendum that states they will go smoke-free as of January 2008. The board gave hospital staff until March to develop a plan. Benzik reported that Bronson and Borgess have also decided to go smoke-free. Dr. Mayer has a meeting scheduled with Senator Mark Schauer to discuss what can be done at the state level. They will also be presenting to the Substance Abuse Council.

B. Colorectal Cancer

Dr. Karamchandani reported that the subcommittee is working on planning for March, which is Colorectal Cancer Awareness month. The group is planning to do paycheck stuffers, posters in workplaces, and a display at Burnham Brook. The group is also planning an article in Body, Mind & Spirit and is planning to have Elizabeth Huff (health reporter for the Battle Creek Enquirer) contact two patients whose lives have been saved through screenings. The group is still in talks with Samantha Pearl about the Calhoun Health Plan covering screenings and the letters to physicians including the survey results went out this week.

V. Other Updates

Deb Pierce reported on the year-end report for smoking cessation programs at BCHS. Pierce held two Fresh Start classes; the February class has 13 participants and the October class had 3 participants. The goal for Observation Patients was 50% and the actual number was 572, which was 74%. The goal for Inpatients was 80% and the actual number was 2151, which was 89%.

Action: Pierce will e-mail the dates of the Fresh Start classes to Lauren Rocho to have them put on the calendar on the website.

The group meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. and Sub-Groups convened.

Respectfully submitted by Lauren Rocho

Next meeting:

Wednesday, February 7, 2007; 5:30 p.m.
Family Health Center; Park Hill Conference Room