

Calhoun County Cancer Control Coalition
Meeting Minutes
June 2, 2010

BCHS Cancer Center Conference Room

Present: Dr. Mahesh Karamchandani (Chair), Jenny Rogers, Barb Townsend, John Townsend, Jill Wise, Kathy Wanner, Tim Wanner, Mike Murray, Bill Greer, Deborah Pierce, Ron Elkins, Ann Zormsky, Mary Ellen Benzik, Sue DeRuiter and Dr. Ralph Cram.

I. Minutes: Minutes from the May 5, 2010 meeting were approved.

II. Updates from Subcommittees

A. Breast Cancer

- Wayne Young spoke about the Race for the Cure and said that there was a 40% increase over last year. More families were involved since it was on a Sunday afternoon.
- He also talked about the transition and follow-up after a patient was done at the Cancer Center at BCHS with their primary care physician.
- There was discussion about a program they are working on in coordination with the Battle Creek Y-Center on a cancer survivor program. This program would be one night a week and include classes on nutrition, a trainer, a dietitian and a social worker. They are hoping to provide this to 20 non-cancer specific survivors three times a year with the first class starting in October.
- Sue DeRuiter talked about the “Pink Ribbon Riders” this is a group that raises money for Breast Cancer. They offer a \$500 gift card for Breast Cancer patients only to be used on anything they may need. BCHS helps them fill out the paperwork correctly so they get approved for this program.
- Wayne said that volunteers have planted vegetables in the Healing Garden at BCHS to give away to patients and staff.

B. Colorectal Cancer

- Dr. Mahesh Karamchandani talked about the results from the March Colorectal Awareness month. The Battle Creek Endoscopy had 19 patients, 11 females and 8 males. Of them 7 had polyps, 2 were pre-cancerous and one was diagnosed with cancer. Oaklawn Hospital completed 10 colonoscopies and no one had pre-malignant polyps.
- Dr. K also talked about the BC Knights Basketball announcement of the Super Colon and that there would be discounted tickets.
- He also thanked Jenny Rogers who will be donating a bike for a giveaway at the fair.
- Barbara Townsend, along with Sue DeRuiter, would like to start up a Colon Cancer Support group.

C. Lung/Tobacco

- Dr. Mary Ellen Benzik and Deb Pierce talked about the 211 call center for smoking cessation. They are hoping to funnel all info through this number.
- They are discussing stickers/decals to be made and placed on Johnnie Advertisements (located in local restrooms) with this call center number on it for help with smoking cessation.
- Deb Pierce mentioned that Ingham County has had a surge of inquiries about quitting smoking since the Smoke-Free Michigan has started. She also stated that CNN reported that there are more carcinogens in US cigarettes.

- Dr. Benzik talked about the spirometer testing at the fair and how the results would get back to the PCP. There was also discussion that if the person doesn't have a PCP how that would get handled. She is working on a plan.

III. Misc.

- Wayne Young spoke about a large socio-economic study done by Dr. Peter Bach that showed people with less money get less care; it isn't the race of the patient or doctor, but the economic status that determines the level of care given.
- Wayne also informed everyone that he was leaving the Cancer Care Center and moving to Abu Dhabi. He will be leaving at the end of July. There will be someone else taking over the Breast Cancer Sub-Committee.
- Bill Greer let everyone know that Mick Cornette, the Mayor for Oklahoma City, will be visiting Battle Creek on June 30th. He will be discussing the community initiative to get everyone healthy. Check out the website www.okcmillion.com

IV. Coordinator Updates

- Jenny Rogers showed the updated 5C website that has the "Donation" section and "Volunteer" section. She suggested that everyone pass this website along to everyone to get more people involved.

The group meeting adjourned and Sub-Groups convened.

Respectfully submitted by Jenny Rogers

Next meeting:

Wednesday, July 7, 2010, 5:30 p.m.
Battle Creek Health System Cancer Center Conference Room