

**FLORIDA CANCER CONTROL AND RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL**  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**Friday, September 29, 2023, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

**Council Members in Attendance**

- Senator Colleen Burton - Senate President's Appointee
- Representative Linda Chaney - House Speaker's Appointee
- Christopher Cogle, MD - Senate President's Appointee
- Mike Diaz, MD - Association of Community Cancer Centers
- Clement Gwede, PhD, MPH, RN - Moffitt Cancer Center (Chair)
- Erin Kobetz, PhD - Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center University of Miami (Vice Chair)
- Joseph Ladapo, MD - Florida's Surgeon General, Florida Department of Health
- Merritt Martin - House Speaker's Appointee
- Jessica MacIntyre, DNP, MBA, APRN, AOCNP - Florida Nurses Association
- Ramzi Salloum, PhD - University of Florida Health Cancer Center
- Megan Wessel, MPH - American Cancer Society

**Council Members Not in Attendance**

- Mitchell Peabody, DO - Florida Osteopathic Medical Association
- Nitesh Paryani, MD - Florida Medical Association
- Luis Raez, MD - Florida Hospital Association

**Others**

- |                         |                       |                    |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| • Tiffany Albury        | • Tonia Harris        | • Julie Newberry   |
| • Leanne Alexander      | • Meredith Hennon     | • Kenneth Peach    |
| • Daniel Armstrong      | • Monique Hernandez   | • Towana Reddick   |
| • Seth Berkowitz        | • Carissa Hickok      | • Tammy            |
| • Rob Brooks            | • Rebekah Hurd        | • Semelsberger     |
| • Melanie Brown         | • Caitlin Kennedy     | • Pamela Sirota    |
| • Laura Corbin          | • Christine Kucera    | • Thomas Stringer  |
| • Alexia Denton         | • Jennifer Kue        | • Deana Tharpe     |
| • Felisha Dickey        | • Heather Lake-Burger | • Cynthia Thiry    |
| • Bonnie Gaughan-Bailey | • Valarie Lee         | • Daudet Tshiswaka |
| • Marnie George         | • David Lee           | • Lynn Vinson      |
| • Jan Gorrie            | • Peyton Lurk         | • Richard Williams |
| • Tracey Gregory        | • Justice Mbizo       | • Jamie Wilson     |
| • Susan Harbin          | • Bobbie McKee        | • Kathy Woodward   |
|                         | • Leah Mitchem        |                    |

## **Welcome**

Dr. Clement Gwede began by welcoming members and guests, taking a moment to reaffirm the Council's mission to advise the state on ways to reduce cancer burden, and reviewing the day's agenda. Council members introduced themselves.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Gwede presented the minutes from May 12, 2023. Dr. Erin Kobetz made a motion to accept the minutes. Dr. Mike Diaz seconded the motion to approve the minutes. The Council concurred with no objections.

## **Biomedical Research Advisory Council (BRAC) Update**

Dr. Danny Armstrong gave an update on the state's cancer research programs. Dr. Armstrong reviewed the Biomedical Council Advisory Council (BRAC) background and updated BRAC membership. He discussed status of the current funding opportunities for the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program (JEK), Bankhead Coley Cancer Research Program (BC) and Live Like Bella Pediatric Cancer Research Initiative (LLB). Additional resources for the BRAC programs would allow for more of these projects to be funded and to continue bringing great science and job creation to Florida. Dr. Armstrong also share information regarding the new Florida Cancer Collaborative Innovation Fund (FCCIF), which is funded at \$20 million for this year and will provide an opportunity for stakeholders across the state to submit innovative proposals to be considered for funding.

## **Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program 3-Year Report**

Dr. Gwede invited Council Members to provide additional feedback on the Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program 3-Year report. No potential revisions were brought forward. Dr. Diaz motioned to move forward with CCRAB's acknowledgement of receipt of the report with no further recommendations. Dr. Kobetz seconded the motion. The Council concurred with no objections.

## **Florida Cancer Plan Updates and Discussion**

There have been no submissions for potential Cancer Plan revisions to be considered for this year. There was discussion regarding potential updates to the USPSTF guidelines for breast cancer screening. This type of change would meet the criteria for consideration by Council to update the 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan. If new recommendations are adopted by the USPSTF, the information will be shared with CCRAB members in accordance with the Council-approved plan for revising the Cancer Plan. There was discussion regarding the previous USPSTF guideline update for colorectal cancer screening to include lower age groups. Dr. Diaz noted the role primary care can have as we continue to work on this issue. The Council will continue to follow evolving science and ensure that current recommendations are captured in the reports the Council is statutorily required to develop and update.

Dr. Gwede introduced the topic of planning for the next Florida Cancer Plan. The Council discussed clarification of when the next five-year plan should begin and concurred that the next plan will begin January, 2026 through December, 2030. Plans to develop the next Plan will be a discussion item in 2024. Stakeholder input from across the state through regional town halls was a critical part of the process for developing the current Plan.

## **Department of Health Updates**

Dr. Joseph Ladapo shared that in June, the governor signed \$190 million budget for cancer initiatives. He discussed the Cancer Connect Collaborative created by First Lady Casey DeSantis in partnership with the Florida Department of Health (DOH) and Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA), and goals of

enhancing cancer care in research in Florida. Expansion of how cancer data is collected in the state, including cancer recurrence data, is a critical component. Dr. Ladapo also discussed the success of Florida's Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (BCCEDP) in exceeding goals for number screened, but still only has funding to reach approximately 10% of the eligible population. Also discussed were efforts regarding the State's new five-year tobacco strategic plan and importance of strategies to enhance tobacco-related collaborations around the state. Laura Corbin elaborated on the BCCEDP efforts and provided an update on additional DOH programmatic efforts, including the Colorectal Cancer (CRC) screening initiative and the Comprehensive Cancer Control program. There was discussion regarding BCCEDP pool of eligibility, services provided through the program, and overcoming potential barriers to breast cancer screening, including the use of mobile units. Mobile events can incorporate other services to assist with barriers to additional health services as well. Dr. Rob Brooks elaborated on the Cancer Connect Collaborative's efforts and emphasized the priority of collecting cancer recurrence data. Dr. Brooks shared that first submission of recurrence data was received from the state's four NCI centers, per statute; the Department, FCDS, and the NCI centers are working closely together on this initiative. Additionally, work is underway to develop a long-range cancer research plan.

#### **State Cancer Plan Implementation – Community Implementation Grants Update**

Dr. Kobetz recapped the purpose of the community implementation grant initiative, a joint effort by the offices of community outreach and engagement at Sylvester and Moffitt, and invited Felisha Dickey from the Florida DOH to introduce the Regional Cancer Control Collaborative Coordinators to provide updates on the projects they are working on with the dollars awarded through this funding mechanism. Four of the six Collaboratives applied for these funds; all four were funded for up to \$16,500 to work on projects that reflect local need and evidence-based work. Coordinators presented on their projects, which include focus on breast cancer screening in the Northwest Region, colorectal cancer screening in the North Central Region, radon and lung cancer screening in the East Central Region and prostate cancer in the Southeast Region.

#### **Florida's Cancer Burden – Highlights/ Lung Cancer Screening Updates and Discussion**

Dr. Gwede discussed Florida's cancer burden and focus areas of the 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan, including early detection for cancers and disparities in diagnoses of late-stage cancers. He reviewed the long-term vision of cancer in Florida. Dr. Gwede introduced Dr. Lary Robinson to provide a presentation on lung cancer screening. Dr. Robinson presented on the benefits of detecting lung cancer early and barriers to increasing lung cancer screening. Education is a notable barrier. Dr. Ladapo noted the relative newness of these studies and the potential for practitioners farther from their training to be less likely to recommend.

#### **Florida Cancer Data System (FCDS) Update**

Dr. David Lee and Dr. Monique Hernandez provided an update on Florida's State Cancer Data Workgroups, which were developed to address objectives in the 2020-2025 Florida Cancer Plan. This includes an objective to form a state cancer data workgroup consisting of key stakeholders to develop strategies for adding cancer biology data, social determinants of health data, cancer screening data, and precancerous cervical pathology test results (CIN2/3, CIS) to the state cancer registry (Objective 2.1), and four sub-groups developed to focus on Cancer Plan Objectives 2.2 (focus on adding cancer biology data to the registry), 2.3 (focus on adding social determinants of health and additional patient demographic data to the registry), 2.4 (focus on the addition of cancer screening items to the registry) and 2.6 (focus on increasing access and utilization of registry data). The sub-groups have developed pilots and/or implementation strategies for each of the four objectives and have identified the resource needs and timelines to move forward. The groups are working to identify funding sources for the pilot

projects. There was discussion regarding the relevance and importance of enhancing the state cancer registry and eventual need for additional resources for FCDS.

#### **State Legislative Update & Discussion**

Representative Linda Chaney began by reviewing objectives for the upcoming legislative session, including the new Healthcare Innovation Subcommittee, reducing the costs of healthcare, and additional focus on collection of data referenced in the 2023 PBM legislation. Susan Harbin, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), reviewed ACS CAN's priority appropriations issues and efforts to expand coverage for biomarker testing during the past legislative session. ACS CAN will continue to work on the biomarker testing initiative in the 2024 session. There was discussion regarding efforts to reduce costs for diagnostic mammograms.

#### **Florida SHIP: Cancer Control Goal, Statewide Colorectal Cancer Screening and Prevention Initiative 202-2023, and Medicaid and Cancer**

Dr. Chris Cogle provided an update on the cancer-related goals and objectives being discussed by the Chronic Disease Priority Area Workgroup for the Florida State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) and emphasized the importance of data. The goal is to reduce new cases of cancer and cancer-related illness, disability, and death. Representatives from CCRAB, BRAC and FCDS are actively engaged as stakeholders in the development of cancer-related objectives as part of SHIP. Objectives are focused on lung cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer and colorectal cancer in alignment with the Cancer Plan. Dr. Cogle also discussed the success of AHCA's CRC screening and prevention initiative, HPV vaccination, and tobacco cessation.

#### **Prostate Cancer Advisory Council (PCAC) Update**

Dr. Tom Stringer shared that the Florida Prostate Cancer Advisory Council (PCAC) executive leadership will fully transition to Dr. Tarik Benidir later this year. Dr. Stringer provided an update on priorities identified by PCAC and reviewed elements of strategy to reduce racial disparities in prostate cancer outcomes. The next PCAC meeting will be held in December 2023.

#### **Comments**

Dr. Gwede invited any meeting attendees to make comments.

#### **Next CCRAB Meeting**

Dr. Gwede stated that the next CCRAB meeting will be in the Spring of 2024. Dr. Bobbie McKee will follow-up with Council members with additional information.

#### **Adjourn**

Dr. Gwede thanked everyone for participating. The meeting adjourned at 2:56 PM on September 29, 2023.