

**FLORIDA CANCER CONTROL AND RESEARCH ADVISORY COUNCIL  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
Friday, November 14, 2025, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

**Council Members in Attendance**

- Senator Colleen Burton - Senate President's Appointee
- Autumn Citta, ARNP - Governor's Appointee
- Christopher Cogle, MD - Senate President's Appointee
- Clement Gwede, PhD, MPH, RN - Moffitt Cancer Center (Chair)
- Paul Hull, PhD - American Cancer Society
- Erin Kobetz, PhD - Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center University of Miami (Vice Chair)
- Joseph Ladapo, MD, PhD - Florida's Surgeon General, Florida Department of Health (Laura Corbin)
- Jessica MacIntyre, DNP, MBA, APRN, AOCNP - Florida Nurses Association
- Merritt Martin - House Speaker's Appointee
- Alfredo Quinones-Hinojosa, MD - Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville
- Luis Raez, MD - Florida Hospital Association
- Ramzi Salloum, PhD - University of Florida Health Cancer Center

**Council Members Not in Attendance**

- Representative Linda Chaney - House Speaker's Appointee
- Mike Diaz, MD - Association of Community Cancer Centers
- Nitesh Paryani, MD - Florida Medical Association
- Mitchell Peabody, DO - Florida Osteopathic Medical Association

**Others**

- |                            |                           |                        |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| • Leanne Alexander         | • Jeff Feller             | • Justice Mbizo        |
| • Daniel Armstrong         | • Ian Fitzpatrick         | • Bobbie McKee         |
| • Kimberlee Baugh          | • William Fredericks      | • Leah Mitchem         |
| • Seth Berkowitz           | • Tracey Gregory          | • Bridgette Morton     |
| • Robert Brooks            | • Susan Harbin            | • Brooke Murray        |
| • Lacoada Burkes           | • Monique Hernandez       | • Deandrea Newsome     |
| • Rachel Carter            | • Carissa Hickok          | • Vickie Perez-Marrero |
| • Heather Conley           | • Janice Krieger          | • Noreen Stephenson    |
| • Laura Corbin             | • Paul Ledford            | • Lynn Vinson          |
| • Nicole de Lara<br>Puente | • Valerie Lee             | • Jamie Wilson         |
| • Mackenson<br>Desamours   | • Gary Levin              | • Kathy Woodward       |
| • Felisha Dickey           | • Ashley Lyerly           |                        |
|                            | • Samantha<br>Marticorena |                        |

## **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 June 6, 2025. Dr. Paul Hull made a motion to accept the minutes. Dr. Ramzi Salloum seconded the motion. The Council concurred with no objections.

## **Highlights of Florida's Cancer Burden**

Dr. Gwede discussed Florida's cancer burden, including differences in early detection, incidence and mortality. He reviewed geographical variations and opportunities to identify and address through efforts outlined in the Florida Cancer Plan. The updated Cancer Plan aims to better identify metrics for objectives and enhance data collection and reporting to better understand needs and opportunities. Partners at all levels will work on Cancer Plan implementation.

## **Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program Annual Report**

Dr. Gwede stated that CCRAB had received the Casey DeSantis Cancer Research Program Annual Report, per statutory requirement. No action was needed.

## **Department of Health Updates**

Laura Corbin, delegate for Dr. Joseph Ladapo at this meeting, shared updates from the Florida Department of Health team on the state cancer programs, including the Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, the Colorectal Cancer Control Program, and Tobacco Free Florida. Infrastructure expansion in Palm Beach County greatly contributed to BCCEDP successes.

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

Dr. Danny Armstrong gave an update on the state's cancer research programs, including the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program (JEK), Bankhead Coley Cancer Research Program (BC), Live Like Bella Pediatric Cancer Research Initiative (LLB), Rare Pediatric Disease Research Initiative, the Casey DeSantis Cancer Innovation Fund, and the Cancer Centers of Excellence Program. Dr. Armstrong also shared that the BRAC will be working on their new strategic plan, expected in 2026.

## **Florida Rural Health Transformation Program & Biomarker Test Coverage Update**

Dr. Chris Cogle discussed the grant opportunity through new Rural Health Transformation Program. The Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) will be releasing additional details on this program. Dr. Cogle also shared that new information on coverage for biomarker testing would be reported on in the new year.

## **Prostate Cancer Advisory Council Update**

Dr. Paul Hull shared that the next PCAC meeting will be in December 2026. CCRAB will be invited to present at the meeting.

## **State Legislative Update & Discussion**

Senator Colleen Burton gave an update on timing of the upcoming Florida legislative session and the budget. She is committed to continuing to champion health care issues. We need to be mindful of budget constraints and develop innovative solutions. Susan Harbin, American Cancer Society Cancer

Action Network (ACS CAN), gave an update on priorities for the 2026 Florida legislative session. She highlighted several key items, including biomarker testing coverage, and funding for the Mary Brogan Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, and Florida's cancer control and research programs.

#### **Florida Cancer Plan 2030 Review & Discussion**

Dr. Gwede reviewed the process that has been underway to update the Florida Cancer Plan for 2026-2030. A CCRAB member is leading each goal area group as well as the four collective subgroups: 1) collaboration, data, and research (Kobetz); 2) prevention/risk reduction (Salloum); 3) screening/early detection (Gwede); and 4) diagnosis and treatment, survivorship/quality of life, and childhood cancers (Raez). Groups of statewide partners have been meeting for several months to develop goals, objectives and strategies. Drs. Kobetz, Salloum, Gwede and Raez provided updates. Identifying metrics has been a challenge in some areas of the draft plan.

#### **Florida Cancer Plan 2030 Next Steps**

Dr. Gwede reviewed the timeline for completing the 2026-2030 Cancer Plan. All interested stakeholders are welcome to continue participating in the process. Information is available on the CCRAB website. participate. There will be a final review period for CCRAB members. Members will be asked to submit approvals electronically. The final 2026-2030 plan is expected to be finalized in early January.

#### **CCRAB Leadership**

Dr. Gwede put forth the nominations for Dr. Ramzi Salloum as the new CCRAB Vice Chair and Dr. Erin Kobetz as the new CCRAB Chair. The Council concurred with no objections.

#### **Comments**

Dr. Gwede invited any meeting attendees to make comments.

#### **Next CCRAB Meeting**

The next CCRAB meeting will be in the Spring of 2026. Dr. Bobbie McKee will follow-up with Council members with additional information.

#### **Adjourn**

Dr. Gwede thanked everyone for participating. The meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM on November 14, 2025.